



A much anticipated upgrade was made at the Deer Park Police Department in June 2012 with the installation of the new Motorola radio system. After numerous radio outages and operability issues over the past couple of years, we were more literally than figuratively operating the outdated and often failing radio system with duct tape and prayers.

Planning meetings and budget preparations started in June 2011, and with the passage of the Crime Control District funding, the new radio system was becoming more of a reality than a dream. Mapping out the needed radio channels, duplicating or creating a redundancy in the primary channels that are utilized for back-up was only part of the process. Logistics in transitioning the old radio system out of the already crowded radio room to make room for the new one was not an easy task. Once the technicians arrived at the police department for the install, a week long process of taking down radio positions one at a time within the Communications Unit took place. Systems were then tested, tweaked and adjusted some more.

The new radio system, installed by Commercial Wireless Solutions, not only improves day to day communications with Police, Fire and EMS units here in Deer Park, but it allows for greater interoperability with other area law enforcement agencies, news helicopters, Texas Department of Public Safety, Texas Parks and Wildlife units at the Battleground park as well as the United States Coast Guard. While the needed contact for the United States Coast Guard may seemed unnecessary to some, the water flow in our City drains right to the Houston Ship Channel and the cleanup efforts would be coordinated with the Coast Guard. While the year-long process seemed to drag on it has been well worth the wait to have a full operational system that will be reliable for many years to come.

