

Texas Rangers reposed trailer into mobile crime scene lab

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By Bobbie Terry - email

(TYLER MORNING TELEGRAPH) - It's property once owned by drug dealers, but now a 30-foot horse trailer and the pickup to pull it is being used by the Company B Texas Rangers to help the elite law enforcement group work crime scenes.

Sgt. Brent Davis walked up the ramp to the 2007 Sundowner trailer and began talking about all of the gadgets within the trailer and the agencies and businesses that have donated money, time and equipment to outfit the trailer.

"These are pieces of equipment seized in cases that DPS (Texas Department of Public Safety) assisted in. We have all sorts of crime scene equipment in here that will allow us to respond to a multitude of crime scenes across the Company B area, which covers 42 Texas counties," he said.

Davis said the pickup is a 2005 GMC 3500 4x4 dually and Smith County District Attorney Matt Bingham donated the funds for a brand new Polaris ATV for the Rangers to use in rough terrain.

Davis said once the crime scene trailer was obtained **Sundowner of Texas in Canton** did some modifications to better serve the group.

In the trailer is a 360 Station camera for crime scenes, which has been used on multiple murder scenes all over East Texas and even in Beaumont earlier this month when a gunman opened fire on the courthouse.

There are rakes and shovels to dig in case of a buried body or an arson scene to allow them to sift through the remains.

Canopies with tables and chairs will allow Rangers to work outside under a canopy attached to the trailer.

Custom cabinets with the Texas Ranger logo were built by a DPS employee and mounted in the trailer along with radio systems which will allow the Rangers to be able to communicate with other law enforcement agencies.

Davis said Cummins Southern Plains donated a massive generator that provides the trailer with power and runs the two air conditioners on top of the trailer and Lowe's of Gun Barrel City gave the Rangers various tools that might be of assistance in the field.

Agencies helping Company B with the trailer include district attorneys in Smith County, Bowie County, Ellis County, Henderson County, Van Zandt County, Hunt County, Kaufman County, Morris County, Rockwall County, Titus County and the Gregg County Sheriff's Office.

Davis said the trailer will allow the Rangers to stay on scene to continue their investigations.

"It's good when we get equipment that was once used for illegal activity and we can use it to help us in the field. This is going to be used all over our area and will be a huge benefit to us," he said.



A 30-foot horse trailer and the pickup to pull it, seized from a drug operation, now is being used by the Company B Texas Rangers.