Mileposts Of The University Of Texas System Police

August 1, 1966, Charles Joseph Whitman ascended the Main Building Tower on the UT Austin campus. A UT student and former Marine, he killed 16 people and wounded 32 others during a 96 minute shooting rampage.

In 1967, the 60th Session of the Texas Legislature passed Senate Bill 162 which authorized Colleges and Universities to commission peace officers. Chancellor Harry Ransom implemented a plan for creating the University of Texas System Police and establishing a training program.

In 1968, James Carlson, a retired FBI Agent was appointed the first Director of Police and the training academy was licensed by the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education. Its official title was the University of Texas Traffic and Security School. Joseph Webb, a lawyer and retired FBI Agent, was selected to be the first Assistant Director of Training.

Click on Thumbnail to enlarge
Circa 1968  The University of Texas System Police Academy held its first Basic Training School in the fall of the year; graduating 9 candidates as police officers.

Al Collins was one of the first African Americans to be commissioned as a Peace Officer with the UT Austin Police Department. Lynn Croshaw became one of the first female officers of the UT Austin Police Department.

In 1969, the UT Austin campus was awash with protest largely against the Vietnam War. A snack bar in the Union building known as the Chuck Wagon became the first disruptive location involving violent protest. Because of continuing protest over the war and campus renovations on Waller Creek, University of Texas System Police, along with Austin Police and Texas DPS responded to the incident.

In 1970, Frank Cornwall was appointed Director of Police. A Pearl Harbor survivor and Marine Corps frogman, he was retired from the Dallas Police Department as a Narcotics Lieutenant. He standardized policy across the system and uniforms for officers, patterned after the Capitol Police in Washington D.C.
In 1971, the LBJ Library was dedicated on the UT Austin campus. In addition to former President Johnson, President Richard Nixon also attended. With the national press in attendance, the ceremony was marked by large scale non-violent protests.

Director Frank Cornwall established the Chancellor’s Trophy Pistol Match to foster marksmanship within the UT System Police. Two-man teams from each campus compete annually for the “Top Gun” award.

1972 - One of the largest anti war demonstrations in the state was held in a peaceful manner in and around the UT Austin Campus, known as the Peace March.

1974 - President Nixon resigned. Withdrawal of US troops from Vietnam was underway and protests on UT Campuses subsided for a short period. The protest atmosphere renewed with foreign students from Iran and neighboring countries in opposition to the Shah of Iran. Protests continued through his exile in 1979 until his death in 1980.

1978 – The University of Texas System Board of Regents approved construction of a 1600 sq. ft. building at the Bee Cave Research Center for use by the training academy.
1983 – UT Austin celebrated its 100th Anniversary. The police department wore an approved shoulder patch during the anniversary year. Alicia struck the Medical Branch at Galveston that same year as a Class 3 hurricane causing $2.6 billion in damage and 21 fatalities.

1985 – The Office of Director of Police began using its first personal computer; an AT&T 6300. Departments in the System began computerized record keeping soon thereafter.

1987 – The newly finished academy firing range was named in memory of Director Frank I. Cornwall. Floyd Hacker, recently retired as Chief of Criminal Law Enforcement for Texas DPS, was appointed the new Director of Police. The academy moved all operations to the Bee Cave location a year later.

Officer George Glaeser became the 20th IPMBA instructor in the USA. He began teaching bike patrol classes that year. He later trained the Governor’s protective detail on police bicycle use. UT San Antonio began a bike patrol program in 1994.

1990 – Director Hacker authorized a transition from .38 Special revolvers to semi-automatic pistols. Although no firearm was specified the Smith & Wesson Model 5906 was gradually chosen by departments in the System. A new uniform was approved with a French blue shirt with blue piping on the pants out seam.
1994—David Bedinger, a veteran of the Illinois State Police, was chosen as the new Director of Police.

1994 – 2011 The University of Texas Institutions at Houston became the first University of Texas System Police Department to achieve accreditation with *The Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA)* on March 26, 1994.

Four other departments have followed with accreditation: Arlington on November 18, 2006, Austin on July 28, 2007, San Antonio on December 6, 2008, and UTMB on November 19, 2011.

1996 – After serving as Assistant Director and Director *ad interim*, Roy R. Baldridge became Director of Police. Departments in the system began transitioning to the Glock pistol in 40 S&W caliber.
1997—February. The North Hollywood shootout in Los Angeles pointed out the need for officers to be better armed against determined adversaries with assault weapons. By 2004, University of Texas System Police had adopted the patrol rifle concept and begun deployment to officers in the field.

2000—A new badge for the University of Texas System Police was designed and authorized. The badge was 50% larger than the previous badge in an updated shield shape. It retained the 5 pointed star and UT System Seal as the focal point.

2001—June 5. Hurricane Allison struck the Gulf Coast and stalled after landfall causing catastrophic flooding on the UT Houston campus. It wreaked $5.5 billion in damages from freshwater flooding; 27 deaths were attributed to the flooding.

2001—September 11. The attacks on the Trade Towers placed the entire country on an increased alert for terrorism.
2002-2003 The Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training concept began. University of Texas System Police were quick to capitalize on the training provided here in Texas by the ALERRT Center in San Marcos. The term Active Shooter was used interchangeably.

On April 16, 2007, on the campus of Virginia Tech, Seung-Hui Cho shot and killed 32 people and wounded 17 others. A Review Panel Report faulted university officials for failing to share information that would have shed light on the seriousness of Cho's problems, citing misinterpretations of federal privacy laws. The University was criticized for failing to issue a timely warning to students. Cho was earlier investigated by the university for stalking and harassing two female students.

August 2008 – John Slettebo was appointed Director of Police after serving as Assistant Director under Roy Baldridge.

September 13, 2008 – Hurricane Ike made landfall at Galveston. Although a Category 2, its storm surge was as high as 14 ft (4.3 m). Ike was the most destructive hurricane to ever hit Texas and one of the deadliest, causing $25 - $30 billion in damages and 135 US deaths. Police officers from across the system began a temporary rotation to the Medical Branch to assist in recovery efforts.
In January 2010, a group of police officers and inspectors from various departments within The University of Texas System met in Austin at the headquarters of the Texas Municipal Police Association and formed the Texas System Police Association (TSPA). The organization’s mission is to give voice to the concerns of police personnel in The UT System.

September 28, 2010 – A lone gunman entered the UT Austin campus firing shots from an assault weapon. University of Texas System Police officers and Austin Police officers responded to the 911 calls. Together, they searched the library building where the gunman was last seen, finding him deceased from a self-inflicted gunshot wound. The UT Austin Police department was praised especially for the timely warning delivered to the campus community and preventing any loss of life other than that of the gunman.

April 4, 2011 – Michael J. Heidingsfield appointed Director for the UT System Police. He came to the System from his position as Assistant Sergeant at Arms for the United States Senate.

Director Heidingsfield began his career in law enforcement as a graduate of the UT System Police Academy in December of 1975 and served at the UT Arlington Police Department.

Uniforms were updated to a midnight blue shirt and pants in combination with a new shoulder patch.

The Cornwall Firing Range received its first comprehensive rehabilitation since its construction in 1987. Features include a leadless bullet trap and overhead steel baffles.

A Major Crimes Team was formed to assist UT Departments throughout the system with investigation of serious crimes. The Office of Director of Police expanded to eight Inspectors with regional assignments to our institutions.
September 4, 2011 – The University of Texas at Houston Police Department deploys to the Bastrop area in response to the wildfire threat. Three separate fires merged into one blaze that destroyed 1,691 homes.

October 2011 - Police Chief of the Year awards program begins under Director Heidingsfield. Recognition is given to Chiefs Engells of Galveston and Zacharias of Dallas.

October 2011 - Inspector of the Year award program began with David Ferrero the first recipient for 2011. Inspector Ferrero is also promoted to the new Chief of Staff position in January 2012.

2011 – Officer Molly Ralph (now Sergeant Molly Ralph) of the UT Pan American Police Department becomes the first female K-9 Officer.
Patrol methods are expanded with the addition of Segues to bicycles, motorcycles, sedans and sports utility vehicles.

2011 – The Office of Director of Police begins a comprehensive review of polices.

December 2011 - Dan Raff retires as the longest serving UTSP Academy Coordinator; he returns as Chief Instructor and Cadet Counselor

December 31, 2011 - The System Rapid Response Team’s (SRRT) first joint deployment was to the Sun Bowl at UT El Paso. The SRRT was created with regional highly trained tactical squads from different institution police departments across the system.
January 2012 – Director Heidingsfield authorizes a special breast badge to commemorate the 45th Anniversary of the University of Texas System Police.

January 2012 – An Emergency Operations Center is created within the Office of Director of Police

March 5, 2012 - Ruben Puente is selected as the Assistant Director of Police for the University of Texas System

April 2012 - An Officer of the Month program began highlighting outstanding officers throughout the system. Officer Angel Lemmonds, UT Houston PD (now Inspector Lemonds, ODOP) is the first officer selected for this honor.
April 2012 – The First Lateral Police Officer School completes a three week course of training designed as an immersion course for officers transferring to the UT System Police (now four weeks in length).

May 12, 2012 – The 93rd Basic Training School graduates. It is the eighth class in a row to have a 100% first attempt pass rate on the state license exam.

2012 - Doctors Alex Eastman and Jeff Metzger were added to the SRRT as trauma surgeons.

2012 - Inspector Bobby Harper takes a seat in the Texas Fusion Center at the DPS Headquarters in Austin. The Center serves as the state repository for homeland security information and incident reporting.
2012 - A cadre of officers form an Intelligence Officer Network within UT System Police Departments. A dedicated Inspector with the Office of Director of Police coordinates information.

2012 - Police departments across the System are 100% trained in ALERRT procedures for active shooters. The training in combination with a patrol rifle school is incorporated into the Basic Peace Officer Course and the Lateral Police Officer School.

2012 - The Colt M4 semi-auto carbine becomes the rifle of choice for the UT System Police Departments.

2012 - The Glock Model 22, a 40 S&W caliber, safe action pistol is standardized as the issue handgun for University of Texas System Police.
September 2012 - Dava Barnhart was selected as Officer of the Month. She came to the UT Austin Police Department after 9 years with Boca Raton PD in Florida. She is the first female member of the SRRT.

September 2012 - The inspection program of UT System Police Departments was revamped; including review of policy compliance, critical facilities and functions, reporting requirements, exemplary practices and unique concerns.

October 2012 - Director Heidingsfield established the Pacesetter Organization of the Year Program. The award gives recognition to departments that demonstrate outstanding performance during the year.

Fall 2012—The System Rapid Response Team successfully deploys twice: the first deployment involves the successful arrest without incident of a subject threatening to bomb the UT Brownsville campus; the second deployment involves the successful rescue of a kidnapping victim taken from UT Pan American campus and being held for ransom—the suspects were ultimately arrested as well—these are the first major tactical deployments involving SRRT and requiring enforcement action.
January 2013—The first homicide within the UT System since 2000 occurs at UTSW Dallas where a convicted felon shoots and kills his wife (a staff member) as the culmination of many years of domestic violence—the suspect is quickly arrested without incident.

February 2013—Inspectors from the Office of the Director of Police begin a review of major cold case investigations to ensure that unsolved homicides and sexual assaults are completely examined for new information or suspects.

Spring 2013—For the first time in UTSP history three executive searches for Chiefs of Police are conducted simultaneously for UT Austin PD, UT Arlington PD and UT Brownsville PD.

December 2012—The Board of Regents establishes the requirement that the Director of Police is to brief the Board on law enforcement and UTSP updates in executive session at each regularly scheduled Board meeting.
May 2013 – Basic Peace Officer Class 94 graduates; ninth class in a row to achieve 100% pass rate on first attempt at state licensing exam

Summer 2013 – The UTSP names the first ever Medical Director and Deputy Medical Director, Drs. Eastman and Metzger from UT Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas.

July 1, 2013 – Chief Kim Lemaux assumes the leadership of the UT Arlington Police Department, serving as the only female Chief of Police within the UTSP, after retiring as Deputy Chief of Police with the Arlington Police Department and the ranking female in that agency.
August 20, 2013 – Sergeant Hector Barrera, UT San Antonio Police Department, is killed in a tragic traffic accident while travelling to work.
Fall 2013 – ODOP has its first ever Certified Fraud Examiner

September 2013 – The UT System Police transitions to black and white patrol vehicles statewide

Winter 2013 – First time ever Tactical Medical Training completed throughout UT System Police for every officer
January 1, 2014 – Conducted Energy Device (TASER) is adopted across the UT System Police as a required less-lethal use of force option.

February 10, 2014 – A UT System Police Officer survives an encounter with a violent felon and the UTSP records its first ever officer involved fatal shooting.

March 2014 – The UTSP System Rapid Response Team deploys to Pyote, Texas for 96 hours of training – the longest distance for deployed training to date.
April 8 – 10, 2014 – UT Austin PD provides protection for four living presidents attending The Civil Rights Summit, celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

May 30, 2014 – Basic Peace Officer Class #95 graduates and is the tenth consecutive class to achieve a 100% pass rate on first attempt on the State Peace Officer licensing exam.

June 1, 2014 – Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents and police officers of the Port Authority of New York Police Department arrested a fugitive wanted by the UT Arlington PD for felony Sexual Assault at JFK Airport in New York; the suspect was attempting to board an international flight when taken into custody; this arrest represents the longest distance fugitive arrest in the history of the UTSP for a suspect who committed a felony offense on a University of Texas System campus.
October 2014 – The UT System Police provide support to the state’s response to the Ebola outbreak

October 2014 – Rescue 170 Fully equipped and operational for medial response and rescue

October 2014 – Computer-based test taking begins at the UTSP Academy
January 2015 – Chief Raul Munguia assumes the historic position of Chief of Police, UT Rio Grande Valley, joining the UT System Police from the Austin Police Department

February 2015 – Debut of the first ever UT System Police Recruiting and Public Service video

March 2015 – E-Tablets are introduced at the UTSP Academy

November 2015 - UT Rio Grande Valley PD officers assisted the US Border Patrol with the seizure of 27 pounds of crystal methamphetamine, estimated street value, $866,000, the largest drug seizure with which the University of Texas System Police have been associated in the agency's near 50 year history. UTRGV PD has assisted in the seizure of over $1 million in illegal drugs since February 2015.
Charles Whitman and the UT Tower
Allen Hamilton, left, first Police Chief of UT Austin
The Chuckwagon – UT Police in white shirts, APD in blue and DPS in helmets in the rear.
Different campus badges before standardization
Austin Peace March - 1972
Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlavi and President Jimmy Carter
Original Building for University of Texas System Police Academy
First Personal Computer for Office of Director of Police
9/28/10 – Colton Tooley enters the UT Austin campus firing a semi-automatic AK variant
Smith and Wesson Model 5906
9 millimeter Luger caliber
DA/SA Pistol
CALEYA Gold Standard

The primary cornerstones that comprise The CALEA Difference and distinguish CALEYA from all other forms of public safety accreditation are professionalism, stewardship, integrity, diversity, independence, continuous improvement, objectivity, credibility, consistency, knowledge, experience, accountability and collaboration.

Breaking Public Safety News

CALEA News

04/24/2012 The CIP Report on Cybersecurity
03/29/2012 CALEYA® Recognizes 87 Public Safety Agencies

Current Headlines

08/19/12 F’ville’s Heaton elected VP of Ga. Association of Police Chiefs
08/14/12 Tri-C Campus Police and Security Services is Ohio’s first community college to earn full CALEYA accreditation

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The Commissioners

Dr. Theron L. Bowman
Chief of Police
Arlington (TX) Police Department

The 21-member Commission is composed of 11 law enforcement professionals and 10 representatives from the public and private sectors.

Commissioners serve three-year, staggered terms.

From the CALEYA website
Approved breast badge - circa 2000
Houston flooding from Hurricane Allison - 2001
Checkout the 2012 Course Catalog

**ACTIVE SHOOTER LEVEL I**
This dynamic course of instruction is designed to prepare the first responder to isolate, distract, and neutralize an "active shooter". Course will cover shooting and moving, threshold evaluation, concepts and principles of team movement, setting up for and room entry techniques, approach and breaching the crisis site and more...

Read More...

**ACTIVE SHOOTER LEVEL II**
"The fate of the wounded rests with the one who applies the first dressing." (Nicholas Senn, M.D. 1898)
First responders are being trained to quickly enter into harm's way to neutralize the shooter and save the lives of innocent victims. In many circumstances, formally trained medical personnel will not or cannot be on the scene immediately to provide casualty care.

Read More...

**ACTIVE SHOOTER TRAIN-THE-TRAINER**
The train-the-trainer course includes the complete delivery of the Active Shooter Level I course of study as well as instructional techniques and methodology for delivering the course.

Read More...

From the ALERRT website
Hurricane IKE makes landfall at Galveston
Director Floyd Hacker addresses Cadet Graduation
FIRST LATERAL POLICE OFFICER SCHOOL
APRIL 2, - 20, 2012
The Texas System Police Association represents the interests of the employees of campus police departments in the State of Texas. We are an inclusive group that welcomes all members of the campus law enforcement community: police officers, security officers, public safety officers, dispatchers, parking and traffic personnel, and administrative staff members.

From the TSPA website
Michael J. Heidingsfield
Director of Police for the University of Texas System
100 % PASS RATE

93rd Basic Training School
January 9, to May 12, 2012
UT Austin Police Department Honor Guard
View to the South along Hwy 71 in Bastrop Texas during wildfires of 2011
Inspector Larry Bloom receives Instructor of the Year Award wearing the new uniform.
Self portrait by Seung-Hui Cho of Virginia Tech
Segues deployed by UT Arlington Police Department
Doctors Eastman and Metzger

SRRT officers deploy to the Sun Bowl in El Paso
Commemorative badge for 45th Anniversary
Inspector Bobby Harper gives instruction to SRRT members
Glock Model 22
40 S&W Caliber
Safe action pistol
The Colt M 4 semi-auto carbine becomes the rifle of choice for University of Texas System police
New shoulder patch – December 2011
Officer Dava Barnhart of UT Austin Police Department
First female member of the SRRT
2011
Chiefs of the Year

Thomas E. Engells
UTMB Galveston

Larry Zacharias
UT Dallas
Texas Fusion Center – Austin Texas
March 5, 2012 – Ruben Puente became the new Assistant Director of Police for the University of Texas System.
**Office of the Director of Police**  
The University of Texas System  
Policy and Procedure Manual

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Black Male, 24 years of age
42 years of Age
Last known to reside in Cedar Hill, Texas

enters unlocked apartments, mainly college “communal living” type apartment complexes during daytime hours, and if confronted he will act like he is looking for someone, has the wrong apartment, or say that he is dropping something off for someone. He will most likely be on a cell phone either engaged in a conversation with someone (getaway driver / lookout) or pretending to be. If not confronted he steals electronic equipment mainly laptop computers. Recently he has been saying he is looking for “Crystal”, “Jason” or “James.”
UT System Police Regional Inspector Responsibilities

Effective 10/1/11 the following regional responsibilities are assigned:

Region 1 – Austin, Tyler, Health Center Tyler (Inspector Bobby Harper)
Region 2 – San Antonio, HSC San Antonio, Permian Basin (Inspector Glen Koen)
Region 3 – Arlington, Southwestern, Dallas (Inspector Larry Bloom)
Region 4 – HSC Houston, MD Anderson, UTMB (Inspector David Ferrero)
Region 5 – El Paso, Pan American, Brownsville (Inspector Paul Shepherd)
Bike Patrol Officers from across the UT System
22nd Basic Training School
UT System Police Academy
December 1975
Construction at the Cornwall Range
First Use of the New Range
94th BASIC TRAINING SCHOOL
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SYSTEM POLICE ACADEMY
UT Arlington Chief Kim Lemaux
Sergeant Hector Barrera
July 22, 1980 – August 20, 2013
Assistant Director Ruben Puente
95th Basic Training School
University of Texas System Police
Jan 13- May 30, 2014
Dallas DA 'looking into' Ebola patient's story

Relatives deny

Click to play

STOPPING EBOLA
THE RISKS AND REALITIES OF THE OUTBREAK

EBOLA HERE!

Local doc in NYC first to treat patients in Africa

Red Cross volunteer leaves for West Africa