

2024



Annual Report

**University of North Texas
Police Department**



Letter From the Chief

On behalf of the men and women of the University of North Texas Police Department, I present the 2024 Annual Report. The report highlights the exceptional work being done by the dedicated individuals within our department. It offers a comprehensive overview of our agency, detailing our responsibilities, annual statistics, and a collection of photos that exemplify our dedication to fostering strong relationships both internally and externally.

Many of our officers and employees not only work for UNT, but they are also students, graduates, or have children attending school here. We are proud to be a part of the legacy that continues to shape the University of North Texas, further connecting us to the mission of ensuring safety and service on campus.

Our committed team of officers, detectives, and support staff work tirelessly to proactively prevent crime and apprehend offenders, with the goal of establishing the UNT community as a model of public safety and strong community-police partnerships.

We maintain close collaboration with our law enforcement partners at the local, state, and federal levels, diligently upholding the trust and legitimacy essential for ensuring public safety.

Each year our officers and staff work hard to make the UNT community better. While there is no secret formula for success, I attribute our accomplishments to a foundation of strong leadership, remarkable customer service, robust internal and external engagement, and a dedication to maintaining the highest standards of professionalism. Furthermore, we are dedicated to aligning our department with the principles of 21st-century policing, ensuring that we are a forward-thinking agency that consistently adopts and implements best practices.

Our department has a reputation for fostering a healthy work-life balance, and we prioritize caring for each other and creating a close-knit family that feels like a second family. This is important to us because we know that if we take care of ourselves and others, it helps us to take care of our community.

As we embark on the new year, safety and service will continue to be a top priority for the University of North Texas Police Department. We are grateful for the continued support and the trust you have placed in us to serve and protect our community. As you review this report, we hope you recognize the passion, dedication, and commitment of our officers and staff in serving our community.

We take pride in all that has been achieved this year and look forward to the opportunities that lie ahead in the coming year.

Respectfully,



Ramona Washington
Chief of Police



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About Us



The University of North Texas Police Department was established in 1970. The main responsibility of the department was the physical security of the university campus. As the department evolved, the responsibilities of the department changed dramatically. Today, the department is a full service police operation with a continuing goal to provide high quality customer service.

In April 1978, the first black and white patrol vehicles were introduced with the addition of two Dodge Monacos featuring a new graphics package, including the NTSU logo and "POLICE" door decals. At the time, the fleet totaled four vehicles. Shortly after, the two older units were repainted in black and white by officers as an off-duty project. All equipment installation, removal, and graphics work were completed in-house by patrol officers with the required skills.

Today, the University of North Texas Police Department consists of 2 service areas, police operations and support services, with approximately 65 full time employees, including police officers, dispatchers, public safety officers, and administrative personnel. The department has jurisdiction within the UNT campus, the city of Denton, and any county where UNT maintains property. Our 48 sworn police officers are state certified and enforce city and state laws, as well as university policies.

The UNT Police Department currently provides services to the Denton Main Campus, Discovery Park campus and Frisco campuses. The University of North Texas Police Department is a nationally accredited agency by both the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies and the International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators. UNT officers are commissioned as peace officers under Texas Education Code 51.203 and are certified police officers under the requirements of the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (TCOLE).



Mission, Vision, & Values

Our Mission

The University of North Texas Police Department's mission is to protect life, property, and individual rights. We will provide quality service in partnership with our community to create an environment that will aid and support the learning process.

Our Vision

The UNT Police Department will serve as a model for other departments on campus as well as other university police departments in the State of Texas and the United States by:

- Providing professional, non-biased service to all customers (students, faculty, staff, and visitors).
- Enhancing problem-solving partnerships with our community.
- Working effectively as a team.
- Utilizing state-of-the-art technology to improve operations and communication.

Our Values

As members of the UNT Police Department, we adhere to the following values to guide our conduct:

- We aspire towards professionalism in all aspects of our operation.
- We shall maintain the highest standards of integrity.
- We shall treat each other with mutual trust, fairness, and dignity as we strive to serve our community and accomplish our mission.



Dual Accreditation



Accreditation reflects our agency's commitment to professionalism and continuous improvement. The UNT Police Department has been dually accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA) and the International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators (IACLEA) since 2006.

According to CALEA, about 5% of law enforcement agencies nationwide have achieved the advanced distinction of accreditation that our agency maintains. With over 600 compliance standards being required to maintain our Advanced Accreditation, the University of North Texas Police Department far surpasses the industry standard and aims at optimizing community relations to remain as one of the few Texas law enforcement agencies to hold both these titles.

CALEA Advanced Law Enforcement Accreditation



What is the significance of a CALEA Advanced Law Enforcement Accreditation?

It is specifically designed for elite organizations striving to demonstrate professional excellence within a comprehensive range of operational and administrative functional responsibilities. Agencies participating in this program are prepared for the management of life, health, and safety issues, ensuring issues ranging from community engagement to sound personnel practices are addressed.

IACLEA Accreditation

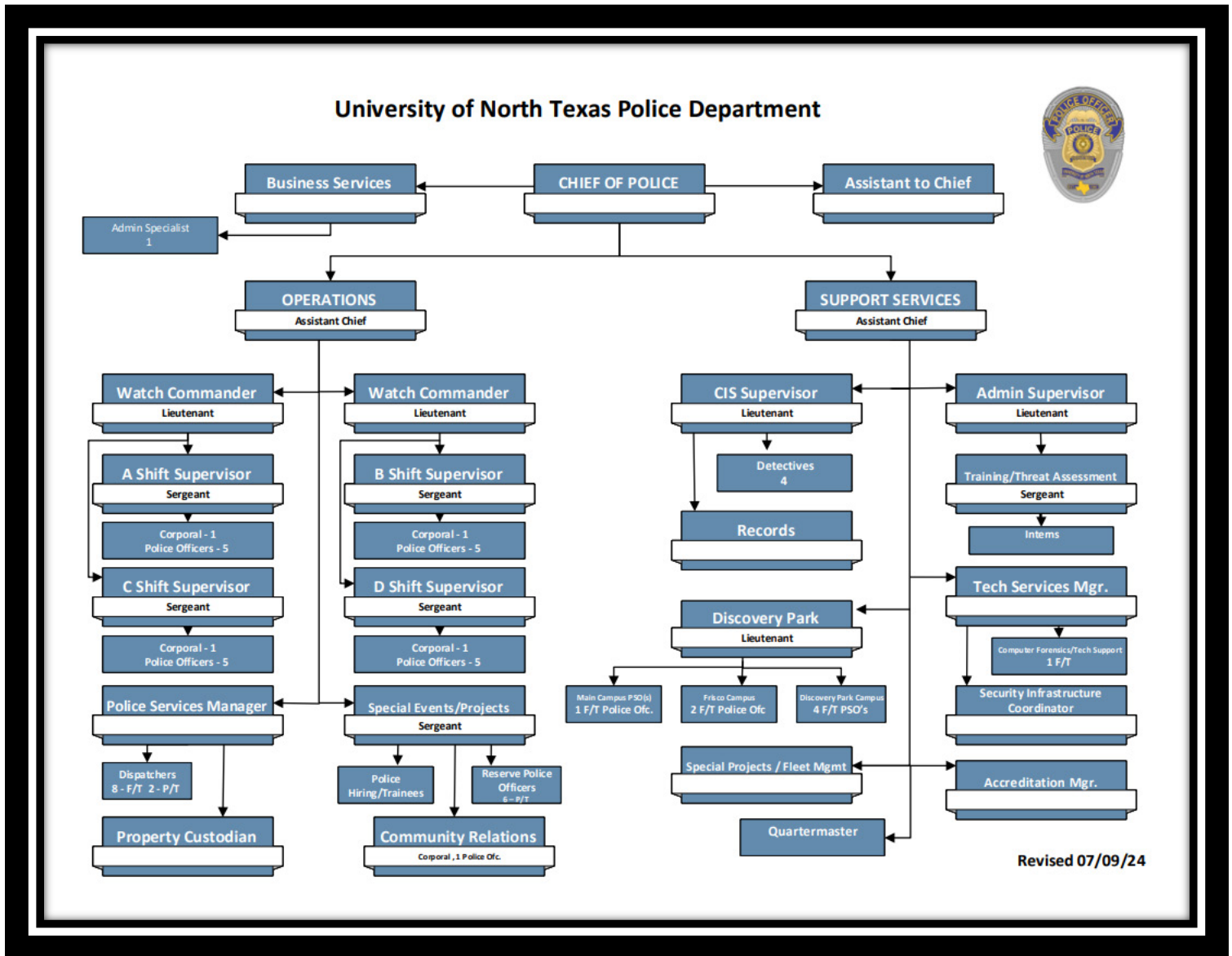


What is the significance of an IACLEA Accreditation?

It ensures greater accountability and competency in daily operations. Officers and staff know what the policies and procedures are, how to perform them, and that they are accountable to them. The IACLEA accreditation constitutes recognition that an agency conforms to the highest professional standards for campus law enforcement and protective service.



Department Organizational Chart



Formal Mentoring Program



The Formal Mentoring Program at the University of North Texas Police Department was developed by Chief Washington and Chief Reynolds (retired) with the goal of giving newly hired officers the necessary support in navigating the ins and outs of being a police officer at a university. A newly hired officer is assigned a mentor anywhere from 3 months to a year, depending on their prior experience in law enforcement. The mentee can ask their mentor questions about the department itself, what's to be expected, and any other relevant questions or concerns about the life of a police officer at the University of North Texas. Taking on the responsibilities of a police officer can be overwhelming, which is exactly why this program was created.



Since being fully implemented in 2024, the program has received an overwhelming amount of positive feedback from police officers who have come out of the academy and into the field. In the words of Officer Martin Zarate, "The program is an invaluable resource for new officers, offering structured guidance and real-world insights from experienced

personnel. It helps bridge the gap between academy training and practical law enforcement by fostering professional development, critical thinking, and leadership skills. Through this program, mentees gain firsthand exposure to department operations, policies, and community engagement strategies, which enhances their confidence and preparedness in the field."

With Officer Zarate's previous law enforcement experience with the Dallas Police, this program allowed for a smooth transition to the University of North Texas's Police Department. When asked about his take on the program, Officer Zarate explained, "From my personal experience, the program promotes strong camaraderie and support within the department, ensuring that newer officers feel equipped and empowered to succeed. It's not just about learning the job— it's about growing within the profession and reinforcing the department's commitment to excellence and service."



Co-Responder Program

Like many colleges and universities around the country, UNT has experienced an increase in the number of individuals needing mental health intervention. To more effectively and safely respond to individuals in crisis, the UNT Police Department has partnered with the UNT Counseling and Testing Services to create a Crisis Response Team. The purpose of the team is to respond to people in a mental health crisis, follow up with previous contacts or referrals, conduct welfare checks, and provide mental health training to the campus community. The team, made up of a police officer and a clinician, operates out of the UNT Police Department.



In 2024, the University of North Texas Police Department completed 47 CARE team referrals for individuals at-risk or currently experiencing a mental health crisis.

The Main Objectives

- ✓ Provide the appropriate follow-up investigations for previous contacts, referrals from patrol, or other mental health concerns.
- ✓ Conduct welfare checks and/or other contacts with individuals where there is potential for mental health issues.
- ✓ Provide training to UNT PD, Counseling & Testing, and other campus and local entities.





Therapy Canine

In 2024, the University of North Texas Police Department welcomed their newest member to the team, Clover. Clover was born on July 22nd, 2024, and started her training at 8 weeks old with her handler, Corporal Causey. Unlike most police canine units, Clover is a part of a very specialized program that focuses on assisting those in the UNT community through a non-law enforcement capacity. Although she isn't technically a certified "Therapy Dog" yet, Clover has made tremendous progress in aiding trauma victims in their time of need. She has attended multiple campus events, where her presence has not gone unnoticed. With the help of her dedicated handler, she routinely holds monthly "Paw-office" meetings at the UNT President's office, meets with students and staff, and provides the necessary support to those in need. Clover has become a huge part of the family at the University of North Texas Police Department and is looking forward to obtaining her Therapy Dog certification in 2025!



From October to December of 2024, Clover had 37 visits with over 700 attendees.



Explosives Canine Team



The Explosives Canine Team is led by Officer Andrew Cioffi. He's paired with K-9 Watson, who is a 2-year-old Vapor Wake, or "Air Scenting", trained explosives detection Labrador Retriever. K-9 Watson's training began on campus in late July of 2024.

Officer Cioffi and K-9 Watson train for at least 16 hours a month, focusing their attention on sharpening Watson's explosives detection skills. Training is conducted in high traffic areas such as the UNT DATCU Stadium, various student/faculty parking lots, and other buildings throughout campus.



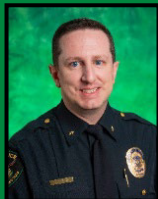
Officer Cioffi and K-9 Watson's goal for 2025 is to complete their National Odor Recognition Test certification through the Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco & Firearms. This program is hosted by the ATF throughout the country for law enforcement agencies, such as the UNT Police, to apply for. The ATF hosts 12 N.O.R.T. certifications to accommodate an estimated 500 explosives detection canine teams.



Employee Engagement Activities

January 25th	-K9 Keegan's 7 th Birthday Party
March 2nd and 4th	-Police Department Breakfast
April 15th-19th	-National Telecommunicator Week
May 3rd	-Employee Graduation Celebration
May 22nd	-Finance & Administration Division Day
June 12th	-Command Staff Retreat
June 20th	-Police Department Family Cookout
June 23rd	-Police/Title IX/Dean of Students Breakfast
November 20th	-Thanksgiving Potluck
December 5th	-PSO Graduation Party & Journalism Intern Baby Shower
December 17th	-Annual Awards Banquet
December 19th	-Retirement Party

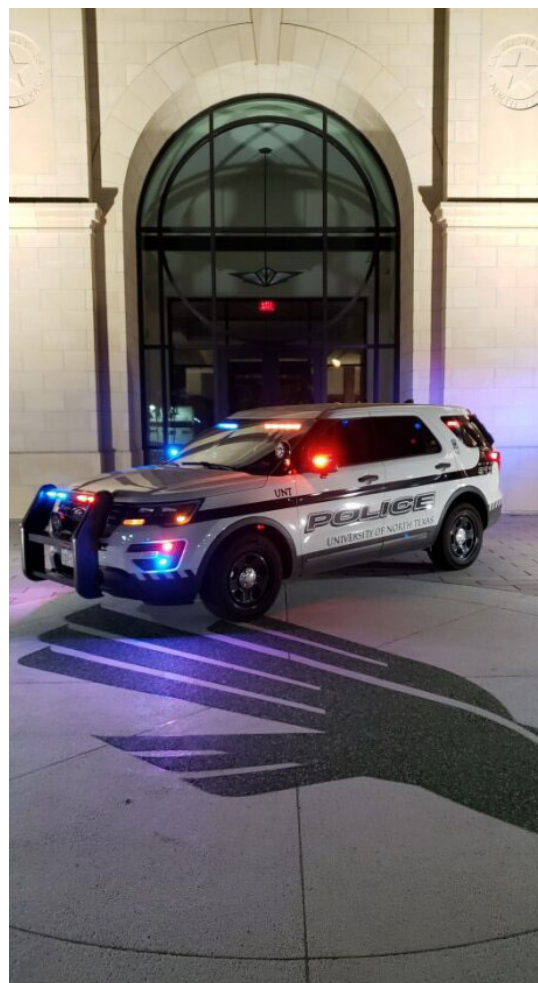




Police Operations

The Operations Unit is on the job 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. The unit is commanded by Assistant Chief Christopher Deaton and is the largest unit within the Police Department. Operations provide law enforcement services to the main campus, UNT Discovery Park, as well as the surrounding area. These services include, but are not limited to, responding to calls for service, apprehending criminal suspects, drafting reports, traffic enforcement, and conducting preliminary investigations. Also falling under Operations are Communications (Police Dispatch) and Community Engagement, Property/Evidence, and Hiring & Recruiting.

Officers patrol in both marked and unmarked vehicles, on bicycles, and on foot. Our vehicles are equipped with state-of-the-art equipment to include multi-channel scanning radios, mobile data terminals, radar and laser speed detection, digital mobile video, and forward-looking infrared cameras.





Enforcement Statistics

Total Calls for Service - 18,571
*Entered by Dispatch

Traffic Stops - 5,518

Traffic Citations - 952

Criminal Citations - 48

Warnings - 4,514 2

Accidents - 126

Top Accident Locations - NTB and Chestnut, Eagle Dr, and Ave A

Custodial Arrests - 298



2024 Monthly Arrests

January	15
February	14
March	21
April	17
May	14
June	25
July	28
August	34
September	33
October	29
November	29
December	17

TOP ARRESTS

TOTAL

Outside Warrant Misdemeanor	60
1 st Driving While Intoxicated (DWI)	42
Public Intoxication	34
Outside Warrant Felony	31
Criminal Trespass	30
Possession of Marijuana <2 oz	14
Driving While Intoxicated/Open Container	12
Theft of Property >=\$750<\$2,500	7

*Numbers subject to change based on reporting and statistical calculation differences



N.I.B.R.S. Statistics

National Incident-Based Reporting System

Incidents, Offenses, Victims, and Known Offenders by Offense Category, 2024

Agency : UNIV OF NORTH TEXAS PD

<i>Offense Category</i>	<i>Incidents¹</i>	<i>Offenses</i>	<i>Victims²</i>	<i>Known Offenders³</i>
Total	671	684	708	503
Crimes Against Person	65	73	73	68
Assault Offenses	56	63	63	61
Homicide Offenses	0	0	0	0
Human Trafficking	0	0	0	0
Kidnapping/Abduction	2	2	2	1
Sex Offenses	7	8	8	6
Sex Offenses, Non-Forcible	0	0	0	0
Crimes Against Property	357	362	386	148
Arson	4	4	4	0
Bribery	0	0	0	0
Burglary/Breaking and Entering	15	15	21	15
Counterfeiting/Forgery	12	12	12	4
Destruction/Damage/Vandalism	140	140	148	33
Embezzlement	0	0	0	0
Extortion/Blackmail	2	2	2	0
Fraud Offenses	25	25	32	14
Larceny/Theft Offenses	151	151	158	75
Motor Vehicle Theft	8	13	9	7
Robbery	0	0	0	0
Stolen Property Offenses	0	0	0	0
Crimes Against Society	249	249	249	287
Animal Cruelty	1	1	1	0
Drug/Narcotic Offenses	226	226	226	265
Gambling Offenses	0	0	0	0
Pornography/Obscene Material	7	7	7	8
Prostitution Offenses	0	0	0	0
Weapons Law Violations	15	15	15	14

¹The actual number of incidents is 671. However, the column figures will not add to the total because incidents may include more than one offense type, and one incident was counted for each offense type within each offense category in this table.

²The figures in the column for victims represent the number of victims associated with each offense type.

³The term Known Offender does not imply the identity of the suspect is known, but only that an attribute of the suspect has been identified, which distinguishes him/her from an unknown offender. Therefore, the figures in this column do not account for the 241 incidents with unknown offenders.

Special Events

In 2024, the University of North Texas Police Department provided essential security services for a wide variety of special events ranging from sporting events to student/staff organizational events. The UNT Police Department's role in providing the necessary safety and security for special events extended beyond campus to encompass community members and other locals to the City of Denton. Sporting events such as football, basketball, soccer, and several other sports are hosted throughout the year at North Texas. UNT offers 16 sports as a NCAA Division I school - the highest and largest division among universities. DATCU Stadium can seat up 31,000 fans and is routinely staffed by police officers, who ensure that public safety is always a top priority.



Events Worked

356

Total Hours

6901.2

Special Event Employers

- Merchandising, Hospitality, & Tourism Management
- City of Denton
- Denton Youth Basketball
- Enrollment Management
- Festival Ballet of North Texas
- Student Accounting
- UNT Admissions
- UNT Athletics
- UNT Career Center
- UNT Orientation & Transition Programs
- UNT Greek Life
- UNT Parking Office
- UNT Student Affairs
- UNT Central Housing
- UNT Union Scheduling
- UNT Coliseum
- UNT College of Engineering
- UNT College of Music



Community Engagement

The University of North Texas Police Department takes pride in hosting a wide variety of informational events for members of the UNT community and public. Community events are hosted each month by the Command Staff, personnel from both the Operations and Support Services divisions, with the assistance of other department personnel. Those members of each department who partake in community events do so in addition to their mandated duties and responsibilities to further engage with the community and improve relationships with those attendees at each event.

2024 Community Events

- College/Campus Safety
- Active Shooter Response
- International Resource Fair 16
- Off Campus Fair
- Welcome Back Bash
- Disruptive Persons Class
- College 101 at Marcus High School
- Mean Green Fling
- Bike Lock Engraving
- Overdose Awareness Day
- Clover Visit at School
- Finals Snacks
- UNT Community Chit Chat
- Spring Break Safety Fair
- Criminal Justice Career Fair
- Self Defense Class
- Alcohol Education for Alpha Phi
- Upward Bound
- Drug Take Back Day
- Disco Fair
- These Hands Don't Haze
- Safety Walk
- Theft Prevention Seminar
- Sexual Assault Awareness Month Panel
- Intoxication Goggle Seminar
- Mobile Coffee with Cops
- Visit at Center for Young Children
- Open House at the Career Center
- International Safety
- Forensic Fun Day
- Tip a Cop
- Suicide Prevention
- Pumpkin Carving & Boo Bash
- Drug Awareness Presentation
- Coffee with Cops

Total Attendance

January	771
February	280
March	534
April	278
May	866
June	2096
July	1367
August	1697
September	806
October	1780
November	338
December	788

In addition to these events, the University of North Texas Police Department played a direct role in providing the necessary safety and security for all orientations involving incoming students and their parents that took place during 2024. Police officers also provided special training for student workers on campus. This special training focused on those who are in positions assigned to ensuring all rules and regulations are followed within all dormitories, fraternities, and sororities.



Dispatch



The Sullivant Public Safety Center is home to a fully operational telecommunications center, staffed by state-certified Telecommunications Officers who serve as the critical link between the university community and emergency services. As an integral part of the police department, dispatchers provide essential communication support for police, fire, emergency response, and other public safety services. Positioned on the front lines of emergencies, they play a vital role in ensuring swift and effective service delivery.



2023

Calls for Service:
15,674

Priority 1 & 2 Calls:
2,141

Average Response
Time: 4:07

2024

Calls for Service:
18,571

Priority 1 & 2 Calls:
2,328

Average Response
Time: 4:27

Key Services

- ✓ Available to the university community by telephone, and walk-in 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year
- ✓ Receive 911 emergency and non-emergency phone calls, and texts to 911
- ✓ Radio dispatch officers and monitor their activity.
- ✓ Monitor fire and burglar alarm systems for the entire campus.
- ✓ Provide real-time updates to incidents via the department's Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) / Records Management System (RMS).
- ✓ Access local, state, and federal data via the Texas Crime Information Center (TCIC) and the National Crime Information Center (NCIC).

What is a Priority 1 Call? A Priority 1 Call is the highest-level call for service that a police department can receive. These calls can involve imminent loss of life or property, where the suspect may be actively committing the offense, still on scene, or fleeing the area. These calls require police officers to respond immediately, which usually involves the use of lights and sirens. In certain cases, officers that are on lower priority calls, such as Priority 2, can be pulled to respond to these incidents.



Property & Evidence

The UNT Police Department's Property and Evidence Room is a highly secure and meticulously managed facility responsible for the intake, storage, tracking, and disposal of evidence, lost and found items, and property held for safekeeping. It plays a critical role in maintaining the integrity of investigations by ensuring proper chain-of-custody procedures, preserving the evidential value of items, and complying with legal and departmental regulations.

The room is equipped with secure storage solutions, including climate-controlled areas for sensitive materials, designated lockers for firearms and narcotics, and specialized containment for flammable or hazardous substances such as lithium batteries, vape pens, and other combustible materials. Strict access controls and inventory management systems are in place to prevent unauthorized handling and to maintain accurate records.

Evidence Processed

2023

Total Received Items:
1,567

Cases with Seized
Firearms: **5**

Cases with Seized
Narcotics: **150**

2024

Total Received Items:
1,727

Cases with Seized
Firearms: **13**

Cases with Seized
Narcotics: **266**

2024 DRUG OFFENSES

TOTAL

Possession of Drug Paraphernalia	241
Possession of Marijuana Less Than 2 oz	121
Minor in Possession of a Tobacco Product	83
Possession of Marijuana >2 oz <=4 oz	3
Possession of Marijuana >4 oz <= 5 lbs.	2
Possession of a Dangerous Drug	2

The University of North Texas Police Department coordinates with the county and municipal courts to receive proper guidance on the destruction or release of evidence. This ensures compliance with legal requirements, court rulings, and applicable state and federal laws. Whether disposing of narcotics, destroying firearms, or returning property to rightful owners, every action is conducted in adherence to official procedures to uphold accountability and transparency.

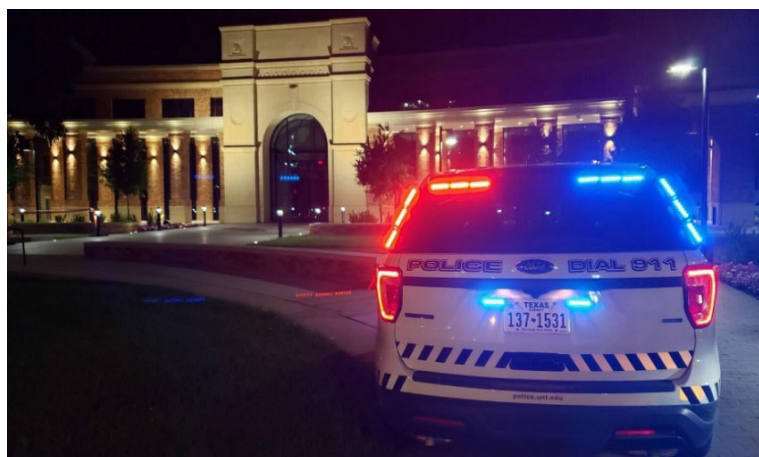




Support Services

The UNT Police Department's Support Services Division is led by Assistant Chief Jeremy Polk. It is the most operationally diverse unit within the Police Department and is staffed by both sworn police officers and civilian personnel. The unit is responsible for performing comprehensive investigative services, yearly accreditation, and the UNT Discovery Park and Frisco police operations.

In addition to these responsibilities, the Support Services Division oversees all required training, manages information technology, maintains campus alarm systems, and ensures fleet readiness. This unit oversees all Civilian Public Safety Officers.





Criminal Investigative Services

The UNT Police Department's Investigative Services is led by Lieutenant Christopher Boesch. It is staffed by detectives who have been trained to investigate the wide variety of offenses that may be reported to the UNT Police. Once an incident has been reported, the detectives provide support to the patrol officers by assisting with the collection and preservation of evidence, and interviewing any victims, witnesses, and suspects.

Cases Cleared

Misdemeanor: 69.7% clearance rate
964 closed cases in 2024

Felony: 69.3% clearance rate
142 closed cases in 2024



According to the Texas Department of Public Safety UCR Bureau, in 2024, the average clearance rate for all Texas law enforcement agencies was only 39.7% of all violent felonies. This included assault offenses, homicide offenses, human trafficking, sex offenses, as well as crimes against property and crimes against society.

Crime Scene Investigation Activity

TOTAL

Sexual Assault	17
Assault	101
Burglary	41
Theft	201
Unauthorized Use of a Motor Vehicle	11
Graffiti	83
Attempted Suicide	2
Murder	0
Driving While Intoxicated	90
Terroristic Threat	11
Disorderly Conduct	46
Consumption of Alcohol by a Minor	84
Incident with a Mentally Ill Person	26



Behavioral Assessment Team

The Texas Behavioral Threat Assessment, Intervention, and Prevention Program is a statewide initiative aimed at preventing incidents of targeted violence. The program operates through regional threat assessment teams, composed of stakeholders from law enforcement, mental health, social services, and other relevant fields, who work together to assess and manage potential threats.

The threat management process involves development of a management plan for monitoring and intervention based on input from all relevant stakeholders; implementation of that plan, and continued assessment of potential threats for as long as needed, to include coordination and handoff when a potential threat actor relocates to another jurisdiction.

Our Goal:

is to treat each situation individually and take the appropriate actions based on the individual's behavior. Those of concern are then monitored, where law enforcement action is not taken unless the threat begins to actively violate the law. It's critical to identify patterns in the subject's behavior, especially if they are showing signs of engaging in future violence on campus.



The University of North Texas began implementing this program in April of 2024, and it is now fully operational as of January of 2025. Sergeant Cody Howell is the officer in charge of coordinating the department's course of action when a threat is discovered. Sergeant Howell collaborates closely with the Dean of Students, Title IX personnel, and the University Brand Strategy & Communications group. As of February 2025, there has been 23 threats assessed and 4 cases in progress.



Technical Services

Technical Services provides day-to-day end-user support for desktop environments. We support mobile computing, in-car video, License Plate Recognition, and Radio Communications equipment. Brad Varcoe and Michael Wilhelmi provide computer and mobile forensics support to Criminal Investigators as needed along with James Lewis who provides alarm services support and installations for the Denton campus. This includes burglar and panic alarms.

Major Projects

Body-Worn Camera Upgrade



This project primarily involved the transfer of video data to a cloud-based storage hosted by Motorola. Body cameras were also upgraded to a newer model from the outdated V300, to the newly innovated V700 model for all officers.

Dispatch Radio Console Upgrade



This project replaced aging radio consoles that were nearing end-of-life and no longer supported. It also included the addition of a third dispatching position to enhance operational capacity.

Fleet Technical Equipment Refresh



This project focused on upgrading all police patrol vehicles' computer systems, video monitoring devices, and overall connectivity. It also included the integration of the Motorola LEARN License Plate Recognition system, enabling real-time plate processing through a direct link between the video system and in-car computer.

Sun Ridge RIMS Suite Upgrade



This project involved a successful upgrade of multiple Sun Ridge Suite applications, primarily focused on server enhancements to support all associated systems.



Training Program



The Training Program for the University of North Texas Police Department requires all police officers to complete annual trainings in crisis intervention, de-escalation techniques, special investigations, active shooter preparedness, trauma informed response to sexual assault, as well as the completion of a personal wellness course. The Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (TCOLE) also requires all police officers to complete a "Legislative Update Course" to remain actively informed on all current laws and regulations enacted by Texas lawmakers every year.

Required Training

- ✓ Crisis Intervention
- ✓ De-escalation Techniques
- ✓ Special Investigative Topics
- ✓ Legislative Update Course
- ✓ Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response (ALERRT)
- ✓ Finding Wellness- Building a Healthier Life
- ✓ Trauma-Informed Approach to Sexual Assault

On average, our officers earned between 60-80 hours of in-service training in the 2024 calendar year, surpassing the required minimum standards.



The University of North Texas Police Department heavily focuses on mental health training, de-escalation training, fair and impartial training, defensive tactics, pursuit policy, and scenario-based training. Additionally, officers are required to complete firearms-related training three times per year and can obtain their rifle qualification, if desired. Sworn police officers with a bachelor's degree will have all their required training to obtain their Intermediate Certificate within the first two years in accordance with TCOLE policy



Drone Program

The Drone Program for the University of North Texas Police Department started in 2023 and consists of 6 pilots. The department utilizes the DJI Matrice 30 Series, DJI Mavic 3T, and DJI Avata drones as needed to monitor traffic flow and serve as overwatch for specified events. These drones are known for their environmental adaptability, reliability, and integration of wide, zoom, and thermal capability. The superior image quality allows for UNT pilots to operate these drones in low light/reduced visibility conditions with safety and confidence.



Drone Specifications

- Max Speed of 23 meters/second
- Max Flight Time of 41 minutes per drone
- Video Resolution 1920x1080 p
- Range up to 25,600 meters
- Uncooled Thermal Imager
- Operational in temperatures as low as -20 degrees Fahrenheit and up to 150 degrees Fahrenheit



Why do police utilize drone technology?

Drones provide a strategic vantage point, aiding in critical decision-making and enhancing officer and public safety. Drones make incident response more safe, effective, remotely visible, and manageable. Drones also play a critical role in traffic crash reconstruction, reconnaissance, overwatch, and forensic investigations.



Substation- Discovery Park

Discovery Park at the University of North Texas is the region's largest research park with 300 acres of space dedicated to sciences, technology and engineering, UNT's Discovery Park is located 5 miles north of the UNT main campus in Denton, Texas. It includes a 590,000-square-foot building occupied by the College of Engineering and the College of Information. The facility supports interactive, multidisciplinary STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) research, education, and training that benefits students, faculty, and the community. It also promotes economic development by fostering industry-university partnerships. Lt DeLong oversees the day-to-day operations at this substation with the assistance of Corporal Hitt and four full-time Public Safety Officers (PSOs).



In 2024, the University of North Texas Police Department held the Discovery Park Police Safety Fair, which focused on community relations. There was live music, a mechanical bull, and a police patrol vehicle available to the public to gain a behind the scenes look at what a day in the life of a police officer is on patrol. Police patrol vehicles are equipped with a wide variety of innovative technology such as enhanced camera systems, automatic license plate readers, as well as a Mobile Data Terminal to help officers access real-time data, identify crime hotspots, and prepare for calls.



Substation- Frisco Landing

Frisco Landing was derived out of a partnership between the University of North Texas and the City of Frisco. This 135,000 square-foot, state-of-the-art building is designed with a focus on student success. It offers classrooms and study spaces that promote collaboration, transparency and open communication between faculty and students. Frisco Landing offers more access to the opportunities that a UNT education can provide for those in the North Texas region and beyond. Sergeant Jim Coffey and Corporal Daniel Bruce are the supervising police officers at this substation, where they work with students to schedule community events and respond to calls for service while maintaining the highest level of professionalism and public safety standards.



Throughout 2024, police officers, with the assistance of campus public safety officers at Frisco Landing, held several events including Welcome Week for over 280 new students, International Safety Day, and several Orientations for over 1,400 new students and parents.

Our Graduates

The University of North Texas Police Department employs student workers and interns each semester. These students assist the department in many capacities ranging from Public Service Officers to Journalism interns to Criminal Justice interns who spend the semester shadowing administrative professionals to learn the ins and outs of a police department.

Many of the students go on to have careers in law enforcement using the valuable experience they gain from working with the department.



In 2024, the department hired three former student workers as full-time employees. Officer Michelle Arreguin-Lopez (top left), former student worker was sworn in in August. Officer Chaz Walzer (top right, middle), former student Public Safety Officer, was hired as an officer and sent to the police academy. Lastly, former student Public Safety Officer, Haley Dorr (left), was hired on full-time as a Public Safety Officer at the Discovery Park Substation.



Contact Us



Phone (940) 565-3000

Website police.unt.edu

Email UNT.POLICE@unt.edu

Address 1700 Wilshire St.
Denton, TX 76201

