

Annual Report 2020



*Working
together
for a safer
Tyler*

Message from Chief Toler

What a year of challenges 2020 provided our community and department. A year that was dominated by a worldwide pandemic (COVID-19), national protests and economic concerns. As I write this message and reflect on these challenges, I am proud of the work that the members of the Tyler Police Department performed. They faced each and every challenge with courage and responsibility. Not only understanding the risks they took to their personal health and safety, but recognizing the responsibility that they have to our community. In recent years we have adopted a philosophy of “Working Together for a Safer Tyler.” This could not have been a more philosophy for 2020. This motto recognizes our commitment to each other within the department and our partnership with the community. Individuals, city department, and community organizations all came together to help one another. Understanding that together we can accomplish so much more.

I am honored to have the opportunity to lead this amazing group of men and women. As we go into 2021, I am excited to see where we will go.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jay Toler". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jay" being more prominent than the last name "Toler".

Chief of Police

Department at a glance



FY 2019 Budget: **\$28,837,805**
Calls for Service: 47,753
Population Served: 96,900
(According to 2010 Census)
Population Served: 106,985
(According to the 2019 estimated population)

Rank Structure:	Sworn Officers: 162	Fleet: 136 (6 motorcycles)
Chief: 1	Male : 145	K-9 Units: 2
Assistant Chiefs: 3	Female : 17	Marked Patrol Units: 64
Lieutenants: 7	Civilian Employees: 45	Marked Traffic Units: 8 cars & 6 motorcycles
Sergeants: 27	Male: 14	Marked Specialty Units: 4 (PIO & Traffic)
Detectives: 18	Female: 31	Marked PSO Units: 5
K9: 1		Unmarked CID & VICE: 37
Bike: 8		CSI Units: 6
Traffic: 12		Specialty Units: 4
Vice: 6		
Crime Scene: 4		
Patrol: 130		

Mission Statement & Core Values

Our Mission Statement

Our strategic direction of the Tyler Police Department is to improve the quality of life by providing professional police service through a community partnership.

Our Values

We the members of the Tyler Police Department hold the following values to be of the utmost importance in the commission of our duties:

- Importance of people as individuals and as a vital part of the Department.
- Superior quality service.
- Closeness to the Community.
- Responsiveness to the Citizens needs.
- Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc.

The Tyler Police Department is committed to excellence and has been Nationally Certified as an Accredited Law Enforcement Agency since 1995.

Accreditation

Lieutenant Matt Smyser

Lieutenant Matt Smyser is assigned as the Accreditation Manager who will be responsible to the Chief of Police for:

Coordinating, achieving, and maintaining accredited status.

Maintaining and updating the General, Special, and Operational Orders of the Department.

Preparing reports, audits, inspections, and other documentation as required.

Conducting inspections of operational components to ensure policy compliance.

Coordination, maintenance, and submitting of reports for departmental grants.

Performing other related duties as specified by the Chief.

The Tyler Police Department is proud to be a CALEA accredited agency. The Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA) was established in 1979 to assist law enforcement agencies in establishing and maintaining high standards of excellence.

The Tyler Police Department was initially accredited in March 1995 and received re-accreditation in 2000, 2003, 2006, 2009, 2012 and 2015. The Department has now applied for its seventh re-accreditation in 2018, after participating in a multi-year process.

CALEA thoroughly examined all aspects of the Department's management, operations, policies, procedures and support systems. The Department also conducted a detailed self-assessment and participated in an on-site review by a team of CALEA assessors. The community also had the opportunity to participate in the process by providing comments and observations.

CALEA was created through the joint efforts of the major law enforcement associations.

Department Overview



The department is comprised of 162 sworn officers, 45 civilian employees and oversees an annual operating budget of \$28 million dollars.



Tyler Police Department - Downtown Location

[711. W. Ferguson, Tyler Texas 75701](#)

Main Lobby – Hours of Operation

Front Desk – 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Monday – Friday.

Weekends and Holidays not attended.

Please use phone in vending area to request service if not attended.

Phone Numbers

Emergency – 911

Non-emergency – 903-531-1000

Switchboard – 903-531-1090

Tyler Police Department - Faulkner Park Station

[574. W. Cumberland Road, Tyler,](#)

[Texas 75703](#)

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Phone Numbers

Emergency – 911

Non-emergency – 903-531-1000

Switchboard – 903-531-1090

Front Desk – 903-533-2030

Criminal Activity Part 1 Crimes

Part 1 (Violent)

2019	451
2020	517



Part 1 (Property)

2019	3,236
2020	3,855



Homicide (V)

2019	0
2020	6



Burglary (P)

2019	439
2020	517



Sexual Assault (V)

2019	92
2020	72



Theft (P)

2019	2,626
2020	2,612



Robbery (V)

2019	70
2020	79



Auto Theft (P)

2019	171
2020	182



Aggravated Assault (V)

2019	289
2020	358



Vehicle Crashes

2019	3,358
2020	3,081



Injury Crashes

2019	1,146
2020	1,006



Fatality Crashes

2019	8
2020	12



Patrol Division

The Patrol Division is commanded by Assistant Chief David Long and is the largest division of the department. The Patrol Division is responsible for providing first responder police services 24/7. The city is divided into eight geographical patrol beats (1-8) and two districts (north/south). Patrol services for the North District 1 operates out of the Ferguson Street station. Patrol services for the South District 2 operates out of the Faulkner Police Station. Personnel is allocated across three shifts and the eight patrol beats based on an analysis of the calls for service.

The Patrol Division operates three primary shifts: Days, Evenings, and Nights. Each shift has one shift Lieutenant and five Sergeants. Officers work either 8 or 10 hour shifts with staggered start and end times, ensuring that there is a sufficient number of officers on duty and able to respond to calls for service 24/7. Officers are assigned to one shift and beat for a minimum of six months, allowing them to become very familiar with the people and law enforcement related issues occurring in their beat.

Response Times

Priority 1 Emergency	6:39
Priority 2 Immediate	8:52

Dispatched Calls For Service

2018	48,993
2019	49,770
2020	47,753



Self Initiated Activity

2018	46,881
2019	38,848
2020	28,688



Criminal Investigation Division

The Criminal Investigation Division is commanded by Assistant Chief Russell Jacks and is the second largest division of the department. Also falling under the Criminal Investigation Division umbrella, is the Community Response Unit

Each unit within this division is strategically located throughout the City of Tyler, allowing for rapid response to criminal acts against citizens, and for providing community policing, education and crime prevention.

It is the responsibility of the Criminal Investigation Division to maintain a high solvability rate on call cases, providing victims with closure and access to crimes victim's assistance.

Property & Evidence

Property Received # Cases	2,509
Property Received # Items	5,502

Vice/Narcotics Unit

Arrests	18
Cash Seized	\$178,246.00
Weapons Seized	3
Vehicles Seized	2
Marijuana Seized	227.0 oz
Cocaine Seized	67.2 grams
Methamphetamine Seized	244.2 grams



Investigations 2020

Crimes Against Persons	Open Cases	1,187
Property Crimes	Cases Assigned	5,371
Youth/Forgery Crimes	Cases Assigned	513
Fugitive Task Force	Arrests	271
Crime Scene Unit	Processed	179
K9 Unit	Arrests	69
Bikes	Arrests	157

Support Services Division

The Support Service Division is commanded by Assistant Chief Billy Yates and is comprised of six (6) separate units within the department.

The Support Service Division is responsible for providing direct services to citizens through the public safety communications and records management. It provides the financial, logistical and training needs of the entire department.

In addition, it monitors all internal auditing and compliance requirements as set forth by the State of Texas and ensures that all national accreditation standards are adhered to.

Communications

Total Incoming Calls	227,473
Emergency Calls	79,948
TTY Emergency Calls	31
Non Emergency Calls	274,473
Outgoing Calls	127,228

Civilian Training

New Civilians Hired	8
Police One Training Hours	53
Civilian TCOLE Training Hours	601

Sworn Training/Recruiting

New Police Officers Hired	25
Police One Training Hours	554
Sworn TCOLE Training Hours	16,367



2020 Awards Banquet



Officer of the year: Officer Luis Aparicio



Rookie of the year: Officer Luke Moore



Plainclothes Officer of the year:
Dt. Kenneth Gardner



Civilian Employee of the year:
Danielle Gruenwald



Sworn Supervisor of the year:
Lt. Luke Shafer



Civilian Supervisor of the year:
Amanda Cook

Unit of the year:
Dispatch



2020 Retirements



Shannon Hays:
27 Years



Darrell Cook:
26 Years



Oliver Hall:
25 Years



Royce Jordan:
35 Years



Don Martin:
30 Years



Scott Smith:
20 Years



Mike Goode:
35 Years



Tommy Lewis:
26 Years



Derreck Wagoner:
30 Years



Jude Carpenter:
26 Years



Donnie Malmstrom:
23 Years



W. Chris Moore:
22 Years



Chuck Barber:
31 Years



Reggie Conley:
36 Years

FY 2020 – Police Budget (\$28,837,805)

Personnel

2019	\$24,303,624
2020	\$24,724,391

Sundry

2019	\$1,727,283
2020	\$1,801,604

Supplies

2019	\$698,275
2020	\$675,505

Utilities

2019	\$141,960
2020	\$125,960

Services

2019	\$266,020
2020	\$246,018

Maintenance

2019	\$1,423,849
2020	\$1,204,572

FY-2016	\$26,284,591
FY-2017	\$26,454,389
FY-2018	\$27,841,489
FY-2019	\$28,561,011

Burglar Alarms & Funeral Escorts

Burglar Alarm Activity Report

During 2020, the Tyler Police Department dispatched officers to approximately 3,272 false alarm incidents. Of those, approximately 327 were counted as #6 or more where individual alarm owners are charged a \$75 fee for each (unless otherwise adjudicated). False alarm fees collected January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020 amounted to \$ 21,185.00.

Also during 2020, the Tyler Police Department issued approximately 7,078 burglar alarm permits at a fee of \$35.00 Residential/\$75.00 Non- Residential. Burglar Alarm records indicate an approximate grand total of 7066 active registration files at the end of 2020. Permit fees collected January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020 amounted to \$ 332,219.00.

Funeral Escort Activity Report

During 2020, the Tyler Police Department performed a total of 93 funeral escorts The department charged for 93 escorts at \$100 each and performed 1 other escorts for non-local funeral homes which were not charged. Funeral escort fees collected January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020 amounted to \$ 9,000.00.

Total Alarms and Funeral Escort Revenue Collected

False Alarms	\$ 21,185.00
Burglar Alarm Permits	\$332,219.00
<u>Funeral Escorts</u>	<u>\$ 9,000.00</u>
Grand Total	\$362,404.00

January 2020



Officer Boyce and Officer Long stopped by Rosewood Estates Independent Retirement Community for the pie contest.

Officer Boyce's favorite type of pie is German Chocolate Pecan Pie and Officer Long's is Coconut Meringue Pie.
(Tyler Police Department Facebook)



February 2020

According to Detective Andy Erbaugh of the Tyler Police Department, officers responded to a welfare concern on West Front Street on Feb 4.

"We got a call from witnesses who said that their acquaintance, a 25-year-old black male, had poured gasoline on himself and actually drank some, and was talking about lighting himself on fire," Erbaugh explained.

In the video, which was taken from across the street, it is unclear what the person is doing or holding. It even appears that it might be a balloon in the person's hand. However, a closer look at the video shows the object to be a red gas can.

"So we knew that it could be a danger to himself or others," Erbaugh explained.

The video is about 50 seconds long. At 11 seconds, police cars arrive on the scene. At 22 seconds, two officers can be seen taking the subject down.

"When our officers got there, they could smell the odor of gasoline on this, this man and saw a lighter in his hand," Erbaugh said. "He was actively trying to light himself on fire."

According to Erbaugh, police saw the person struggling with a lighter as they were approaching, which is why officers rushed to take the subject down.

"When they had a moment where he looked like he fumbled with the lighter, they tackled him to get him away from the gasoline," Erbaugh explained. "The lighter dropped, and they were able to secure him."

An ambulance arrived at some point after the incident and took the person to a local hospital for a mental evaluation.

Erbaugh says each welfare call can be different and because this one was an active situation could be why an ambulance wasn't there sooner.

"A lot of times when we get a welfare concern call, it can be anything from, you know, I talked to my brother every day, and I haven't heard from him in two weeks. Or somebody who says, you know, my boyfriend says he's going to harm himself and he's at this address," Erbaugh said.

Because a welfare check can be for many different scenarios, ambulances are not always called to respond for each one. (Payton Weidman/CBS19)

Two officers involved received Meritorious Conduct awards for going above and beyond



March 2020

Two week “Stay at Home” Order issued by Smith County Judge

Smith County Judge Nathaniel Moran issued a two-week “Stay at Home” Order for all Smith County residents on Friday, March 27, 2020.

The order is an amendment to Smith County’s “Declaration of Local Disaster Due to Public Health Emergency for Smith County, Texas.”

The “Stay at Home Order” takes effect at 11:59 p.m. on Friday, March 27, 2020, and will continue through 11:59 p.m. on Friday, April 10, 2020, unless otherwise extended or terminated by further order of Judge Moran.

To view the Order and accompanying press release, please visit www.smith-county.com and click the red banner at the top of the page.
(Jenny Wells PIO #Spreadfactsnotfears Daily Update 03/31/2020)



FILED
KAREN PHILLIPS
COUNTY CLERK

20 MAR 27 PM 1:03

SMITH COUNTY, TEXAS

BY Dawn Colclasure
DEPUTY

AMENDED ORDER OF DECLARATION OF LOCAL DISASTER DUE TO PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY FOR SMITH COUNTY, TEXAS

April 2020



Officers responded to the 400 block of South Chilton on April 9th, 2020 for a suspicious person call after citizens reported seeing a white male peering into several vehicles in the area. Officer DJ Schick arrived first and located the subject near Bois D'Arc and W. Bryan. When Officer Schick began to investigate and gather the subject's information, the subject threw his bicycle at Schick's feet and fled on foot. Officer Schick chased the subject for several blocks and was able to catch him in a backyard as he tried to climb over a large fence. Sergeant Tim Hutson, Officer Wes Cook and Officer Braden Barnes arrived in the area and were able to hear a physical altercation occurring in the backyard of 505 South Chilton. They entered the yard and saw Officer Schick engaged in a physical struggle with the noncompliant subject. With the other officer's assistance, Officer Schick was able to successfully take the subject into custody.

Further investigation led to the seizure of methamphetamine, numerous items believed to have been recently stolen from vehicles in the area, as well as modified tools used for the purpose of burglarizing vehicles. Because of the team work and thorough investigation, a burglary suspect was apprehended and property believed to be stolen was recovered.



May 2020

On May 6th, 2020 Detective Judson Moore was working over serving an arrest warrant on a potentially dangerous suspect for a harassment case he had been working. While driving to the police department he came across a group of individuals riding ATVs and dirt bikes on Frankston Highway. This group of riders had been riding on public roadways during the evening shift causing problems for the past several weeks. He informed dispatch and responding officers of the group's movements while staying undetected.

While surveilling the riders, Detective Moore witnessed the group disregard the red light at Forest and Erwin. The last motorcycle rider in the group was attempting to catch up and also ran the red light. Unfortunately for him, he was struck by a moving vehicle who had the green light. Detective Moore immediately radioed this information to responding officers and stopped to render aid to the injured rider. Detective Moore was able to obtain good video of the entire incident and identify some of the riders who were later issued multiple citations. Responding patrol officers and bike officers quickly arrived on-scene to assist. (TPD Lt. Sinclair)



June 2020

Tyler Police, Tyler Fire Talk Suicidal Subject Down

On June 22, members of the Tyler Police Department and Tyler Fire Department responded to the WC Supply Company, 329 S. Bonner Ave. on report of a naked man threatening to jump off the roof of the building.

Tyler Police officers got on the roof and made contact with a male, 21 years of age from Tyler who was in an agitated state. They gave him water and attempted to talk him off the roof. A Tyler Fire ladder truck arrived and a Tyler Fire Fighter talked Hampton onto the ladder. He was safely brought down. Hampton was transported to UT Health on Beckham for a mental evaluation. (TPD Lt. Sinclair)



July 2020

Tyler Police Promote Officer to Sergeant

At a ceremony held yesterday, Tyler Police Officer Dion Reed was promoted to the rank of Sergeant. Sgt. Reed began his law enforcement career as a jailer for the Smith County Sheriff's Department. In 2009 he was hired at the Tyler Police Department. Sgt. Reed spent two years as a motorcycle officer in the Traffic Unit. He has been working the midnight shift as a patrol officer until his promotion. Sgt.

Reed is a Cooper Institute Certified Fitness Instructor for Tyler PD and holds an Advanced Peace Officer Certificate from TCOLE. He is also a certified TCOLE Instructor. At his promotion when asked what he looks forward to most as a new sergeant, Sgt. Reed said, "It's exciting. I've worked with the officers on the midnight shift and they're all great people. Now I'm excited to have the opportunity to supervise them." The Tyler Police Department would like to congratulate Sgt. Dion Reed and his family as he begins a new chapter in his career. (PIO Andy Erbaugh)



August 2020



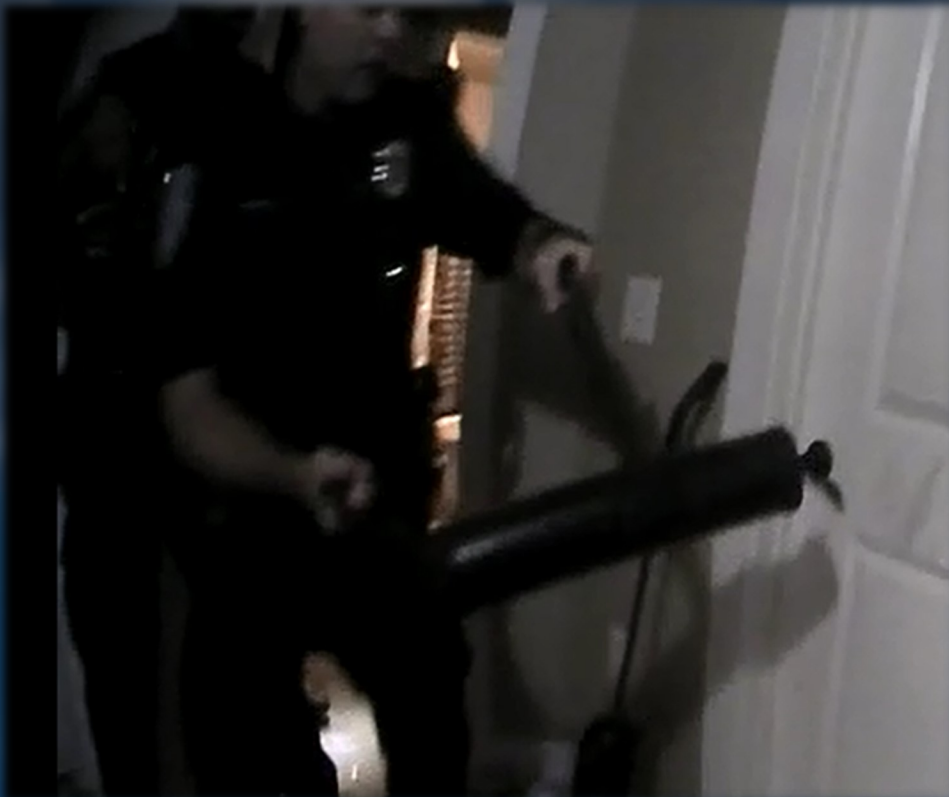
Officer Rusty Adair stopped a possible intoxicated driver near Old Gladewater and Duncan after observing several traffic violations and poor driving characteristics. After observing more signs of intoxication upon contact he and Officer Blake Kelley requested the driver step out. The driver took off and turned off his lights leading officers to believe he was an immediate danger to the public and a pursuit was authorized by supervisors. The male headed North on the Loop (already having a flat tire at this point) and ended up on 271 leading officers away from the City. The suspect fled on foot but was captured quickly by Officers Kelly and Adair. He was wanted by parole and gave false identifying information. He also admitted to smoking meth before the pursuit and was found to be in possession of the same as well as marijuana. The vehicle had been stolen the previous night and was one of two stolen from a farm out in the County the past two nights. The suspect was identified as Levi Fuentes and was charged with DWI, Evading in a vehicle, fail to id fugitive, possession of cs pg1, poss marijuana, uumv, and his warrant.

(TPD Sergeant Homer)

September 2020

Officers were dispatched to this location in reference to a welfare concern. Marcus Allen, a wanted felon X2, was suspected of being inside with his ex that he feloniously assaulted at an earlier date. After new information was received it was determined that SWAT and CID be called out. Moments after being called out, the situation inside the apartment presented exigent circumstances and officers had to make entry. Officer Lucas Moore used the battering ram to enter the front door. The suspect then fled to the en-suite bathroom with the victim and attempted to barricade himself inside there. Officer Moore rammed that door open as well. The suspect was taken into custody without incident. Suspect was arrested for both felony warrants along with several outstanding warrants from other agencies.

(TPD Sgt. Reed)



October 2020



The clerk of the Exxon gas station at Mineola and the Loop called police when Robert McKinze began assaulting her by striking her in the face. He then grabbed some cash from the register and fled in a vehicle. Officer Shields had just come on duty and picked the vehicle up on Gentry. McKinze did not wish to stop at that moment and expressed this to Shields by hanging out the window. A short time later McKinze stopped and was taken into custody.

(TPD Sergeant David Hall & Crime Analyst Michelle Foster)

November 2020



(E. Front/S. Beckham @ 0848 hours) A white male wearing no shirt was observed walking down Front Street acting erratic and carrying a large tree branch, swinging it at cars. Officers located him and followed him to 700 W. Front while waiting for more units. Multiple officers tried to Taser him and he dropped the large branch. There was a mini-standoff on the side of the road for about 5 minutes as officers calmed him down. Officers blocked traffic and he was eventually talked into cuffs without a fight. EMS transported him to UT Health on Beckham for a Mental Custody. It was determined he had walked away from Mother Frances ER after being found unconscious in a vehicle up in Grand Saline earlier this morning. Good teamwork by everyone involved.

(TPD Information Lt. Sheffield/Crime Analyst Michelle Foster)

December 2020

Christmas was brighter for more families than expected thanks to a late donation push to first responders in the Tyler area. The Blue Santa program, which usually helps 500 families purchase presents while children shop with police officers and other first responders, only had enough funds for 250 families.

However, breaking the event into two nights and having fundraisers like Whataburger's "Oh! What-A-Night" pushed the total to over 310 families shopping. During the events this month before Christmas, organizers talked about what it meant to the families and many of those helped did interviews and said what the police and first responders meant to them. Others had stories of hardship and how this helped pull them up spiritually for the holidays.

"This is more for the officers than it is the kids," said Tyler Police Department Community Response Officer Chuck Boyce. "We see so much, throughout the year, and this is the one time you can let your guard down and have fun and see how blessed we are to help others."

During 2020, the eyes of our nation were on police officers all across America but as the year wore down, it ended on a high-note for the Tyler community and our efforts to make a difference in the lives around us (John Anderson/Tyler Morning Telegraph & TPD Danielle Gruenwald)



Tyler Police Department



*Working
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for a safer
Tyler*