

BEHIND THE BADGE



"My daughter is in this school district. I want to protect her and the other students. I don't turn a blind eye to anything. My job is to keep these kids safe. I take that very seriously. "

BISD Officer Otis Bush

Learn more about your Bastrop ISD Police Department as we take time to highlight our officers.



Otis Bush

Officer Otis Bush joined the Bastrop ISD Police Department in 2019.



His entire adult life, BISD Police Officer Otis Bush's career has been in public service. He served for nine years in the Air Force. He was stationed at Lackland Air Force Base and spent a year in Korea. When he got out of the Air Force in March of 2011, he went to college and got a job as a

corrections officer for the Texas Department of Criminal Justice but wanted to do more.

"I entered the Dallas Police Academy in 2015. When I graduated, I got a job as a patrol officer at the Dilley Police Department," Officer Bush said.

Not long after, Officer Bush and his wife of 15 years, Tamecia moved to Bastrop, which was too far of a commute to continue working in the City of Dilley. Determined to continue his career in law enforcement, Otis got a job at the Gonzales County Sheriff's Office where he worked as a patrol deputy.

"It was a great job. I really liked it," he said.

One day while dropping his nine year-old daughter off at Emile Elementary, a chance encounter with the Chief of Bastrop ISD Police Department changed everything.

"I heard there was a job opening when I saw the Chief and I asked him about it. We talked and the job sounded great so I applied," Officer Bush said.

Officer Bush was hired in early 2019. Working for the BISD Police Department at Bastrop Middle School has been a great experience.

"Though it's the same job, just a different way of doing it, it's interesting because I get the best of both worlds. I still get to be a police officer but also work on the school side," he said.

Working for the school district as a police officer is a position Officer Bush takes very seriously. It's also a personal one.

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Officer Otis Bush is pictured with a student from Bastrop Middle School.

"My daughter is in this school district. I want to protect her and the other students. I don't turn a blind eye to anything. My job is to keep these kids safe. I take that very seriously," he said. It's a work ethic that Officer Bush wants to instill in his older daughter and her nine-month-old sister saying, "I am most proud of my

family. When they walk out of the house they represent me. When it's all said and done, I want my kids to be appreciative. I'm working really hard so they can have it better than I did. But in the end, all I want is for my kids to be honored to say my dad dedicated his whole life to public service."



DID YOU KNOW?

What state has the highest number of police officers?

California is at the top with nearly 80,000 police officers.

New York follows with over 62,000 and Texas comes in third with over 54,000 police officers.