

HARLINGEN POLICE DEPARTMENT

PRESS RELEASE D.W.I. "NO REFUSAL"

HONOR



COURAGE



INTEGRITY



THE HARLINGEN POLICE DEPARTMENT NO REFUSAL

The Harlingen Police Department's fundamental duty is to preserve life. This commitment to our community is the fuel behind the departments "No Refusal" stance on drinking and driving. Effective May 1, 2015 the Harlingen Police Department implemented a "No Refusal" program which seeks warrants to draw blood from any driver suspected of drinking who refuses to submit to a breathalyzer test. The stance taken by the Harlingen Police Department is now the standard in Cameron County effective June 1, 2015.

According to the Texas Department of Transportation, Cameron County saw 17 DWI related fatalities in 2013. In 2014, the Harlingen Police Department reported 285 arrests for Driving While Intoxicated (DWI) and 54 vehicle crashes involving DWI's (including 1 case of Intoxication Assault and 1 fatality). In 2015, the Harlingen Police Department has made over 135 DWI related arrests and worked 28 vehicle crashes involving impaired drivers. This number does not take into account number of family members, community groups, medical professionals, and first responders affected by the loss of a human life.

The Harlingen Police Department's "No Refusal" program is now standard practice in the Department and will continue as long as impaired drivers travel our valley roadways.

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Deputy Chief
Michael Kester

Deputy Chief
Luciano Rubio

Deputy Chief
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