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Copperas Cove Police Department Receives “Accredited Law Enforcement Agency” from the Texas Law Enforcement Accreditation Program

On November 29, 2022, the Copperas Cove Police Department was officially informed by the Texas Police Chiefs Association Law Enforcement Accreditation Program that we would receive the Accredited Law Enforcement Agency Award. Started in 2006, the Accreditation Program evaluates a police department's compliance with 168 Best Business Practices for Texas Law Enforcement. Texas law enforcement professionals carefully developed these best practices to assist agencies in efficiently and effectively delivering police services to their communities. These standards cover all aspects of law enforcement operations, including the use of force, protection of citizen rights, vehicle pursuits, property and evidence management, patrol and investigative procedures, and many other areas.

This voluntary process required the Copperas Cove Police Department to conduct a critical self-review of policies, procedures, facilities, and operations. In 2016, the Department began the lengthy process of becoming an "Accredited Law Enforcement Agency" by preparing compliance proofs for each Texas Law Enforcement Best Business Practice. Upon completion of the internal review, an outside audit and review were requested. This final on-site review took place on October 26 & 27, 2022. Trained Police Chiefs from other areas of the state conducted this review. The results of the on-site review were then sent to the Texas Police Chiefs Association's Accreditation Committee for final analysis.

The Copperas Cove Police Department becomes only the 189th agency in Texas out of 2800 eligible law enforcement agencies to be “Accredited.” We have always considered our Department to be one of the best in the state, and this independent review should assure citizens we are meeting all Texas law enforcement best practice standards.

We are honored that members of the Belton Police Department have graciously agreed to formally present our Department with this award on February 7, 2023, at 5 pm during the City Council Workshop at 508 South 2nd Street. Our Department will also be recognized at the 2023 Texas Police Chiefs Association Annual Conference in April.

More information on the Texas Police Chiefs Association Law Enforcement Accreditation Program may be viewed at <https://www.texaspolicechiefs.org/accreditation-program>.

