



# CLEBURNE POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS RELEASE



**Cleburne Police Department Receives “Recognized Law Enforcement Agency” from the Texas Law Enforcement Recognition Program  
March 1, 2016**

**Cleburne, TX** – On February 29, 2016, the Cleburne Police Department received the award of “Recognized Law Enforcement Agency” from the Texas Police Chiefs Association Law Enforcement Recognition Program. Established in 2006, the Recognition Program evaluates a Police Department’s compliance with over 166 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 Cleburne Police Department to conduct a critical self-review of the agency’s policies, procedures, facilities and operations. Beginning in February of 2014, the department started 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. This final on-site review took place on February 22 & 23, 2016 and 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 February 29, the department was notified that it had been awarded the coveted “Recognized Law Enforcement Agency” award. Cleburne becomes the 126<sup>th</sup> agency in the state to be so recognized. The Cleburne Police Department has always considered itself to be one of the best in the state. This process provided for an independent review of the department’s operations and should assure the citizens of Cleburne that its Police Department is conforming to the highest standards in Texas law enforcement.

The actual presentation of the award will take place on April 12, 2016 at 5:00 pm at the regular City Council meeting. The department will also be recognized at the Texas Police Chiefs Association annual conference later this month.

More information and a description of the program may be viewed on the Texas Police Chiefs Association website at <http://www.texaspolicechiefs.org>.

Chief Severance will be available for telephone or video interviews or comments on Thursday, March 3, 2016 between 1:00 and 5:00 pm. Please contact Public Information Officer Kelly Summey at (817) 645-0978.