



# City of Graham Police Department



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April 22, 2022

## Community News

On Thursday, April 21, 2022, at approximately 2:20 p.m., Graham officers conducted a traffic stop at the Pines Apartments located in the 700 block of Ivey Road. While conducting the stop, a small group of people approached the officers and attempted to interfere with the traffic stop. The individuals were ordered to back away from the traffic stop to ensure safety and provide officers an opportunity to conduct their field investigation. Several individuals refused to cooperate and continued to interfere with the vehicle stop prompting officers to arrest three of the individuals involved.

The Graham Police Department has put a greater focus on the Pines Apartments following resident complaints of crime and quality of life issues. Between January 1, 2021, and March 2022, officers responded to 233 calls for service at the Pines Apartments. That represented approximately 44 percent of all calls for service for all of Ivey Rd. When analyzing specific call types, there were 17 significant crimes or calls involving crimes of violence, shootings, drug-related investigations and major larcenies.

One of the more egregious incidents involved a case where bullets were fired into an occupied property and a bullet fragment was located lodged in a child's car seat. Information gathered reveals several subjects who are residents and visitors are repeatedly engaged in criminal gang-related activity involving drugs and guns. Social media posts of criminal activity with firearms in and around the Pines Apartment community have residents intimidated and frightened.

Residents of the Pines Apartments should not only have an expectation but also a right to feel safe from crime and violence in their community. The Graham Police Department is committed to their safety.

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Our goal is to work with residents to improve community-police relations as well as take practical steps to implement community policing and crime reduction strategies that promote community stability, officer safety, and effective policing.

Our problem-solving and community policing strategies are oriented department-wide and will focus on evidenced-based and intelligence-led information to help identify public safety concerns and quality of life issues in our community. The Graham Police Department is committed to implementing and prioritizing projects that analyze and assess quality of life issues and crime in our communities as well as implementing changes to staffing and agency management in support of a community policing philosophy.

These changes in policy and practices are helping to better identify locations having profound public safety concerns and activities impacting the quality of life for residents. Currently we have identified these issues occurring in and around the Pines Apartments.

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