



# **City of Blanco Police Department Chief's Monthly Report November 2024**

**Jerry Thornhill,  
Chief of Police**



# BLANCO POLICE DEPARTMENT

Jerry Thornhill, B.A.S.  
Chief of Police

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## Chief's Monthly Report—November 2024

### Department News

Police Department reported an increase of crime for the month of October and this trend continued into the beginning of November. At this time, while the investigation is still ongoing and limited details can be released; the Department is happy to share that through intelligence gathered by patrol officers, investigators, and networking with surrounding law enforcement, a search warrant for the Operation of a Stolen Vehicle Processing Facility was executed November 12<sup>th</sup> on a local residence leading to multiple arrests and the recovery of stolen items and vehicles. These recovered items were connected to cases of thefts and the commission of other felonies in Blanco and surrounding counties.

The State system which provides driver's license and vehicle registration information—which is crucial for conducting safe and successful traffic stops—was unable to be accessed by officers or Dispatch due to the system antenna located at the Law Enforcement Center in Johnson City sustaining catastrophic damage. This system was out of service for over a week in November; affecting the number of traffic stops conducted by patrol officers this month.

### Community Events & Involvement

The Police Department at the direction of Chief Thornhill worked with establishments within the community to coordinate a Thanksgiving Food Drive benefiting the Good Sam here in Blanco. Thanks to the outpouring of support from the community, the drive had to be cut short as so much food was collected the Good Sam ran out of space.

### Staffing

The month of November, the Police Department saw an increase of full-time staffing by one patrol officer.

Chris Griffin, a 10 year-police veteran, was selected from out of three candidates who applied with our department in the month of October and began his field training this month.

The Police Department continues to recruit qualified applicants to fill one open patrol position, for which one application has been received and is in background.

Angel Vallejo (sponsored cadet) is continuing his studies through the AACOG Police Academy.

Milton Saltmarsh completed the required courses to sit for the TCOLE exam and will challenge the test in the beginning of December 2024.



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## Department Statistics

### Patrol Operations

Total Calls for Service	September 2024	+/- Previous Month
-In city	188	-32
-Out of city	14	+12
Agency Assist	18	+3
<b>Traffic Stops</b>		
-Total Vehicles Stopped	71	-72
-Resulting Citations	20	-19
-Resulting Warnings	64	-68
<b>Arrests</b>		
-On view	3	-1
-Warrants	3	+3
<b>Motor Vehicle Collisions</b>	13	+3

*Detailed statistics to follow further into the report.*

*It is important to note these statistics represent reported Calls for Service and not verified offenses or incidents*

## Administrative Operations

### ○ Chief Activities

Chief Thornhill spent a week at LEMIT in Huntsville participating in New Chief's training.

Chief Thornhill assisted Lieutenant McMain by splitting the open patrol shift for the entire month of November, dedicating time and effort to patrol duties to ensure the same level of safety and security is provided to the citizens of Blanco despite again dropping below minimum staffing levels.

This month Chief Thornhill organized the Thanksgiving food drive.

### ○ Records Requests

The Police Department received and fulfilled a total of 7 records requests in November 2024.

### ○ Fleet Updates

Fleet IN COMMISSION	6	
Fleet IN REPAIR	0	
Fleet OUT OF COMMISSION	3	Units 171, 181, 182



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## ○ Payroll Utilization

Type of Pay	Hours	Percentage of Total
Regular	NA	5.58%
Overtime (planned)	0	-
Overtime (unplanned)	85	38.64%
Extra Duty	0	-

## Criminal Investigations Division

Number of Reports Taken	Total	+/- previous month
-resulting in offense report	15	+1
-resulting in informational/other report	15	+1
<b>Offenses Filed</b>		
-felony	2	+2
-misdemeanor	4	+3

Lieutenant McMain assisted Chief Thornhill by splitting the open patrol shift for the entire month of November, dedicating time and effort to patrol duties to ensure the same level of safety and security is provided to the citizens of Blanco despite again dropping below minimum staffing levels. As patrol duties take precedence over all other duties within the department, the ability to conduct CID operations was greatly diminished for the month of November, with the exception of work regarding the investigation and arrests of those involved in the Operation of a Stolen Vehicle Processing Facility case.

## **Regional Involvement**

- Child Fatality Review Team
- Hill Country Crimes Against Children Multi-Disciplinary Team
- Behavioral Health Leadership Team
- Community Paramedic Expansion Project
- Community Mental Health Awareness Team
- Sexual Assault Response Team

Lieutenant McMain regularly engages in regional multi-disciplinary team meetings (as listed above) to ensure the highest quality and continuity of services to the citizens of our community; specifically, children, victims of crimes against persons, and mental health consumers. This month due to staffing levels, Lieutenant McMain was unable to attend any of the regional meetings except for the meetings requiring regular attendance through state mandate.





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## Detailed Statistics

### Total Traffic Stops: 71

Traffic Violations by Type	Resulting in Citation	Resulting in Warning
Moving Violation	28	56
Non-Traffic Violation	0	2
School Zone Violation	5	15

*\*Some traffic stops resulted in multiple citations/warnings if the officer addressed more than one violation*

## Arrests Made by Month

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Adult	10	5	5	0	3	1	2	3	1	4	6	
Juvenile	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Total	10	5	5	0	3	1	2	3	1	4	6	

## Calls for Service by Month

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Total	252	218	176	173	180	112	95	156	207	220	203	

## Offenses by Month

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Total								11	6	19	12	

*\*Offense data not collected prior to August 2024*

## Motor Vehicle Collisions by Month

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Total	6	6	10	8	8	16	10	8	12	10	13	

## Miles Patrolled by Month

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Total									2141	2399	2665	

*\*Data not available prior to September 2024*



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## Monthly Report of Incident by Incident Type

Call Type	Number of Calls
911 Follow-Up	0
Administrative	0
Alarm - Business	8
Alarm - Residential	1
Alarm - Other	0
Alcohol Related Offense (other)	0
Altered Mental Status	0
Animal Complaint	8
Assault - Physical	0
Assault - Sexual	0
Assist Public	2
Assist Other Agency	18
Bomb Threat	0
Burglary	2
Business Check	15
City Ordinance Violation	0
Civil	3
Close Patrol	49
Criminal Mischief	0
Deceased Person	1
Disorderly Conduct	0
Disturbance – Physical	0
Disturbance – Verbal	5
Drowning	0
DUI/DWI	1
Domestic Violence	2
Emotionally Disturbed Person	0
Fight	0
Fireworks	0
Follow-Up	11
Fraud	0
Harassment	1
Homicide	0
Hostage	0
Illegal Dumping	0
Indecency	0
Information	8



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Internet Crime	0
Intoxicated	1
Misconduct	0
Missing Person	0
MVA – Fatal	0
MVA – Non-Injury	8
MVA – Injury	0
MVA – Other	5
Overdose	0
Public Service	2
Reckless Driver	13
Robbery	0
Sexual Offense	0
Shots Fired	0
Stabbing	0
Suspicious Circumstances	5
Suspicious Person	2
Suspicious Vehicle	8
Theft	6
Threats	1
Trespass	1
Traffic Stop	71
Welfare Check	6
<b>TOTAL</b> (including uncategorized calls for service)	274

*\*Note, numbers reflect the incident type the call was dispatched as, not necessarily what the incident type and/or offense was determined to be. Additionally, some incidents required multiple incident codes and can be listed under many categories.*

## Summary

During the month of November 2024, the Blanco Police Department saw another increase in providing officer assistance to other agencies as well as an increase in arrests; despite still being understaffed. The increase in arrests indicates not necessarily an increase in any crime trend, but more so increased effort in searching for suspicious and wanted persons following the reported increase in vehicle and property thefts in October 2024. The Police Department will continue to closely monitor data to determine if these crime trends change, and if new ones appear to develop.

## Disclosure



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Many data collection sources were utilized to compile the presented information to include Record Management System reporting and administrative logs. In our continued effort to report accurate and transparent numbers, the department discloses that the RMS system is continuously updated and reports run at various times, sometimes producing different results. Care should be taken when comparing this monthly report to other data reports as different data collection methods and data sources may be used. The data provided is for informational use only.