



NEWS Release

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ROCKPORT POLICE DEPARTMENT RECEIVES “RECOGNIZED LAW ENFORCEMENT” COMMENDATION

ROCKPORT, TX – On December 21, 2016 the Rockport Police Department received the award of “Recognized Law Enforcement Agency” from the Texas Police Chiefs Association Law Enforcement Recognition Program. Begun in 2006, the Recognition Program evaluates a Police Department’s compliance with over 166 Best Business Practices for Texas Law Enforcement.

This voluntary process required the Rockport Police Department to conduct a critical self-review of the agency’s policies, procedures, facilities and operations. Rockport Police Department becomes the 133rd agency in the state to be so recognized.

These Best Practices were carefully developed by Texas Law Enforcement professionals to assist agencies in the efficient and effective delivery of service and the protection of individual’s rights. These Best Practices cover all aspects of law enforcement operations including use of force, protection of citizen rights, vehicle pursuits, property and evidence management, and patrol and investigative operations.

Beginning in August 2014, the department began the lengthy process to become a “Recognized” Law Enforcement Agency” by preparing proofs of compliance for each of the Texas Law Enforcement Best Business Practices. Upon completion of the internal review, an outside

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audit and review was requested. This final on-site review took place on December 7-8, 2016. The on-site review is conducted by trained Police Chiefs from other areas of our state. The result of this review was then sent to the Texas Police Chiefs Association's Recognition Committee for final analysis and decision to award "Recognized" status.

"The Rockport Police Department has always considered itself to be one of the best in the state," noted Rockport Police Chief Tim Jayroe. "This process provided for an independent review of the department's operations and should assure the citizens of Rockport that its Police Department is conforming to the current state of the art in law enforcement."

The actual presentation of the award will take place January 24, 2017 at Rockport City Hall. The department will also be recognized at the Texas Police Chiefs Association annual conference in April.

More information a description of the program may be viewed on the Texas Police Chiefs Association website at <http://www.texaspolicechiefs.org>.