



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 06/28/2018***

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**LPPD's Officers receive MADD DWI awards**



Pictured (L to R): Officer Forsythe, K-9 Officer Harness, & Officer Willhoite

In June 2018, during the 2017 Law Enforcement Recognition Luncheon the Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) organization recognized La Porte K9 Officer Michael Harness, and Officers Christopher Forsythe, and Joshua Willhoite for their relentless pursuit of drunk drivers. The three police officers are known locally and now region-wide for their dedication to keeping area roadways safe for law-abiding drivers.

Officer Harness, who simultaneously serves as one of La Porte's two K-9 officers, was honored as La Porte's top DWI enforcement officer for 2017, with a total of 52 DWI arrests. Officer Harness is a Drug Recognition Expert (DRE), Breath Test Operator and regular speaker for the La Porte Police Citizen's Academy. A DRE is trained to detect impaired drivers on substances other than alcohol.



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Officer Forsythe took the number two spot with 48 DWI arrests in 2017. Officer Forsythe will attend the Drug Recognition Expert training in July of 2018. Bringing the department's total to five Drug Recognition Experts.

Officer Willhoite, made 21 DWI arrests in 2017. He is credited with many more arrests while training new officers in the field training program. Officer Willhoite is also a breath test operator and assists with crash investigations involving drugs or alcohol.

The officers are known among their peers as hard-workers, and seek to remind the community that area roadways are safer, largely, because of the men and women of LPPD who are working day and night behind the scenes. For more information on La Porte's Patrol Division and traffic initiatives, please contact the Traffic Division at 281-842-3171, or log onto the agency website at <http://laportetx.gov/451/Patrol-Division>