



City of La Porte

Established 1892

Police Department

Recognized as a Best Practices Agency by
the Texas Association of Police Chiefs



Media Relations Information for 12/20/2014

Public Relations Officer – Sgt. Bennie Boles

Office: 281-842-3115

Blue Santa overcomes Hurricane Harvey

Blue Santa distribution point First Baptist Church La Porte, Volunteers, and gift distribution in action

With Hurricane Harvey looming in the back of our minds, fearing the storm could be the Grinch who stole Christmas from many La Porte Children, the participants of La Porte's Blue Santa Program take started early, engaging in various fundraising activities within the six-month period preceding the Christmas season. The fundraising efforts included our bearded La Porte Police Officers who made a \$50 or more cash donation to put the raiser down for the two month holiday season.

The 2017 Blue Santa Program represented a collaborative effort between the La Porte Police Department, their Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association (LPCPAAA), First Baptist Church of La Porte, Corporate Citizens and other private individuals. The Program's primary mission is to provide toys for needy children in the La Porte area, as many families would not have the means to hold traditional Christmas festivities on their own.

As a result of this year's Blue Santa program, the joint La Porte organizations collected over 2,500 new toys. In addition to the toys, volunteers delivered several bicycles and safety helmets, provided through private donations and The Cycle Program. Among the collections, and vast amount of supporters, were substantial toy donations by the Ameco/Fluor of South Houston and Noltex Corporations in La Porte. Such efforts translated into over 1,100 registered families receiving gifts for local children. In addition to the numerous toys, cash and check donations provided by the La Porte Rotary Club, and other private donors, were collected by the LPCPAAA, La Porte Boys Baseball Association, Beacon Federal Credit Union, LPPOA, Cook Ford, La Porte Police Department Officers and Staff. Donations were used to purchase additional toys, all of which were distributed to children in need. All in all, the program's annual efforts touch the lives of countless families every year, allowing hundreds of children to experience the joy of Christmas. The Blue Santa Distribution Event was again sponsored and held at the First Baptist Church of La Porte. They provided the Gymnasium for the whole week, so that we could prepare and wrap all the gifts for this wonderful program. Enough toys and money were collected this year allowing the Blue Santa Program to assist and participate in the Christmas at the Arena, held at the Lomax Arena. Christmas at the arena was sponsored by Gayle Hart of Hart Felt Events.



City of La Porte

Established 1892

Police Department

Recognized as a Best Practices Agency by
the Texas Association of Police Chiefs



Toys were collected at the La Porte Police Department, Ameco/Fluor of South Houston, Noltex Corporations La Porte, Magnolia Creek Golf Club / South Shore Harbour Country Club, Martin Marine and Beacon Federal Credit Union of La Porte. For a complete list of the drop locations and estimated toys collected, visit the La Porte Police Facebook page at:

www.facebook.com/LaPortePoliceDepartment/

La Porte Police Department stresses that it is through local teamwork, such as the Blue Santa Program, that all La Porte residents can make a difference in the lives of those who are less fortunate. For more information on any of La Porte Police Department's community outreach initiatives, including the LPCPAAA, Blue Santa, please contact the Support Services Division at 281-842-3183.