

ON PATROL



QUARTERLY UPDATE



SHARING THE ROAD

COMMERCIAL VEHICLES AND HOLIDAY SAFETY

Each year, thousands of vehicles travel through the City of Friendswood. FM roads, such as 528 and 2351, serve as major thoroughfares for drivers and residents heading to Interstate 45, which the Texas Department of Transportation identifies as one of the most congested roadways in the state. As the number of motorists increases each year, so does the need for officers dedicated to traffic enforcement.

In 2001, our department expanded its focus beyond routine traffic enforcement and established a Commercial Motor Vehicle (CMV) Enforcement Unit. This unit monitors a wide range of commercial vehicles, including those carrying oversized loads and transporters of hazardous materials.

CMV officers must receive specialized training and certification through the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA). This extensive and rigorous training requires officers to master federal regulations governing motor carriers, vehicles, and drivers to ensure compliance and roadway safety. The primary goal of the CMV unit is to

identify unsafe vehicles and drivers, thereby reducing or eliminating the number of CMV related crashes.

In 2024, our CMV officer conducted approximately 500 commercial vehicle inspections. These inspections resulted in 43 drivers and 207 vehicles being removed from service. This means that nearly 50% of all inspections deemed a vehicle or driver unsafe for the roadway.

As the number of travelers increases during the holiday season, so does the number of commercial vehicles. To help drive down the number of traffic-related incidents, we encourage everyone to follow these safety tips:

- **Stay out of blind spots:** If you cannot see the driver in a truck's side mirror, they cannot see you.
- **Leave room:** Following too closely or cutting in front of large vehicles can be extremely dangerous and potentially fatal.
- **Be patient:** Large vehicles take longer to accelerate and may have speed limitations. Aggressive driving or honking only increases risk.

Drive safely this holiday season!

Monitor local road conditions
at HoustonTranStar.org



ROGERS' REPORT



MESSAGE FROM CHIEF ROGERS

As we head into the end of 2025, I want to share a few updates about some exciting projects happening within the Friendswood Police Department. These improvements are all designed to help us serve you better and allow us to respond more efficiently when you need us.

Growing Our Drone Program

Many of you read about our Drone as First Responder (DFR) program in the second quarter issue. We're making great progress towards the complete launch. We've finished installing the drone dock at the Public Safety Building, and are working on installations at City Hall, City of Friendswood Water Plant #7, and Lift Station #2. The lift stations now have full electrical and internet service to support the drones and we'll soon be completing the work needed to bring service to City Hall as well. These upgrades bring us one step closer to having drones respond ahead of officers to provide real-time information, helping us get the right resources to the right place even faster.

TASER 10 Upgrade

This quarter, we completed the rollout and training for the new TASER 10 devices. These upgraded tools give officers a safer and more effective option in situations where force may be necessary. Unlike older models, the TASER 10 allows officers to deploy multiple probes individually and at longer distances. This provides more flexibility and increases the chances of resolving challenging encounters safely, thus reducing risk for both the public and the officers involved. All sworn personnel have been trained, and the early feedback has been very positive. This is an important investment in modern, responsible policing.

Improving Officer Training

We're also proud to share that the Friendswood Police Department is now an officially approved TCOLE (Texas Commission on Law Enforcement) Training Provider. This designation allows us to offer state-recognized law enforcement training right here at home. Not only does this reduce travel time and cost, but it also allows us to design training that reflects the unique needs and expectations of our community. As part of this process, we formed a Training Provider Advisory Board, a committee that includes citizen input and helps guide standards, curriculum, and best practices. As a TCOLE Training Provider, Friendswood can play a part in shaping high-quality training for officers, while also ensuring we stay on the leading edge of professional development.

Thank you for your continued support of the Friendswood Police Department. Everything we do, from new technology to improved training, is focused on serving you with excellence and care.

Chief Josh Rogers

CALLED TO SERVE

THE FRIENDSWOOD POLICE DEPARTMENT VOLUNTARY CHAPLAIN PROGRAM



The moments immediately following a traumatic event are some of the most important for survivors and victims' families. How those moments are handled can leave a lasting impact. At the Friendswood Police Department, we are deeply grateful for our dedicated chaplain team, who responds during these difficult times to walk alongside individuals and families in the aftermath of tragedy.

Our volunteer chaplains are local faith-based leaders who serve not only those at their places of worship but also our officers and the larger Friendswood community. They serve alongside the department's Crime Victim Liaison to provide a compassionate presence, spiritual support, and psychological first aid to survivors, victims' families, and officers. They respond to a wide range of critical incidents, including suicides, domestic violence incidents, homicides, fatal vehicle crashes, and mass casualty events. Their compassionate service is a vital part of how we care for our community during its most vulnerable moments. The Friendswood Chaplain Team consists of 6 volunteer members who rotate on an on-call schedule, ensuring care is available day or night, year-round.

Often, a chaplain's support extends well beyond the initial incident. The relationships formed in those early moments can continue through the long process of recovery. In some incidents, that involves walking alongside a family through the court process or at other times providing support to those making funeral arrangements for a loved one. During these moments, chaplains connect individuals with emotional and spiritual resources to support them along their journey while leaving a lasting impact.

The department is honored to have such dedicated leaders serving a greater purpose in so many ways. One of the ways they will be working to serve the local community is through a **food drive** that will be hosted in partnership with the Friendswood High School Baseball team and Mary Queen Church for the Fisd Day of Service. The drive begins in **February 2026**. To find out more, please see our upcoming events on the back page.

FRIENDSWOOD'S NEWEST OFFICER DEEMED ACADEMY CLASS VALEDICTORIAN



On November 20, 2025, surrounded by her fellow cadets and members from several local law enforcement agencies, Officer Shelby Smith gave her valedictory speech to Pearland Police Academy Cadet Class #6.

Officer Smith made department history as the first Friendswood Police Cadet to attend the Pearland Police Academy. She maintained a 97.46 GPA and finished first in her class of 18 cadets. In addition to her academic excellence, she also demonstrated exceptional physical ability, setting two female athletic records for the Academy in the 2000-meter row and pull-ups.



Officer Shelby Smith exemplifies the values of hard work, perseverance, and service. The Friendswood Police Department and the City of Friendswood are proud to welcome her as she begins her career serving and protecting our community.

UPCOMING EVENTS

December

December 1 - 19 Blue Santa Toy Drive

Friendswood Public Safety Building
1600 Whitaker Drive

The Friendswood Police Officer's Association is asking for donations of new, unwrapped toys. They may be dropped off in the front lobby. The deadline for toy donation is **December 19**

January

January 9-11 R.A.D Woman's Basic Self Defense (Age 12+)

Hope Village Community Center
15403 Hope Village Rd.

Friday 5:30 pm - 9:30 pm

Saturday 3:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Sunday 2:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Email: jives@friendswood.com to sign up

February

Serve, Protect, & Pitch In Food Drive

FHS Baseball and the FPD Chaplains are partnering for the Fisd Day of Service. All food donated will support the Mary Queen Catholic Church food pantry. Bring non-perishable items between February 1 and March 6 to the drop off locations below.

Public Safety Building

24/7

1600 Whitaker Drive

City Hall

Monday - Friday 8 AM - 5 PM

910 S. Friendswood Drive

Mary Queen Catholic Church

Monday - Friday 8 AM - 5 PM

606 Cedarwood Drive

SOCIAL SQUAD: FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



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