



ANNUAL
REPORT

2021

Coalinga Police Department

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To the City Council and Residents of the City of Coalinga

MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to maintain peace and order through the provision of police services that are of the highest quality and responsive to the needs of the community. We will contribute to the safety and security of the community by apprehending those who commit criminal acts, by developing partnerships to prevent, reduce, or eliminate neighborhood problems by providing police services that are fair, unbiased, judicious, and respectful of the dignity of all individuals.

VALUES STATEMENT

Dedication to timely, excellent, and efficient service to the community.

Honest and ethical behavior by the members of this agency.

Having the upmost integrity and professionalism for the position in which we hold.

Using innovative, creative, and proactive approaches in meeting the demands of crime prevention and law enforcement responsibilities.

Engaging in strategic and future planning and to keep abreast of the latest in law enforcement technology and techniques.

Sensitivity is the key quality that we should bring to our interaction with the public and other agencies in the criminal justice system with whom we interact with.

Chief's Message

It is a privilege and an honor to present this annual report of the activities of the men and women of the Coalinga Police Department during the Calendar Year 2021. This was a year busy year within the department as well as **productivity**. The Department has met the challenges presented during 2021 and delivered a high level of service to the community.

Chief's philosophy. My philosophy is simple; "We are family and have a special bond and a duty to protect the community we serve and one another. All police department personnel are to treat everyone with dignity and respect, treat others as you would want to be treated, Coalinga Police Department staff are to do their very best every day and always do the right thing. I expect everyone to do what's expected of them, do their job and always display a professional appearance and attitude. I want the community to feel as they can approach any employee of this department and receive satisfactory service. I want all my staff to stay safe and go home to their families at the end of every shift."

The primary goal for 2022 is to be successful in all that they do, and I hope the department continues to improve and meet the challenges of the new year.

Respectfully Submitted,

Darren L. Blevins

Darren Blevins

Chief of Police

State of the Department

The Coalinga Police Department is a full-service law enforcement agency conducting operations 24 hours a day, 365 days per year. **The Department has units providing service in records and general law enforcement.** The Police Department provides primary 911 communications responsibilities for the City of Coalinga and the City of Parlier.

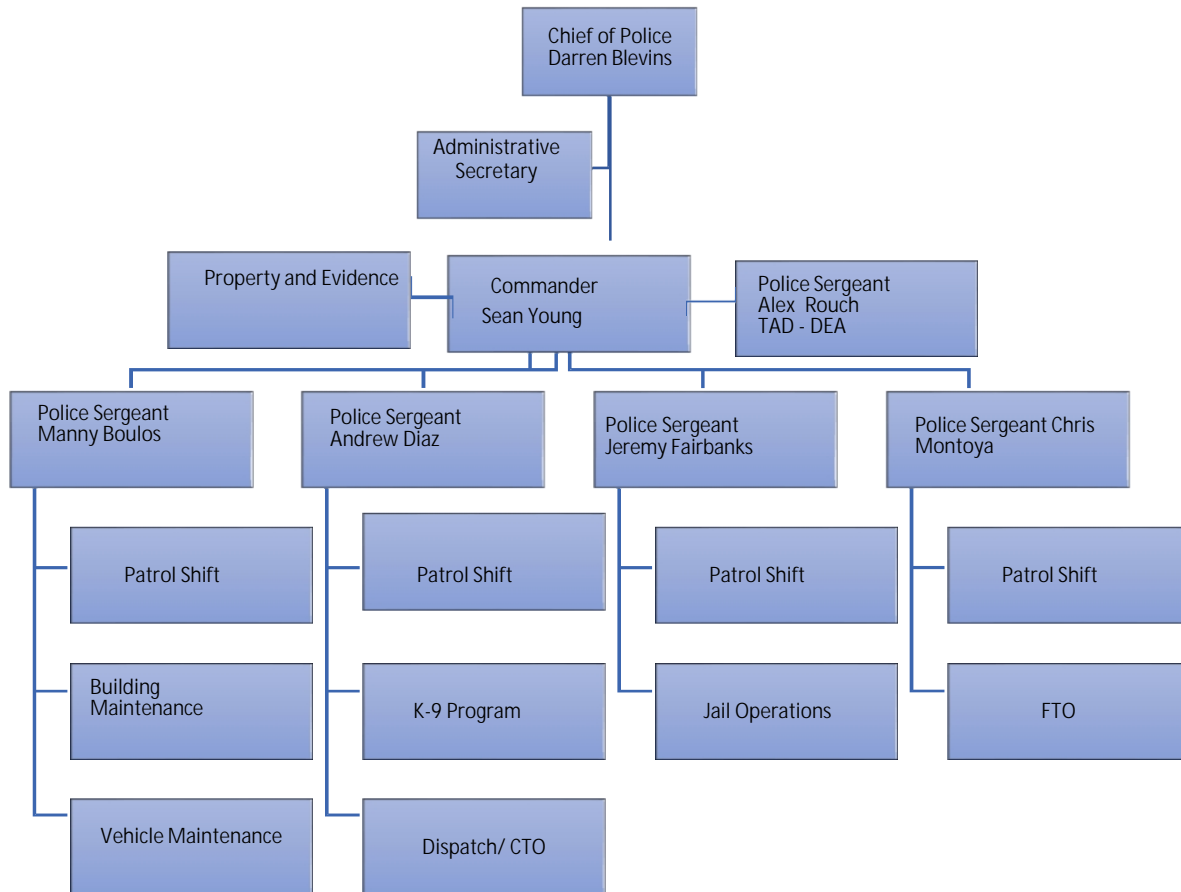
The year began with 13 full time sworn officers. FY 2020/2021 has been funded with 20 sworn officers. and as of December 2021, the department is currently sitting at 14 full time sworn officers, with 2 sponsored cadets currently attending the basic police academy and 4 vacant sworn positions.

To support sworn operations, the Department employs a mixture of part time and full-time civilian positions. The non-sworn provide Dispatch and Clerical services. The non-sworn staff increased during the 2021 calendar year. The Department had 7 full time Police Technicians and 3 Part-Time Technicians and 1 vacant position.

The current staffing level of the police department is:

- 1 Police Chief
- 1 Police Commander
- 4 Police Sergeants
- 2 Police Corporals
- 6 Police Officers
- 2 Cadet's (Currently in Police Academy Grad. date March 25. 2022)
- 4 Vacant Officers positions
- 7 Full time Police Technicians
- 3 Part-time Police Technician's
- 1 vacant Part-time Police Technician
- 1 Secretary to the Chief of Police

Coalinga Police Department's Organizational Chart



Budget:

The Police Department is a general fund department. Due to the nature of Law Enforcement, it is a resource consumer not a self-sufficient activity. The adopted FY 20/21 annual budget of the Police Department is \$3,928,399 million dollars. This constitutes 37% of the City's General Fund Budget. The adopted FY 19-20 budget for animal control was \$35,100.00, which pays Gimme love for care and welfare of the animals and shelter.

Revenues to support law enforcement activities come from a variety of sources. The main source of income is the City's General Fund. Supplemental funding from cooperative agreements with West Hills College and Coalinga Huron Unified School District fully pay for 2 police officer positions. Cannabis licensing fees and taxes pay for one police officer position and one non-sworn position. The Department participates in several grant programs to provide needed equipment. The Department receives SLESF grant funding from the State of California, Body Armor funding from the Federal Government. This year the Department received a grant from Homeland Security to go towards the purchase of additional equipment. The Department is expected to receive approximately \$5,100.00 from this grant.

Facilities:

The Police Department is located at 270 N. Sixth St. in a wing of City Hall. This facility was constructed in 1995 and houses 911 communications center, patrol operations, investigations, administration, and a 24-hour holding facility. The Police Department has two satellite locations that supports its mission. The Police Department also continues to utilize a portion of the old police department headquarters, in the courthouse, as an evidence storage facility.

Fleet:

The Police Department uses a mixture of unmarked and marked vehicles to accomplish its various missions. All sworn staff have an assigned vehicle. This has allowed the department to improve reliability and fuel economy with the goal of reducing fuel and maintenance costs. The average age of fleet assets is 5 years.

Fleet reductions were completed to mirror the department's current staffing levels. With grant funding, the Department purchased additional 4 marked patrol vehicle this year.

Other Equipment:

The Police Department has switched to Mark 43 for its CAD use. Over this past year the police department had received approval for the purchase of a new encrypted radio system which set to be installed some time in February. As well as new Axon Body cameras and new Taser 7 tasers.

Calls for Service Statistics:

The best way to analyze the activity of the Police Department is using raw calls for service data. This data over time shows both activities generated by the public and activity generated by preventative patrol activities. In 2021 the department handled 16,882 compared to 2020 where the police department handled 17,681 which is an -4.518% decrease in calls for service.

CR Crime Statistics

The UCR is the oldest measure of crime reporting in the United States. Developed in the 1920's by the FBI, the report receives its data from victim's reports of crime to law enforcement. The statistics give only general information on crime trends. They can be affected by several variables from the definitions of the categories themselves to human error in crime report completion by law enforcement. Year to year analysis is the most accurate way to use the UCR to predict crime trends.

Comparing 2020 to 2021 there was a decrease in the total UCR reportable crimes to the Coalinga Police Department. This decrease is attributed to a decrease in all categories except for homicides, thefts, and arsons. The below are month to month tables and graphic representations of the UCR statistics. Crimes against property have now passed persons crimes to be the number one issue facing the citizens of Coalinga today.

UCR

The number of reported thefts/property crimes represent a large share of the UCR Statistics. Although the total **number** of reportable UCR offences are down, which over the past 12 months was a reduction of -20.422%.

2020 / 2021 UCR Reporting

Annual UCR 2020

| | |
|----------------------------|------------|
| Homicide | 1 |
| Rape | 8 |
| Robbery | 6 |
| Felony Assault | 49 |
| Misdemeanor Assault | 50 |
| Burglary | 22 |
| Theft | 145 |
| Arson | 3 |
| Total | 284 |

Annual UCR 2021

| | |
|----------------------------|------------|
| Homicide | 0 |
| Rape | 9 |
| Robbery | 3 |
| Felony Assault | 46 |
| Misdemeanor Assault | 50 |
| Burglary | 50 |
| Theft | 87 |
| Arson | 6 |
| Total | 251 |

DA Filing Rate

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------|-------|
| Cases Submitted to DA | 286 | |
| Charges Filed | 195 | (68%) |
| Declined to Prosecute | 91 | (32%) |
| Other Disposition from DA | 0 | |
| <hr/> | | |
| Reasons Declined to Prosecute | | |
| Furtherance of Justice | 0 | |
| Lack of Evidence | 8 | (9%) |
| Mutual Combat | 1 | (1%) |
| Pending FU | 0 | |
| Pled to another charge/case | 7 | (8%) |
| Statue of Limitations | 2 | (2%) |
| Victim Request | 0 | |
| Other | 73 | (80%) |

The department's filing rate took a hit this year. In 2020 the department had a filing rate of 58% and this last year we had a filing rate of 68% which is an increase of 17.241%

Traffic Accident Statistics

The Coalinga Police Department is responsible for traffic enforcement for the City of Coalinga. Besides the common writing of citations for traffic violations, the Department responds to and investigates all the traffic accidents that occur in the city. In 2020, the total number of investigated traffic collisions in Coalinga increased by 120% from 30 in 2020 to 66 in 2021.

Animal Control Statistics

Gimme Love a non-profit organization that is now responsible for the care and welfare of the animal shelter. The police department uniformed patrol officers responded to 411 animal complaints and issued 5 citations in 2020.

GIMME LOVE'S 2021 INTAKE STATISTICS:

DOGS: 416 – 44 adopted, 356 rescued

CATS: 428 – 34 adopted, 329 rescued

RABBITS: 1 – 1 adopted

Rooster: 1 – 1 adopted

Total intake: 846

52 animals moved to rescues from Coalinga residents straight from their homes.

SPAY/NEUTER: 212 – Dogs 70, Cats 142

Rabies Vaccinations: 212 – Dogs 70, Cats 142

Quarantined from dog bites: 4, no rabies detected.

School Resource Officer Program

During the 20/21 fiscal year both the Coalinga Huron Unified School District and West Hills Community College District had students on campus this year. Coalinga Huron Unified and West Hills College District had funding for these positions, however due to staffing levels the department ended up covering this position by having patrol officers do periodic walk throughs of the college campus to ensure those who were on campus were safe as well as respond to all calls that came in from the K-12 Schools or college. The Coalinga Police Department provide the following services to the Districts are:

- Criminal Investigations
- Outreach to Students
- School Safety Presentations
- Attendance at Sporting Events
- Attendance at other District Events
- Traffic and Patrol functions around the Schools
- Presentations to the Governing Boards

Canine Program

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Over 900 grams of methamphetamine during traffic stops and search warrant

Over 3 grams of heroin coming from a search warrant

Over 20 grams of cocaine coming from traffic stops and search warrants

25 dangerous felons surrendered due to K-9 Eli presence

15 guns recovered during traffic stops where narcotic paraphernalia was located

K-9 Eli assisted in over 25 search warrants that lead to narcotics, weapons and stolen property being located/seized

Numerous community events that K-9 Eli attended including national night out, Public Safety Open House,

Octoberfest, children's birthdays, neighborhood block parties and contact with the community. members/citizens

K-9 Eli again was featured in the following K-9 Instagram pages:

Police K-9 Magazine

K-9 of Valor

K-9 Police

Thick Blue Line

Blue Lives Matter K-9

K-9 Eli has over 300 hours of training for year 2021 with his vendor Law Dog K-9, California Highway Patrol, and Coalinga State Hospital.

K-9 Eli and Officer Ybarra conducted a presentation at for Dawson Elementary after school program

STATS:

K-9 Eli has been deployed about 225 times in 2021

K-9 Eli was deployed over 115 times on traffic stops

K-9 Eli was deployed over 100 times for building searches, audible alarms, and burglaries in progress

K-9 Eli assisted in approximately 60 narcotic arrests

K-9 Eli assisted in approximately 35 Felony arrests

K-9 Eli assisted in approximately 50 Misdemeanor arrests

K9 Eli had 1 bite during a vehicle pursuit with a dangerous wanted parolee.

Sgt Diaz, Officer Henderson, Officer Ybarra and K9 Eli working narcotic interdiction on Interstate 5.

K-9 Eli assisted numerous agencies to include:

Fresno County Sheriff during traffic stops

California Highway Patrol (CHP) Vehicle searches

Coalinga State Hospital Sweep of facility

Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Vehicle search searches and search warrants

Huron Police Department Search warrants

Notable Cases:

Vehicle pursuit and foot pursuit with vehicle coming off the I-5. 4 Bulldog gang members were arrested, 2 loaded stolen guns were recovered and over 2 pounds of meth were found by K9 Eli. The 4 gang members were apprehended with the use of K9 Eli reducing use of force and reducing liability for the City of Coalinga.

Vehicle pursuit and foot pursuit with a male and female from Oakland, where a stolen loaded handgun was recovered.

Armed Robbery which occurred El Rancho and SR 33, investigation led to search warrant being executed at a Hotel off I-5. Two San Jose residents were arrested, two stolen loaded firearms were recovered with the assistance of K9 Eli. Both suspects were convicted and sentenced to 26 years and 4 months in State Prison.

05/14/2021 at about 1830 hours, Coalinga Police Officers were dispatched to a carjacking which occurred within the city of Coalinga. During the incident a vehicle pursuit ensued which led officers into Kings County. During the time the suspect crashed and fled on foot K9 Eli apprehended the suspect and he was taken into custody.

Date: January 17, 2021

Prepared By/Contact Person: Darren Blevins, Chief of Police

On January 17, 2021, at 1:02 am, officers were dispatched the 500 block of E. Valley Street on a check the welfare call. The caller requested a welfare check on his niece after he had received information that she had possibly been assaulted.

Officers responded to the location and found an adult female standing outside her home with her grandmother and uncle crying. The victim was complaining of pain and bleeding from the back of her head. Officers noticed the victim was bleeding profusely from several lacerations to the back of her head and immediately called for an ambulance.

It appeared the victim and the father of her child identified has 20-year-old Coalinga resident Rafael Vargas were involved in an argument and during that argument Vargas grabbed a steak knife and stabbed the, victim in the back of her head several times. During the attack, Vargas used enough force that the tip of the knife had broken off as well separated from its handle.

Vargas was seen running away from the location and is still at large. Anyone with information or may know the whereabouts of Rafael Vargas is asked to contact law enforcement by calling 911 or the Coalinga Police Department at (559) 935-1525 option #1 for dispatch or #2 for the Tip Line. Vargas is a known gang member and is considered to be armed and dangerous.

Date: June 28, 2021

Prepared By/Contact Person: Darren Blevins, Chief of Police

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SUSPECT ARRESTED IN STOLEN VEHILCE NEAR FLAGSTAFF ARIZONA

On June 26, 2021, at approximately 4:15 pm officers from the Coalinga Police Department responded to the 300 Block of West Polk Street on a physical assault. On arrival officers located a female that had been assaulted. The 34-year-old victim stated she was involved in a verbal and argument with the father of her children who she identified as 37-year-old Coalinga resident Thomas Lambeth.

During the argument, Lambeth picked up a soda can and smashed it against the victim's face causing injury. The victim ran in their bedroom where she picked up Lambeth's phone and observed several text messages between Lambeth and another female. In the text messages Lambeth had written that he was going to kill the victim and steal her car.

Lambeth entered the bedroom and forced the victim to the floor where he began to tie the victims' hands behind her back with the cord form a Kerby vacuum cleaner. As the victim began to cry, Lambeth stopped and then wrapped the cord around her neck and used enough force to where the victim could not breath.

Lambeth then forcible removed the victim's car keys from her pants pocket and fled the area. On June 27, 2021, at approximately 8:50 am, the Coalinga Police Department's on duty watch commander was contacted by an officer with the Arizona State Police. The officer advised he had stopped Lambeth just outside of Flagstaff, Arizona for a traffic violation when he was informed the vehicle he had stopped was stolen out of Coalinga.

The Arizona State Trooper was informed of the additional charges that were being sought against Lambeth and was advised we would be seeking an arrest warrant to extradite Lambeth back to California. On June 28, 2021, The Coalinga Police Department walked the case through the District Attorney's office for review and charges were filed against Lambeth for PC 422 -Criminal Threats, PC 273.5(f) (1)- Domestic Violence with priors, PC 235- False Imprisonment, PC 211- Robbery, PC 245(a) (4)- Assault with a deadly weapon which caused great bodily injury. Bail was set at \$120,000.00 and a warrant was issued, for his arrest. The police department is awaiting the approval for Lambeth's extradition back to California from

Arizona. Once the extradition is granted, officers from the Coalinga Police Department will travel to Flagstaff, Arizona and take custody of Lambeth. Lambeth will be brought back to Coalinga for questioning, booking and then will be taken to the Fresno County Jail.

Date: November 8, 2021

Prepared By/Contact Person: Darren Blevins, Chief of Police

On November 2, 2021, at 8:16 am an officer from the Coalinga Police Department was dispatched to the 500 block of Saddleback Street regarding a Hispanic male adult wearing a black shirt, blue pants and white shoes with black laces burglarizing two vehicles.

The victim stated he was inside his residence when he was informed by his wife that the alarm to his white 1998 Honda was going off. When the victim walked outside to the front yard where his white Honda was parked, he noticed a Hispanic Male Adult running away from his vehicle going south bound on Saddleback Street. The victim stated he also noticed his black Honda Pilot had also been broken into.

The officer canvassed the area for surveillance cameras. He contacted the occupants of a home in the neighborhood and was allowed to review their surveillance cameras. While reviewing the cameras the officer was able to see a Hispanic male adult, wearing a black shirt, blue pants, and white shoes with black laces park in front of this address in a silver Pontiac Grand Prix with no rear license plate. The subject was seen exiting the vehicle and walk towards the victim's house. A short time later the same subject is seen running back towards the vehicle and then take off.

Later the same evening Coalinga Police Officers contacted a male subject around Buckeye Springs Avenue on a suspicious person's call. This subject was matching the description of the person in the earlier thefts. The subject identified himself as Jose Blanca-Corona out of Huron.

On November 5, 2021, around 1:30pm, the Coalinga Police Department was contacted by Huron Police Officers stating they had arrested Blanca-Corona for attempting to steal a car. Officer Ybarra responded to Huron and interviewed Blanca-Corona. During the interview, Blanca-Corona admitted to the vehicle burglaries in Coalinga.

Blanca-Corona was arrested for multiple counts of vehicle burglary and was later booked into the county jail.

Date: November 28, 2021

Prepared By/Contact Person: Darren Blevins, Chief of Police

On Friday November 26, 2021, at 3:37 pm an officer with the Coalinga Police Department conducted a vehicle check in the 200 block of E. Pleasant Street on a white Ford Mustang, which was occupied by Coalinga resident Johnathon Beltran, who was seated in the driver seat. While the officer was checking for wants and warrants on Beltran, he began shaking and was appearing to be nervous.

Upon asking the Beltran to step out of the vehicle the officer asked him if there were any guns in the car at which time Beltran responded "Yea". Beltran was detained and the vehicle was searched. Upon searching the vehicle, Officers located a Glock 17 handgun with a 30-round magazine which was determined to be stolen out of Santa Clara County was located along with, a baggy containing 193.4 grams of Methamphetamines, as well as a small digital scale, and 6.6 grams of Cocaine.

Beltran was arrested for violations of California Health and Safety Code sections, 11377(a), 11378, 11379(a), 11370.1(A) and 11351, and violations of California Penal Code sections, 25400(a)(1), 25850(c)(6), 25850(a)(2), 25400(c)(3), 32310(a), 496(A), 25400(C)(2), 25850(C)(2) and violation of California vehicle Code section 22400(A).

Beltran was also determined to be a member of the Bulldog Criminal Street gang and an additional charge of PC 186.22 was added. Beltran was transported to the Coalinga Police Department for holding and was later transported to the Fresno County Jail and booked on all charges.

Date: December 15, 2021

Prepared By/Contact Person: Sean Young, Police Commander

Possible School Threat Prompts Investigation

On December 15, 2021, officers were dispatched to the Coalinga Middle School regarding possible statements made by a student to shoot up the school. Officers responded to the school and made sure all students were dropped off safely while school staff investigated the statements to determine what was actually said, and by who. Based on the known facts at the time and the lack of information, the school decided not to place the school on lockdown but sent out a notice to all parents that they were looking into a matter that raised concern.

During the investigation, a student was identified and admitted to making statements of shooting. The student was checked for any weapons, and none were found. The student's parent was notified and responded to the school. The student's family confirmed the student did not have any access to any weapons in the residence and were just as concerned with the behavior of the student as staff and officers. Officers checked the student's residence and found no firearms or weapons.

Once the investigation was complete and it was determined there was no threat to the safety of the students or staff, the student was

Date: December 9, 2021

Prepared By/Contact Person: Sean Young, Police Commander

Pedestrians Struck While Crossing Road

On December 3, 2021, officers were dispatched to the emergency room at the Coalinga Regional Medical Center for a report of a child struck by a vehicle. The investigation revealed the child was being dropped off for school on Sunset Street. The child got out of their vehicle and then started to run across the street. A passing vehicle was unable to stop before striking the child. The child was taken to the emergency room by their parent and treated for minor injuries.

On December 8, 2021, officers were dispatched to Elm Avenue and Walnut Street on a report of a pedestrian struck by a vehicle. Witnesses stated that the juvenile pedestrian had began crossing the road, in the crosswalk, before traffic had come to a stop. As the juvenile was crossing the road, they were struck by a vehicle that did not see them due to their vision being blocked by a larger vehicle traveling beside them. The juvenile was taken to Community Regional Medical Center in Fresno and treated for their injuries.

Fortunately, these collisions did not result in any major injuries and both juveniles are expected to recover completely.

Parents, please remind your children to make sure to look both ways before crossing the street, even if they are in a crosswalk, and make sure traffic has stopped before crossing the road. Unfortunately, there are times when drivers are not paying attention and do not see them, resulting in collisions such as these.

Drivers, please pay attention and be aware of your surroundings and traffic conditions around you while driving, especially in school zones and at times of heavy foot traffic throughout town, before school, lunch and after school. Avoid distracted driving like talking on cell phones, taking selfies and being on social media. Pedestrians do not always wait for you to stop, and some expect you to stop for them and will just walk into the roadway. turned over to their family.