

La Porte/Bayshore Sun

August 20th, 2008

La Porte Police Department to Seek “Recognition” from the Texas Law Enforcement Recognition Program

On Aug. 15, 2008, the La Porte Police Department signed an agreement to begin a lengthy process to become a “Recognized” Law Enforcement Agency by the Texas Police Chiefs Association Law Enforcement Recognition Program.

Begun in 2007, the Recognition Program evaluates a Police Department’s compliance with more than 150 Best Business Practices for Texas Law Enforcement.

These Best Practices were carefully developed over a two-year period 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.

The recognition efforts were started by former La Porte Police Department Chief Richard Reff earlier this year after his attendance at the annual Texas Police Chiefs Association Conference.

After his recent retirement, Chief Ken Adcox voiced his support of the process and elected to carry on the efforts.

A formal agreement to the inspection and certification process was then signed by Chief Adcox and City Manager Ron Bottoms.

Assistant Chief Ron Parker has been appointed as the department’s program manager for the process.

This voluntary process requires a critical self-review of the agency’s policies, procedures, facilities and operations.

The department will prepare proofs of compliance for each of the Texas Best Business Practices for Law Enforcement and when complete, will request outside audit and review.

The result of this review is sent to the Texas Police Chief’s Association’s Recognition Committee for final analysis and decision to award “Recognized” status.

The La Porte Police Department will have up to two years to complete the entire process.

The La Porte Police Department has always considered itself to be one of the best in the area.

This process allows an independent review of the department’s operations and will assure the citizens of La Porte that its Police Department is conforming to the current state of the art in law enforcement.