



CITY OF ALTON

CITY MANAGERS OFFICE

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RELEASE:

ALTON POLICE DEPARTMENT EARNS “Recognized Law Enforcement Agency” from the Texas Law Enforcement Recognition Program

On December 16th, 2020, the ALTON 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 170 Best Business Practices for Texas Law Enforcement. 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.

This voluntary process required the ALTON POLICE DEPARTMENT to conduct a critical self-review of the agency’s policies, procedures, facilities and operations. Beginning in January of 2020, the department begin 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 audit and review was requested. The on-site review was 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.

On December 16th, 2020, the department was notified that it had been awarded the coveted “Recognized Law Enforcement Agency” award. The ALTON POLICE DEPARTMENT becomes the 171st agency out of 2,700 law enforcement agencies in the state to be so recognized and is the first agency in Hidalgo County to achieve recognized status. This process provided for an independent review of the department’s operations and should assure the citizens of ALTON that its Police Department is conforming to the current state of the art in law enforcement and is considered one of the best police agencies in the State of Texas.

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