

Bellaire Police Department 2014 Year in Review



Service
Honor
Courage



“As a premier law enforcement organization, the Bellaire Police Department’s vision is for the City of Bellaire to be the safest community in the area by blending excellence in policing with community partnerships.”

A Message from the Chief

Thank you for taking a few minutes to read through the Bellaire Police Department's 2014 Year in Review. I take great pride in all employees of the Bellaire Police Department and hope that this information gives you a better understanding of your police department.

We recorded a 3% increase in Part I Crime for 2014, but even with this increase, it was one of the lowest years for crime in Bellaire since 2002. Although this was only a minor increase in the actual number of offenses, we are conducting a review in an effort to understand the increase.

The police department was busy during 2014. We were accepted to participate in the Texas Police Chief's Association Law Enforcement Recognition Program. In this program, the Bellaire Police Department will show that it meets established best practices in the profession. This is a 2-year process in which many other Texas Police Departments are also participating. This is just one of our efforts to ensure professional standards within the Bellaire Police Department.

During 2014, the staff of the Bellaire Police Department began working with architects in the initial stages of designing a new police building. Our goal is to ensure that the new facility creates a professional work atmosphere as well as serves the security and safety needs of our community for years to come. Citizens come to the police station around the clock, every day of the week, and every day of the year for assistance. Often, citizens are in the police building during the most traumatic time of their lives. It is imperative that the police facility provides a private as well as a safe and secure environment.

Also during 2014, Bellaire Mayor and Council established a new pay scale for Bellaire Police Officers. The improved pay scale will be a major factor in our ability to recruit and retain qualified personnel. As I have previously stated, we will not hire or retain employees just to fill positions. All persons hired must meet the highest standards as well as demonstrate that they share values and ethics common to our community. We recognize the great trust bestowed on us by the citizens of Bellaire and we promise to reflect such in our employment practices.

Last year saw the creation of the Bellaire Police and Fire Foundation (the Foundation). The Foundation is a grass roots 501c(3) organization started by local residents and business persons to raise funds with the goal of taking Bellaire's emergency services to the "next level" by providing training, technology, and equipment. Citizens from across the area have responded overwhelmingly and it appears that the Foundation may begin funding some items this spring.

The Bellaire Police Department has long enjoyed a wonderful partnership with Bellaire citizens. In 2014, Bellaire officers coordinated or participated in numerous community events. These events include two successful Community Meetings with the Police Department, Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run, Holiday in the Park, 4th of July Parade and Picnic, Youth Bicycle Rodeo, Rape Aggression Defense classes (RAD), Shop with a Cop, Texas Special Olympics Fire Truck Pull, as well as numerous other school and civic group events just to name a few. We are especially pleased with 2014 National Night Out which had 39 organized groups participating, accounting for almost 1,000 citizens. The City of Bellaire and the Bellaire Police Department was also honored to be selected as the host and starting point for the 2014 Law Enforcement Torch Run Send Off site for Houston area police officers to begin their run to Arlington Texas.

I apologize for this running a little long, but it is hard for me to stop when it comes to talking about the accomplishments of our police department employees. In closing, I would just like to say, don't let an occasional blip in crime mislead you. The City of Bellaire is and always will be a safe place to live, work, and play. We refuse to let criminals change the people that we are or the way we live our lives. The men and women of the Bellaire Police Department look forward to working with you during 2015 in making Bellaire the safest community in the area.

Byron Holloway



"One of the great things about living in Bellaire is that a citizen can always pick up a phone and call their Chief of Police. I answer my own phone so you will always get me or my voice mail."

Byron Holloway

Chief of Police

713-662-8123



Greater Harris County
9-1-1 Emergency Network
(GHC 9-1-1)

10,259

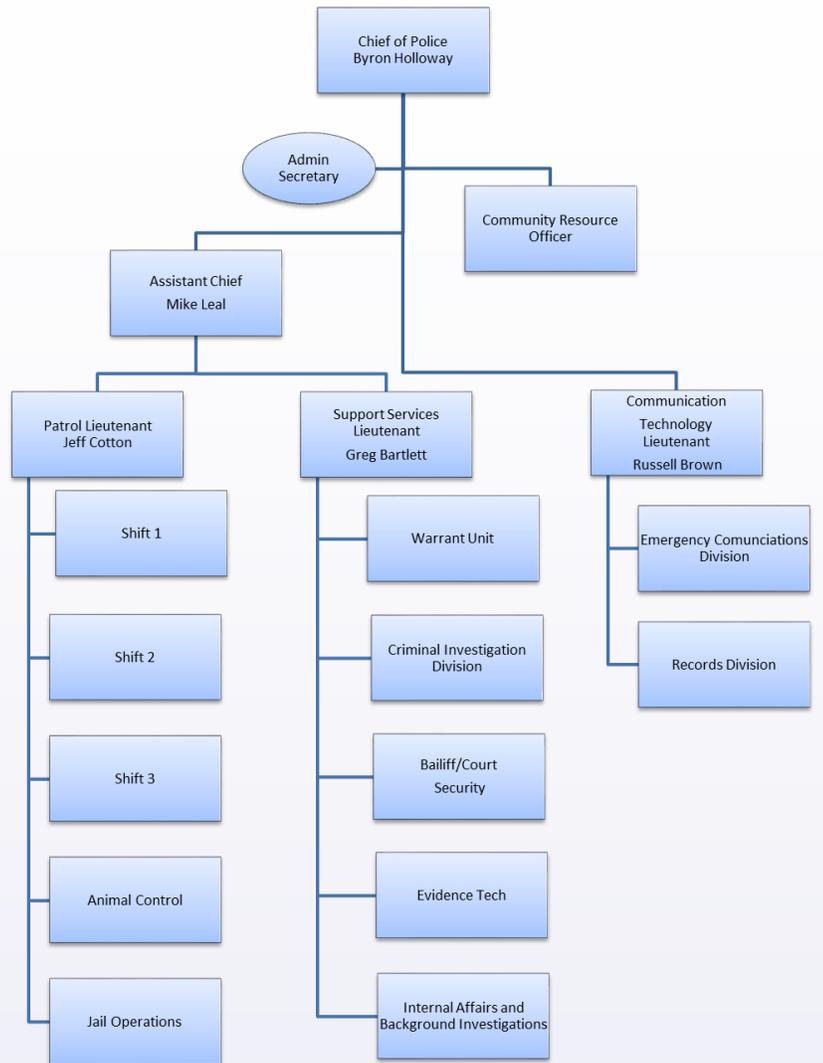
911

Calls Received by Bellaire Police
Emergency Communication
Office in 2014



If you have an emergency call **911**
For Non-Emergencies call
713-668-0487

Organizational Chart



Staff Directory

Name	Title	Email	Phone
<u>Bartlett, Greg</u>	Lieutenant - Support Services	gbartlett@bellairepolice.com	713-662-8124
<u>Bledsoe, Mary</u>	Communications Supervisor	bledsoe@bellairepolice.com	713-662-8102
<u>Brown, Russell</u>	Lieutenant - Communication and Technology	rbrown@bellairepolice.com	713-662-8132
<u>Holloway, Byron</u>	Chief of Police	bholloway@bellairepolice.com	713-662-8102
<u>Leal, Michael</u>	Assistant Chief of Police	mleal@bellairepolice.com	713-662-8102
<u>Cotton, Jeff</u>	Lieutenant - Patrol Division	cotton@bellairepolice.com	713-662-8110



Overall Crime Up 3.2 %

During the year 2014, there was an overall minor increase in crime. The crimes listed below show the change from 2013 to 2014. Over a 2 year analysis crime is down 2.8%

	2014	2013
Homicide	0	0
Sexual Assault	3	0
Robbery	13	9
Assault	40	37
Burglary Residential	47	30
Burglary Business	39	17
Theft	228	270
Auto Theft	17	12
Crime Index	387	375

Crime Trends

- NO HOMICIDES
- 1054 ARRESTS
- 502 COUNTY LEVEL ARRESTS
- 681 ACCIDENTS
- 5:23 AVG RESPONSE TIME
- STOLEN VEHICLES UP 42%
- 31,032 CALLS LAST YEAR
- 4,617 CITATIONS ISSUED

Response Times:

In Progress Burglary 2:14

In Progress Robbery 2:44

Major Accident 3:20

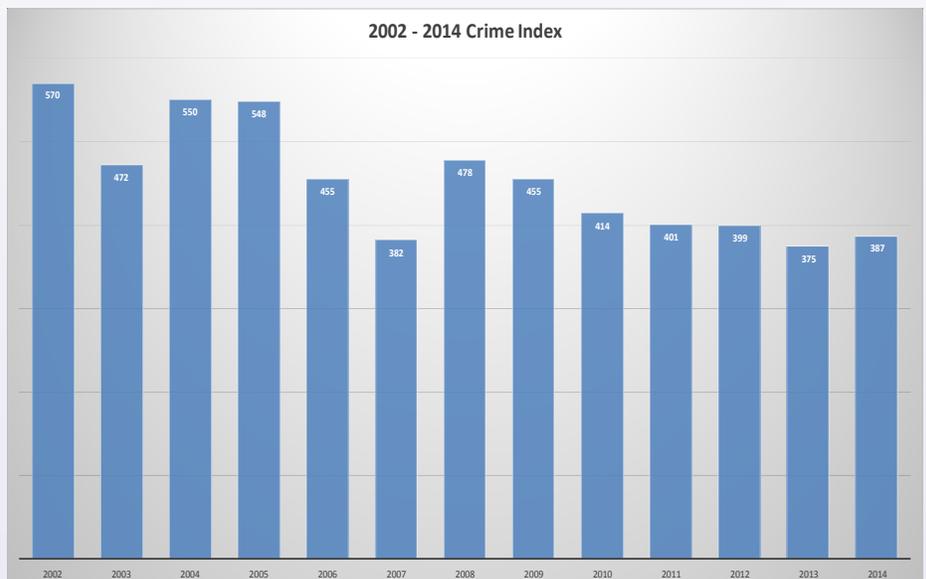
IDENTITY THEFT

Identity theft and online fraud are only going to increase as technology grows. It is a good idea to check your credit report at least annually to ensure your safety.

For more information goto:

<http://www.ftc.gov>

Reported Crime Index—UCR Part 1



The Crime Index total is the sum of selected offenses used to measure crime rates and their fluctuations reported to law enforcement. The offenses included in the Crime Index total are the violent crimes of Murder and Non-negligent Manslaughter, Forcible Rape, Robbery, and Aggravated Assault, and the property crimes of Burglary, Larceny-theft, and Motor Vehicle Theft.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

We are always looking for feedback from our community. Please feel free to contact Chief Holloway by phone or email if you have any ideas.

WEB SERVICES

We use twitter to send out breaking news information, weather, accidents, etc. Follow us on Twitter @BellairePD.

Go to <http://www.bellairepolice.com> for more services, mapping, accident reports, employment and more.



**Special
Olympics**
Texas

Bellaire Honor Guard



The primary purpose of the Bellaire Honor Guard is to ceremonially present flags of the United States and the State of Texas at events as well as ensure proper honors are provided to fallen officers. The Bellaire Police Honor Guard has presented “the colors” at various ceremonial civic events. Honor Guard members have also volunteered their time at several funeral services for police officers and veterans. The Honor Guard participated in 17 different events in 2014 representing the police officers of Bellaire at parades, funerals and ceremonies.

Law Enforcement Torch Run

In May 2014, the Bellaire Police hosted the Special Olympics of Texas Law Enforcement Torch Run send off. Officers from the greater Houston area met at Bellaire City Hall where the Olympic Torch was lit and carried to Arlington, Texas. Arlington hosts the Summer Games where over 400 Officers from all over Texas arrived for the event.

The Law Enforcement Torch Run is Special Olympics’ largest grassroots fund-raiser and public awareness vehicle. At its most basic level, the Torch Run is an actual running event where officers and athletes run the Special Olympics “Flame of Hope” to the Opening Ceremonies of the Summer Games. The Torch Run program encompasses a variety of fundraising efforts such as t-shirt or merchandise sales, donations for runners in the Torch Run, corporate donations, and special events.

New Facility

In November 2013 voters approved a bond election allowing for the construction of a new police facility. Plans are underway now to design and build this facility in the next 24 months.



Work continues in the planning and design of the new police station. We hope to break ground in 2015.

A copy of the 2012 Facility Master Plan Update is available on the City's Web Page:

www.bellairetx.gov

Bellaire Police at Work

In an effort to meet our vision of Bellaire being the safest community in the area through excellence in policing, the Bellaire Police Department is participating in the Texas Police Chiefs Recognition Program.

We expect to complete this process in the next 18 months.

Body Cameras and Video

The Bellaire Police Department has been utilizing body cameras for about 5 years and patrol car based recording for more than 20 years. The motorcycle units and bike units are the primary users of body cameras. All of our marked patrol cars have car mounted digital video recorders. All the videos are stored on a large capacity server and evidentiary level offenses are also burned on DVD for court purposes. The documentation of crime and the retention of video have become a significant and time consuming part of every police officer's day. Retention, duplications, and destruction have become a day-to-day operation for patrol, records, and the evidence technician. Open records requests are another issue we deal with daily, weighing the privacy concerns of residents, victims, juveniles and reportees with the public's right to know about how their police department interacts with citizens is of paramount concern. Each request for public information is reviewed and processed and when appropriate, attorney general rulings are needed to determine what information is available to the public.



Recognition Program

The Bellaire Police Department is very excited to have officially entered the Law Enforcement Recognition Program in July 2014. This is a voluntary process where police agencies in Texas prove their compliance with 164 Texas Law Enforcement's Best Practices.

These best practices were carefully developed by Texas law enforcement professionals to assist agencies in the efficient and effective delivery of service, the reduction of risk and the protection of individual's rights.

The Bellaire Police Department has 24 months from the time of acceptance to complete the program. This is a demanding time line that will prove to be challenging, although we have the advantage since many of the required standards have been already been long term policies within the Department.

Since its inception in 2006, over 106 Texas Law Enforcement Agencies have been designated as Recognized and there are currently 26 Texas police agencies in the process. While members of the Texas Police Chiefs Association recognize and support national accreditation programs, The Texas Best Practices Recognition Program has clearly become the new Gold Standard for Texas Law Enforcement.



TEXAS
POLICE CHIEFS
ASSOCIATION

Emergency Communications Center



Emergency Communications Officers are standing by 24 hours a day for any emergencies that occur.

Activity

10259 **911** calls received by Bellaire Police dispatch in 2014.

Average time from 911 ringing to an officer on the way to you is 1 minute and 11 seconds.

31,032 calls for service in 2014

Bellaire Detectives were assigned 527 cases in 2014

What happens when I report a crime?

The Bellaire Police Department strives to provide the best possible service to its residents. Your case is important to us. The process of responding to and investigating crimes may vary based on the type of crime committed, how recently it may have happened, and what information is available.

An example might be when the report of a burglary or robbery is received by the police department. One officer may respond directly to the location while other officers search the area for the suspect. This officer, referred to as the reporting officer, will collect information and attempt to locate evidence. On some offenses, a Bellaire Police Detective may be immediately called to the scene and other area agencies are notified to assist as may be appropriate.

All Bellaire Police Officers are trained in how to process crime scenes, photography, DNA/latent fingerprint recovery, and trace evidence collection. The reporting officer, upon leaving the scene of a crime will begin searching the area for homes or businesses that appear to have security cameras. These cameras may have captured footage of the suspect(s) traveling through the area. (Please see information on our Camera Mapping Program.) The reporting officer investigates the case as fully as they can at the time the crime is reported.



Prior to the end of their shift, the reporting officer will return to the police station to submit any evidence collected and complete an offense report. A police supervisor reviews the officer's completed report and submits it to the Records Division or returns it to the reporting officer for any needed corrections.

Approved reports are then forwarded to the Records Division where they are scanned, copied, filed, and distributed as

may be appropriate. Reports on offenses that require additional investigation are sent to the Support Services Lieutenant who commands the Detective Division. This Lieutenant reviews the reports and then assigns them to a detective for additional investigation. Cases are assigned to detectives based on several things such as, the detective's expertise, similar cases they may be investigating, or a detective's current case load.

A detective's "case load" is the number of cases a detective is actively investigating at any one time. A Bellaire Police Detective's case load averages 12 to 15 cases. Detectives investigate a case until a suspect(s) is identified and charges filed, until all information is exhausted, or it is determined that the case is not a criminal matter.

At the same time the report is being investigated, the Bellaire Police Evidence Technician is properly managing evidence that was submitted. DNA, latent fingerprints, and other trace evidence will be submitted to the appropriate crime lab for additional processing and an attempt to link it to a suspect.

The detective assigned to a case will follow the evidence processing as well as attempt to identify other cases that may be related, these can be Bellaire cases or cases of other police agencies. Bellaire detectives also have a number of online resources available to them such as the ability to trace pawn shop transactions. The detective will also attempt to contact the victim and other witnesses to the crime. All of this takes time and a significant number of staff hours to complete. Often the process doesn't seem to move as fast as many of us would like it to.

Hopefully, this has provided you some insight as to how cases are managed. If you have any questions about the investigative process or a particular case of yours, please don't hesitate to contact Lt. Greg Bartlett about the status of your case at gbartlett@bellairepolice.com or 713-662-8124



Employment

Go Online to www.bellairepolice.com and click on Department information and:



You can fill out an application or sign up to receive email notifications as positions become available.

In a Nutshell

- ⇒ 182 Candidates applied during 2014
- ⇒ 132 Qualified by meeting the basic requirements
- ⇒ 132 Were invited to take the entry level written test
- ⇒ 48 Reported for testing
- ⇒ 33 Passed the written test
- ⇒ 20 Passed the physical assessment
- ⇒ 8 Entered the background process, 4 of whom later dropped out



Be part of something bigger than yourself...

Starting salary: \$51,272 per year + incentives

Annual Step pay increase and market increase

TMRS (retirement/pension)

Paid Health/Life/Dental

Incentive pay

10 to 17 paid vacation days annually

12 paid sick days annually

10 paid holidays annually

Uniforms and Equipment provided

Extensive FTO and in-service training

Longevity Pay

NOW HIRING

Apply Today

Minimum Requirements:

- **High School Diploma or G.E.D.**
- **TCOLE certified or currently enrolled in an Academy**
- **Pass written exam / extensive background investigation**

Hiring Process

Retirement, as well as opportunity in private industry and with other law enforcement organizations, are the most common reasons Bellaire Police Officers leave employment. There has been no increase in the authorized strength of officers within the last 20 years. "Fit for duty" assessments implemented in the hiring process within the last two years have narrowed the candidate pool. Even with increased standards, we continue to successfully recruit and hire qualified persons to become Bellaire Police Officers. Major components of the selection process include the initial screening, written test, physical testing, extensive background investigation, an interview board, psychological and physical assessment.

For more information contact City of Bellaire Human Resources at 713-662-8270 or go online to www.bellairepolice.com

Employment

Go Online to www.bellairepolice.com and click on Department information and:



You can fill out an application or sign up to receive email notifications as positions become available.

Be a Bellaire Police Officer



For more information contact City of Bellaire Human Resources at 713-662-8270 or go online to www.bellairepolice.com

@BellairePD

Passings in 2014

Jimmy Alford



Jimmy Alford passed away in 2014 he retired from Bellaire in 2005 after 25 years of dedicated service.

Sidney Bartlett



Sidney Bartlett passed away this year after 30 years as a peace officer and 11 years as a bailiff with the Bellaire Police Department. He will be missed.

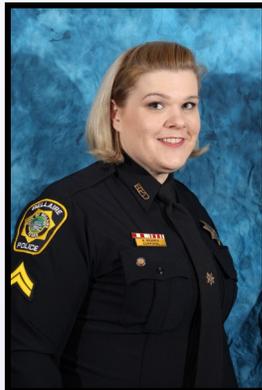
Promotions in 2014

Lt. Greg Bartlett was promoted in 2014 and is responsible for the Support Services Division of the police department. He started his career with the Bellaire Police Department in January of 1985. Lt. Bartlett has held the positions of Patrol Officer, Field Training Officer, Detective, Narcotics Investigator and now holds the position of Lieutenant. Lt. Bartlett is on the Bellaire Tactical Team and is also a Tactical Team Leader. Lt. Bartlett holds an Master Peace Officer Certificate. He can be reached at: gbartlett@bellairepolice.com



Corporal Andre Porter- 9 years US Marine Corp (Semper Fi) Corporal Porter has been with the City of Bellaire Police Department since May 2005- Present.

Cpl. Porter's list of assignments – Special Response Team member, Field Training Officer, Advance Accident Investigator, Physical Fitness Coordinator, Rape Aggression Defense Instructor, Taser Instructor, Advance Peace Officer, and Honor Guard Team Member.



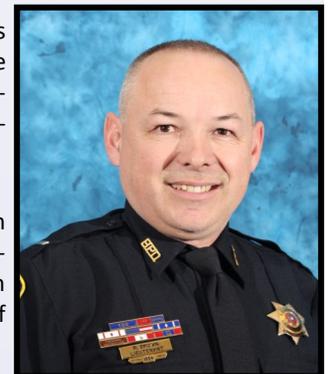
Corporal Karen Kramer was promoted to Corporal in 2014 . She graduated from Sam Houston State University in 2003 with a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice. She began her career as a federal investigator working primarily with Department of Defense background investigations. Corporal Kramer then began working as a Pre-trial Officer for Harris County Pre-trial Services working directly with Harris County Probable Cause Court. During this time, Corporal Kramer went through the University of Houston Police Academy where she graduated with academic achievement recognition in May of 2009. In July 2009, Corporal Kramer was hired with the Bellaire Police Department as a Patrol Officer. Since then, Corporal Kramer has

achieved her Advanced Peace Officer Certificate and Intermediate Accident Investigator Certification.

Lieutenant Russell Brown was promoted in 2014. He is responsible for the communications and technology of the department as well as the Records Division. He is responsible for overseeing the day-to-day operations of the divisions. He has been with the City of Bellaire since 1994.

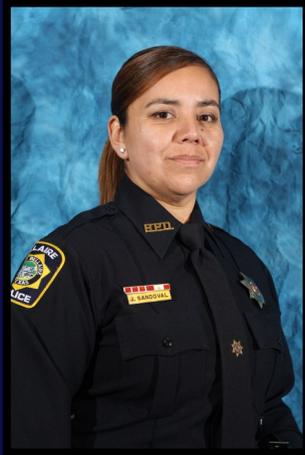
Officer Brown was honored as Employee of the Year in 1999. Officer Brown also holds a Master Peace Officer Certificate, Instructor Certificate, is a member of the Bike Team and a Firearms Instructor. Lt. Brown is also the Custodian of Records and Records Manager for the police department.

Lt. Brown can be reached at rbrown@bellairepolice.com



Bellaire Police Officers attended over 2,489 hours of training in 2014

Service Honor Courage



Juanita Sandoval was assigned to the Criminal Investigative Division of the Bellaire Police Department during 2014. This assignment is a 2 year rotating position designed to allow patrol officers to receive extensive education training and experience. This is a competitive process with numerous applicants, Juanita is the first female to hold this position in the last 20 years.

On average, a Bellaire Police Officer has **13.24** years of experience.

New Bellaire Police Officers for 2014



Glen Meyer

Alex Proctor

Travis Younger

Randy Bellard



Juan Trujillo

April Delgado



Shane O'Sullivan

Community Resource Officer

During 2014 Officer John (JW) Edwards was assigned to the Community Resource Office (CRO). Edwards started his Law Enforcement career with the Colorado Sheriff's Department and then in September 2001 accepted a Patrol Officer position with the Bellaire Police. Officer Edwards is a member of the Bellaire Police Bicycle Team, he is a Field Training Officer, and an Advanced Auto Theft Investigator. Officer Edwards also currently serves as the Department's Field Training Officer Coordinator. Edwards is certified by the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement as an Advance Peace Officer as well as a Police Instructor.

Officer Edwards constantly works to address safety and security of citizens. His focus is on home security including the overall security of Bellaire neighborhoods. Edwards also works local businesses and home builders in an effort to address their security needs. As Community Resource Officer, Edwards needs feedback and assistance from the community to make our efforts successful.

The Bellaire Police CRO would love to hear from you about issues you feel we should be tackling in your community. There are several ways you can do this: call Edwards at 713-662-8103

There are lots of ways you can do this, call Officer Edwards at 713-662-8130, by email at jedwards@bellairepolice.com, or you could simply stop one of our officers in the street and have a chat.



Follow us on Twitter @BellairePD

Case Highlights

Each year officers of the Bellaire Police Department work hundreds of cases. Highlighted here is one of the more notable.

Service Honor Courage

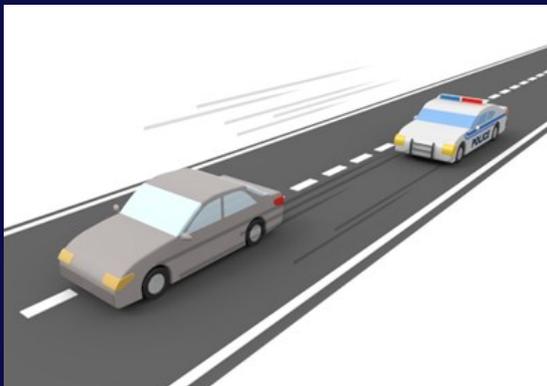
Serial Burglar Caught

On 08/30/2014, a resident called Bellaire Police to report a person who appeared to have broken into a house. The neighbor heard banging noises from a backyard and was able to see someone going into the rear door of a residence. Bellaire Police Officers arrived shortly after and located a subject exiting the house. The subject was found to be in possession of a large amount of stolen jewelry from the residence. After his arrest, a DNA "hit" was reported to Bellaire Police Detectives who found that the suspect was also wanted in three different states by seven different police agencies for Burglary.

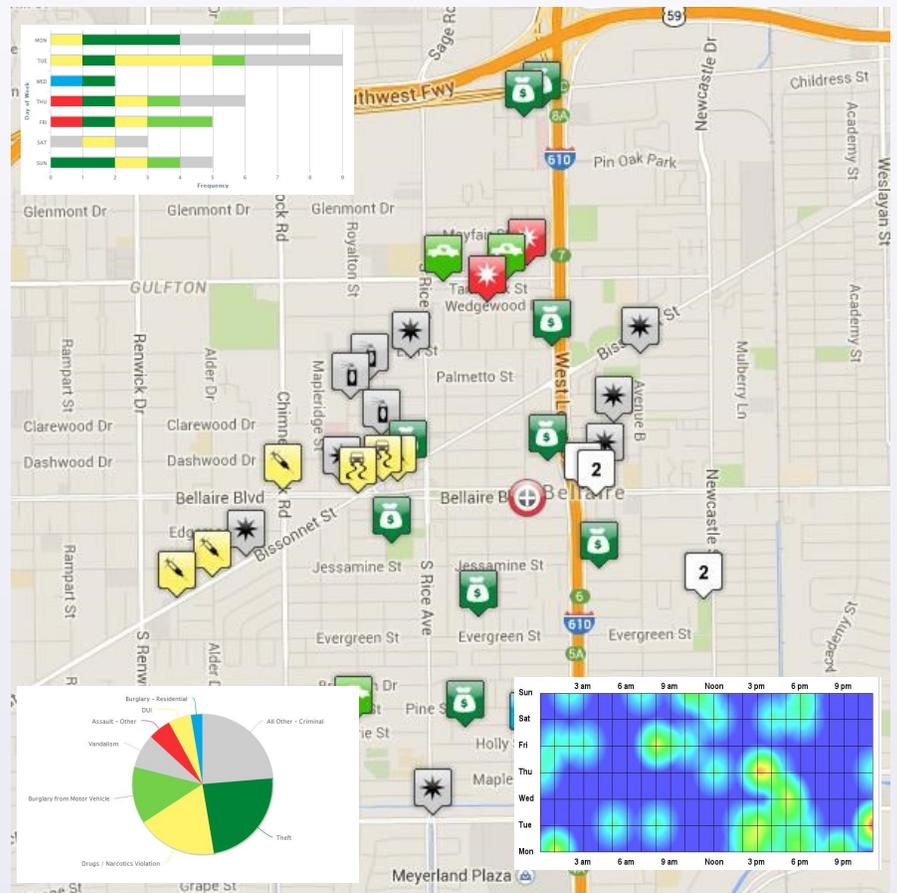
The suspect identified by DNA was tied to numerous burglaries across the country in which more than 3 million dollars in property had been taken. The FBI and several other police departments worked together with the Bellaire Police Department during the investigation of this case.



Go Online to www.bellairepolice.com or www.raidsonline.com to create maps and crime alert emails.



12 Pursuits in 2014



Choose the offense, area and date range and see what has happened in your area. Use some of the same analytics we use to know what is going on in your neighborhood.

Got Drugs?



The 2014 Drug Take Back was a great success with hundreds of pounds of various narcotic and outdated prescription drugs turned in. In the above photograph Drug Enforcement Administration Agents and Bellaire Police Officers package drugs for destruction.

When reporting suspicious activity you will be asked:

- Exact location
- What you see happening
- Description of any suspects and vehicles
- If they have left, what direction they were headed

The Bellaire Police Department asks that you report suspicious activity and be a good witness. You should never attempt to intervene or stop a crime unless your safety or the safety of another is in immediate danger and even then the best response from you might be to call the Police Department.

Craigslist and Online Scams

Craigslist is a popular website that lists classified ads offering a variety of services and products. On two separate occasions during 2014, citizens were robbed in Bellaire when responding to an ad they saw on Craigslist. Anyone who has ever sold anything on Craigslist is familiar with the nervousness of meeting up with a stranger—or, even worse, letting them into your home.

The Bellaire Police Department wants you to be safe while buying or selling items locally. We recommend using the Bellaire Police Department parking lot to conduct transactions from Craigslist, Ebay Local and other online selling websites. If the items are small, or are expensive, the Bellaire Police lobby is open 24 hours a day and can be used for meeting the other person. This helps the buyer and the sellers avoid becoming victims to a robbery, theft or scam.



Construction Thefts

Construction site thefts were up this year largely due to copper theft. Texas is one of the leaders in the nation for copper theft and there are no signs that the price of copper will drop enough to stop the thefts.

The price of copper has fluctuated in recent years, but has still risen 335% in the past ten years. The Bellaire Police encourage their residents to be mindful and report any activity on residential construction sites after 7pm. Bellaire city ordinances make it illegal for construction work to continue after 7pm, and recently an ordinance was passed to have builders fence in the construction site.

If you observe anyone suspicious or anyone that appears to be taking items from a construction site or working past 7pm, call the Bellaire Police at 713-668-0487 to immediately report suspicious activity.



Department History

The earliest records found are the minutes of the Monday, July 15, 1918 Town Council meeting which show that on July 8, 1918 J.B. Huddleston was elected Town Marshal and was formally sworn in by Mayor C.P. Younts. The first unofficial law enforcement officer of the City of Bellaire was Leroy Coats, who walked the route he guarded. This was the early 1900's and in those days, marshals were appointed and their main job was to round up straying cattle and return them to their owner. Among other first marshals were W.C. Minson and a man named Callahan.

W.A. Erdman served as the first Fire Marshal and City Marshal and was followed by B.C. Ely in 1937. Ely served in this capacity until 1942. At the same time he was also Water Superintendent, Plumbing Inspector, Building Inspector, Electrical Inspector, Cattle Officer and Dog Catcher. Mrs. Ely was the first woman dispatcher as she took calls for Ely when he was out.

In 1945, Henry Rosnosky became Marshal and he was followed by W.L. Fuller in 1946.

An ordinance was passed on July 28, 1947, abolishing the office of the City Marshal of the City of Bellaire and providing for and regulating a police department by the City of Bellaire. On August 4, 1947 J.H. Carrigan was appointed the Chief of Police.

Carrigan was followed by John Hlavaty on September 21, 1949.

In 1952, Jack O'Brian became chief and he served that post for the next eight years. During those eight years, the force grew from six to twenty-four. It was during this time that the next chief, Joseph P. Court joined the force. O'Brian resigned in December of 1960 to go to Texarkana.

Court was appointed acting chief when O'Brian resigned and was appointed chief on July 1961. John H. Wheatley, then 21 years old joined the force.

Court resigned from the force about a year later to go into the carpet business. William E. Hamilton was appointed chief June 4, 1962 and remained chief until July 30, 1973 when he resigned and Wheatley became chief. Wheatley retired in 1977 and Jerry H. Loftin became chief. Loftin retired in 1996 and Randall Mack became chief until he retired on April 24th, 2012. Byron Holloway became chief April 2012.

We are constantly working to locate facts related to the history of the Bellaire Police Department. Chief Holloway would like to talk to anyone with photos, stories, or other information related to the history of the Bellaire Police Department. Chief Holloway can be contacted at 713-662-8102 or

bholloway@bellairepolice.com.

Retired in 2014



Lt. William Bledsoe
retired after 30 years



Communication Officer
Robert Beran retired
after 28 years

Neighborhood Watch

Decades ago crime rates across the U.S. increased at an alarming pace. Citizens and law enforcement agencies focused on developing crime prevention programs to help reduce this growing trend. In 1972, The National Sheriff's Association organized the National Neighborhood Watch Program. This pilot program was funded by the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration of the U.S. Department of Justice and was designed to enlist the participation of citizens with law enforcement to help reduce and prevent crime. Since then, Neighborhood Watch has become one of the most effective means of fighting crime in our communities. This is because you and your neighbors are the ones who really know what is going on in your area, most likely to be the first to see a crime and call for help, and are in the best position to: report code violations, unsafe street conditions, etc. that degrade the quality of life in your area and provide a safe environment for your children.



What Is Neighborhood Watch?

Neighborhood Watch is a crime prevention program that enlists the active participation of residents in cooperation with law enforcement to reduce crime, solve problems, and improve the quality of life in your area. With Neighborhood watch you will get to know and work with your neighbors, and learn how to:

- Recognize and report crimes and suspicious activities
- Protect yourself, your family, and your property
- Protect your neighbor's family and property, and
- Identify crime and disorder problems in your area and work with Bellaire Police personnel to solve them.

Nextdoor.com

Bellaire neighborhoods are already using Nextdoor, and now the Bellaire Police Department has adopted the platform to connect with residents to improve safety and strengthen virtual neighborhood watch efforts.



On Nextdoor, neighbors create private websites to get to know one another, ask questions, and exchange local advice and recommendations. The Bellaire Police Department will now be able to share important safety information and emergency notifications to residents on a neighborhood level through Nextdoor. Nextdoor was specifically designed to make neighbors feel comfortable sharing information with one another. All members must verify that they live within the neighborhood. Information shared on Nextdoor is password-protected and cannot be accessed by those outside the neighborhood, including the Bellaire Police Department, or found on other search engines. Nextdoor never shares personal information with any third party. Join at nextdoor.com or get the app!

Fire Truck Pull



On October 18, 2014, over 300 people joined the Bellaire Police and Fire Departments in raising money for the Special Olympics of Texas. The Second Annual Fire Truck Pull took place in front of City Hall, with 10 teams consisting of law enforcement and residents pulling a 28,000 pound fire truck. The Bellaire Police Department Fire Truck pull proved to be the most successful out of 15 other Texas cities by raising and donating the largest amount of money to the Special Olympics in our second year to compete.

For more information contact:
jedwards@bellairepolice.com

Bellaire Police and Fire Foundation

Role of the Foundation

The Bellaire Police and Fire Foundation is a Texas nonprofit 501(c)(3) charitable organization created to enhance public safety in the City of Bellaire. The foundation was formed by local Bellaire residents and business leaders. The Foundation acts as an independent resource to the Police and Fire Departments funding equipment, technology and training that promotes officer and firefighter safety, excellence and operational efficiency. The Foundation seeks to promote excellence by going above and beyond what is possible within the confines of a city budget.

Find out more at: <http://www.bellairepoliceandfirefoundation.org>

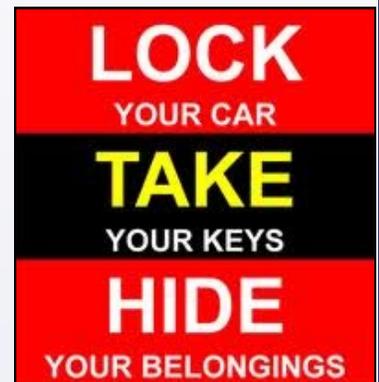


Burglary of Motor Vehicles

An ongoing challenge for the Bellaire Police Department is the crime of burglary of motor vehicles. Citizens often think that these crimes occur only late at night and entry is always by breaking out a window. This is not true. This crime happens at all hours of the day and more are occurring in which the vehicle is unlocked.

Just a few notes:

- Burglars seldom break into a vehicle unless they see something of value. It is not that common that they will break into a locked vehicle just to rummage around. When parking take all valuables out of your car or lock them in the trunk out of sight.
- Electronics such as smart phones, tablets, and laptops are the items most often sought after by car burglars. If a burglar sees some type of bag in your vehicle, they will assume that it has electronics in it. Cars have been broken into because there was a gym bag or diaper bag that had been left visible in the car.
- Burglars watch for people that "...are just going to run inside for a minute..." Thieves often target schools, day cares, cleaners, and gas stations where people leave their valuables on the front seat and car doors unlocked because they are only going to be gone for a few minutes. There are cases where at a gasoline station the victim was on one side of the vehicle gassing up, and the suspect opened a door on the other side of the vehicle to steal property.





National Night Out or Neighborhood Watch Signup

WATCH FOR THESE EVENTS!

- ✓ **Police Winter Community Meeting**
Thursday February 19th
- ✓ **Public Safety Day**
Saturday May 9th
- ✓ **Police Summer Community Meeting**
Late July 2015
- ✓ **National Night Out**
Tuesday October 6th – City Wide
- ✓ **Police/Special Olympics Fire Truck Pull**
Saturday October 17th



Bellaire Police Department

5110 Jessamine St
Bellaire, Texas 77401

713-668-0487 phone
713-662-8289 fax

www.bellairepolice.com

National Night Out is an annual nationwide event that encourages residents to get out in the community, hold block parties and get to know their neighbors as a way to encourage crime prevention. It's a great way to promote community-police partnerships and enjoy a Texas summer evening surrounded by friends and family. Bellaire residents can have their block closed to vehicular traffic and give crime a "going away party".

Please return the attached form, email Officer Edwards at jedwards@bellairepolice.com or call 713.662.8103

Name

Street Address

Email Address

Phone Number

Register online or Mail to:

Bellaire Police Department

5110 Jessamine St Bellaire, Texas 77401

Camera Mapping

The Camera Mapping Program asks home and business owners to list their closed circuit security systems with the Police Department. The Bellaire Police Department is not asking to monitor your system, control your system, or directly access your system in any way. We just want to know where systems are as an investigative tool. Should a crime happen, we will come to you and ask if your system can be checked for a prescribed time period. You

waive no rights to privacy by joining this program. At any time, you can remove yourself or tell us that you do not want to participate.



Business / Individual Name

Street Address

Email Address

Phone Number

Number of External Cameras

Follow us on Twitter @BellairePD