

Killeen Prosecutor Seeks Death Penalty in Police Officer's Death

On September 4th, 2014, Prosecutors in Bell County revealed they would seek the death penalty in the shooting death of a veteran Killeen Police Officer. In our newscasts, we provided news coverage of this development in the case that was of great interest to local viewers.

SpaceX Rocket Explodes During Test Flight

On August 23, 2014, a test rocket created by private space exploration SpaceX exploded shortly after takeoff from their launch test site in McGregor. The explosion could be heard and was visible for miles. We provided live on-air coverage in our evening newscasts and in extended coverage, as our reporters gathered information about what happened on-scene. Fortunately, we quickly learned the rocket was unmanned and the explosion harmed no one, and didn't damage anything outside of the SpaceX facility.

Baylor Students Killed in Traffic Crash

On July 29th, 2014 a pickup truck carrying three music students from Baylor University veered off State Highway 7 and slammed into a tree in Falls County, two students, and seriously injuring two others. We provided coverage in multiple newscasts of what happened in the crash, and spoke with students and faculty at Baylor about the loss of these promising young people. We continued to follow the incredible recovery of one young woman who was critically injured in the crash, but was eventually released from the hospital into rehab.

Wheel of Justice

Our 'Wheel of Justice' segment provided weekly coverage in various newscasts of someone who was wanted by local authorities for crimes committed in our community. We showed an image and gave a description of a different wanted individual every Tuesday, leading to numerous tips to local law enforcement about the whereabouts of the wanted individuals.

On-Call - Addiction

On July 16th, 2014, we provided an 'On-Call' phone bank to answer questions from our viewers about recognizing and dealing with substance addiction. Our panel included law enforcement, doctors, mental health officials, and substance abuse specialists. We ran crawls during newscasts and programming throughout the afternoon encouraging people to call in, provided newscast coverage of the phone bank, and answered some of the most common questions on-air.

Local Veteran White House Intruder

On September 19th, 2014, a Central Texas man, Omar J. Gonzalez of Copperas Cove, was able to elude the Secret Service and make his way into the White House. The military veteran suffered from post-traumatic stress disorder, according to family. We spoke with former neighbors in Copperas Cove who said Gonzalez had become increasingly paranoid during their time as neighbors.

I-35 Traffic/Safety Issues

We provided breaking and continuing news coverage of traffic issues after numerous crashes on I-35, including incidents on July 15th, July 18th, and July 31st. We spoke with State Highway Officials and

motorists about the causes of the frequent crashes, and an awareness campaign to slow down traffic and increase alertness on the highway.

Texas Sales Tax Holiday

On August 7th, 2014, we covered the upcoming sales tax holiday, which many local viewers take advantage of to shop for school supplies. We checked prices of various school supplies at several local stores, and showed viewers how much they would spend at those stores.

Marlin Water Restrictions

On July 14th, 2014, we provided coverage of water restrictions that had been in place on Fort Hood, affecting military personnel and training. On July 16th, we reported that Bell County Water Control was investigating whether all the proper steps were taken before the agency was notified of a water main break, after a contractor struck the line.