

DANIEL BUENO

MAY 14, 2024



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# PERSONAL BACKGROUND

## PERSONAL INFORMATION

|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| Full Name          | Daniel “Danny” Bueno                           |
| Date of Birth      | October 10, 1955                               |
| Primary Address    |  |
| Spouse             |  |
| Education          | Ben Bolt - Palito Blanco High School ,<br>1974 |
| Current Employment | Sheriff, Jim Wells County                      |



### Social Media

**NOTE:** No social media accounts connected to Bueno could be identified.

## TIMELINE

**October 10, 1955:** Bueno was born. (Melissa Cantu Trevino, “Here's Why South Texas Sheriff Daniel Bueno Earned Congressional Recognition,” *Alice Echo-News Journal*, 9/29/21)

**1974:** Bueno graduated from Ben Bolt - Palito Blanco High School. (Melissa Cantu Trevino, “Here's Why South Texas Sheriff Daniel Bueno Earned Congressional Recognition,” *Alice Echo-News Journal*, 9/29/21)

**1974-1977:** Bueno worked as an X-ray technician. (Melissa Cantu Trevino, “Here's Why South Texas Sheriff Daniel Bueno Earned Congressional Recognition,” *Alice Echo-News Journal*, 9/29/21)

**1978 – 2012:** Served In Alice Police Department. (Melissa Cantu, “Bueno: A Sheriff With Change In Mind,” *Alice Echo-News Journal*, 1/13/17)

- **1978 – 2000:** Served in the Alice Police Department, starting as a patrolman. (Melissa Cantu, “Bueno: A Sheriff With Change In Mind,” *Alice Echo-News Journal*, 1/13/17)
- **2000 – 2012:** Served as Chief of the Alice Police Department. (Melissa Cantu, “Bueno: A Sheriff With Change In Mind,” *Alice Echo-News Journal*, 1/13/17)

**2017-Present:** Currently the Jim Wells County Sheriff. (Melissa Cantu, “Bueno: A Sheriff With Change In Mind,” *Alice Echo-News Journal*, 1/13/17)

# CAREER IN LAW ENFORCEMENT

## General Background

**Bueno Graduated from Ben Bolt - Palito Blanco High School in 1974. He Worked As An X-Ray Technician For Three Years Before Entering A Career In Law Enforcement.** “On Tuesday, Sept. 28, Jose Pereida read a Congressional Record on Vela's behalf. ‘(I) raise to pay tribute to one of the most influential people in Jim Wells County, Sheriff Daniel J. Bueno. Sheriff Bueno has dedicated his life to protecting and serving the people of his county and surrounding areas. His innovation and passion for his work will leave a lasting impact on his community,” Pereida read. Bueno was born on Oct. 10, 1955, in Alice and graduated from Ben Bolt - Palito Blanco High School in 1974. After graduation, he began a career at the local hospital as an X-ray technician, where he witnessed patients who had suffered in cases of child abuse, domestic violence and more. He wanted to help find solutions to these issues in his community. In 1977, Bueno began his law enforcement career with the Alice Police Department and eventually became the police chief in 1999.” (Melissa Cantu Trevino, “Here's Why South Texas Sheriff Daniel Bueno Earned Congressional Recognition,” *Alice Echo-News Journal*, 9/29/21)

## Alice Police Department

**NOTE:** Over 280 news articles related to Bueno's tenure as chief of the Alice Police Department were reviewed. The articles documented routine comments he made related to various policing matters and cases over the years. No notable red flags.

**In 1978, Bueno Began Working At The Alice Police Department, Starting As A Patrolman.** “Bueno has been with the Alice Police Department for 35 years. He started as a patrolman and worked his way up to chief. He served as chief for nearly 12 years, making him the longest serving police chief in Alice's history. At 58 years old, Bueno says he was blessed to have had the staff and the officers he's had, and he's grateful to have had the opportunity to serve the citizens of Alice. ‘I recall being able to participate as a patrolman, as security for the governor that came and cut the ribbon at the new City Hall. So we've been here a long time,’ Bueno said. ‘We've seen it all. We've done it all. We've been involved in it all. Since I took chief, there's no murder unsolved, no armed robberies unsolved, and that means a lot to me.’” (Jonathan Munson, “Alice Police Chief Announces Plans To Retire,” [3 News](#), 8/9/12)

- **By 2000, Bueno Was A Lieutenant With The Alice Police Department.** “Incumbent Oscar Lopez squeaked past challenger Monroe Whitman in Tuesday's runoff election for Jim Wells County sheriff. Lopez took 51 percent of the vote, or 4,096 votes, while Whitman received 48 percent, or 3,907 votes. The race pitted two longtime political enemies whose rivalry dates back at least 24 years, when Lopez lost a primary race in 1976 to Whitman, who was the incumbent sheriff. The win returns Lopez to office because no Republican filed for the office. Lopez took 39 percent of the vote in the March 14 primary while Whitman took 31 percent. A third candidate, Alice Police Lt. Danny Bueno, received 29 percent. The position pays \$45,000 annually.” (Jeremy Schwartz, “Runoff Win Returns Lopez As Jim Wells Sheriff Whitman Loses In Tight Race To Longtime Political Enemy, Takes 48 Percent Of The Vote,” *Corpus Christi Caller-Times*, 4/12/00)

## In 2000, Bueno Was Named The Interim Chief Of Police; The City Council Initially Opposed Making Him The Permanent Chief

**In December 2000, Bueno Was Named Alice's Interim Chief Of Police Until A Replacement Could Be Found. The Then Chief Of Police Jack Compton Abruptly Resigned.** “For the first time in 10 years, Jack Compton won't be the Alice police chief Monday morning. After a decade of navigating the pitfalls of Alice city politics, Compton decided recently he was tired of dealing with officials and on Friday he packed up his desk. He's leaving, possibly to work in distant East Timor, with a list of things he wishes he could have accomplished. ... On Friday, Anaya (city manager) said Lt. Danny Bueno, who ran unsuccessfully for Jim Wells County Sheriff earlier this year, would be interim chief until a replacement is named. The city has received almost 30 applications and a new chief should be chosen by the end of February, Anaya said.” (Jeremy Schwartz, “Compton Wrapping Up Tenure As Alice Chief After 10 Years As Head Of Police, He Plans To Work Elsewhere; Search Is On For New Chief,” *Corpus Christi Caller-Times*, 12/30/00)

**In June 2001, The Alice City Council Voted To Reject (Vote 3-2) The City Manager's Recommendation That Bueno Become The Permanent Chief Of Police For Alice.** "Mayor Rito Silva Jr. said he hopes an executive session at the next City Council meeting should lead to a vote to decide the next police chief. 'I definitely want an answer already,' he said Monday. 'This is just bogging us down.' Last week, the mayor and City Council voted 3-2 to reject City Manager Pete Anaya's recommendation that Interim Alice Police Chief Danny Bueno get the job. Bueno replaced Jack Compton, who retired in December. Silva said some council members refused to go into executive session and discuss the recommendation during the last City Council meeting. Because of that, Silva's tie-breaking vote rejected Anaya's recommendation. 'I'm not going to take any shortcuts for this position,' Silva said." (J.R. Gonzales, "Alice Mayor Wants Decision On Chief Silva, Hoping For Vote, Says Naming A Police Chief Is 'Bogging Us Down,'" *Corpus Christi Caller-Times*, 6/5/01)

- **One Of The Councilman Who Voted Against Bueno Claimed That Bueno Had Said He Would Sue The City Council If He Didn't Get The Job.** "At-large Councilman Abraham Aguilar said he rejected the recommendation because he had problems with Bueno's credibility. Specifically, it came down to Bueno's service with the department. Aguilar said a person must have been in a management position with the department for the past 10 years in order to be chief, which he said Bueno - a 24-year department veteran - didn't meet. Aguilar said he also was bothered by a comment he said Bueno made saying he would sue the City Council if he didn't get the job. Bueno was out of office Monday, but former Alice Mayor Fidel Rul said Bueno would never have made a remark like that. 'He's been an officer for a long time,' Rul said. 'He's always been very committed to what he's doing, working with whoever was chief.'" (J.R. Gonzales, "Alice Mayor Wants Decision On Chief Silva, Hoping For Vote, Says Naming A Police Chief Is 'Bogging Us Down,'" *Corpus Christi Caller-Times*, 6/5/01)

### **Bueno Was Eventually Named The Permanent Chief Of Police In Alice; He Served From 2000 To 2012**

**Bueno Eventually Became The Permanent Chief Of Police In Alice.** "The Sheriff's Office and the Alice Police Department raided the house at 10 a.m. Monday and found drugs, as they had expected - in this case, 28 ounces of cocaine, Lopez said. Law enforcement officials also found about \$1,000 worth of stolen merchandise, including radios, binoculars and top-of-the-line walkie-talkies, said Police Chief Danny Bueno." (Jeremy Brown, "Alice Drug Arrests Spur Investigation Detainees Might Be Involved In Series Of Burglaries, Officials Say," *Corpus Christi Caller-Times*, 12/18/01)

**In August 2012, Bueno Announced He Would Retire As Chief Of The Alice Police Department By The End Of The Year.** "Since the July 22 shootout between rival gangs in Alice, the police department has really kicked their efforts restore order in the community into high gear. In fact, since a shooting on Nayer Street that left four people dead, the Alice Police Department, working with other agencies, has made some 85 arrests. Now, amidst all of this activity, the police chief is retiring. Chief Danny Bueno said his decision to retire has nothing to do with what has been going on in Alice in recent weeks. 'My family and I have been talking about it since January, and being able to retire is something that a lot of people dream of,' Bueno said. 'And it's time for me to spend time with my family. My kids and my grandkids.' Bueno said he was actually planning on announcing his retirement the very week that the gang shootout took place, but when that happened, he decided to wait. There was a lot of important work to be done." (Jonathan Munson, "Alice Police Chief Announces Plans To Retire," [3 News](#), 8/9/12)

### **Comments Bueno Made Related To Guns**

**In August 2007, The Alice Police Department Investigated Reports Of Fired Shots And A Number Of Drive-By Shootings. Bueno Said, "This Random Discharge Of Firearms Is Dangerous, If We Find Someone With A Gun, We Are Going To Prosecute Them."** "Fired shots reported on Peter, Reynolds streets Christopher Maher, Alice Echo-News Journal The Alice Police Department is investigating a number of drive-by shootings that have reportedly occurred in the city in the past few days, and officials are asking for the public's help with the investigation. ... Bueno said it is not clear if the shootings are connected, and some information indicates shots may have been fired into the air at random. Bueno warned that any discharge of firearms inside the city limits will be investigated and prosecuted by his department. 'This random discharge of firearms is dangerous,' Bueno said. 'If we find someone with a gun, we are going to prosecute them.'" ("Police Seek Leads In Suspected Drive-By Shootings," *Alice Echo-News Journal*, 8/23/07)

## Jim Wells County Sheriff

### In 2000, Bueno Ran To Become Jim Wells County Sheriff, Losing In The Democratic Primary

**In March 2000, Bueno Came In Third (29 Percent) In The Democratic Primary Race To Become Jim Wells County Sheriff.** “The race for Jim Wells County sheriff is headed for a runoff between incumbent Oscar Lopez and challenger Monroe C. Whitman. Lopez took 39 percent of the vote in the Democratic primary with Whitman garnering 31 percent and Danny Bueno taking 29 percent, according to complete, unofficial returns. Lopez had 3,672 votes compared with Whitman’s 2,943 and Bueno’s 2773.” (Jeremy Schwartz, “Lopez, Whitman Facing Jim Wells Sheriff Runoff Two Candidates Are Longtime Political Foes; No Republican Candidates Sought The Office,” *Corpus Christi Caller-Times*, 3/15/00)

**In November 2016, Bueno Was Elected Jim Wells County Sheriff. He Received 73 Percent Of The Vote.** “After a long campaign the unofficial numbers for the 2016 General Elections in Jim Wells County have been released giving the county a new sheriff. Sheriff Danny Bueno won the election with 73.85 percent (8,966 votes) over Adan Caro’s 26.15 percent (3,175 votes). ‘First of all I want to thank the people who came out to vote. In running for sheriff, my first thing was my Catholic faith, and being humble and loving to all citizens,’ Bueno said after the election. ‘Whether you voted for me or didn’t vote for me I’m just grateful that you came out to vote.’” (Melissa Cantu, “Bueno Wins JWC Sheriff’s Race,” *Alice Echo-News Journal*, 11/9/16)

**Bueno’s Goals For The County Included Lowering Crime And Drug Rates, Connecting Law Enforcement With The Community And Other Law Enforcement Agencies, Improving The Jail And The Quality Of Service The Inmates Have, And Educating The Deputies On How To Deal With Individuals They’ll Encounter With Mental Health Issues.** “Bueno’s goals for the county include lowering crime and drug rates, connecting law enforcement with the community and other law enforcement agencies, improving the jail and the quality of service the inmates have, and educating the deputies on how to deal with individuals they’ll encounter with mental health issues. It’s no secret that Alice and Jim Wells County was hit hard by the bust of the oil and gas industry. However, Bueno believes if the crime and drug rates are lowered industries and people will look at moving into the area. ‘We need to make people looking at Alice and Jim Wells to understand and know this is a safe place to live and work,’ Bueno stated. ‘When people look into any place they look at three things - crime rate, taxes and schools. We need to show potential business and residents how this is a great place.’” (Melissa Cantu, “Bueno: A Sheriff With Change In Mind,” *Alice Echo-News Journal*, 1/13/17)

- **Bueno: “In My Election Campaign I Pledged To Ensure That I Would Work For The Safety Of Everyone And Target All Criminal Concerns The Residents Of This County Face.”** “With 36 years of law enforcement experience the new Jim Wells County Sheriff is ready to get to work targeting all the issues that face the county and its residents. ‘In my election campaign I pledged to ensure that I would work for the safety of everyone and target all criminal concerns the residents of this county face,’ said Sheriff Danny Bueno. Bueno has been sheriff for approximately two weeks. But he isn’t new to the game. His experience started back in 1978 when he began as a patrolman for the Alice Police Department. He spent 21 and a half years climbing the ranks until he became chief. He was chief of police for 12 and a half years before working as a Deputy Constable for Precinct 1 for two years.” (Melissa Cantu, “Bueno: A Sheriff With Change In Mind,” *Alice Echo-News Journal*, 1/13/17)

### Other Issues: Truancy & Drugs

**VIDEO: In February 2024, Bueno Said One Of The Most Pressing Issues Facing The Community Was Truancy In Schools.** BUENO: “Some of the pressing challenges are real that law enforcement as well as community members are the fact that we have a lot of truancy cases. And I know that we have several judges that have played a very big role in hearing cases on truancy. It is a key factor of making sure our children stay in school. And they have to be filed on because without a well-educated community, we will have a failing community, in any community in the state of Texas. So education is a must. And we should always all as a team, whether we are citizens, grandpa’s grandmas, uncles, or aunts, or even if we don’t have any children, we could have a very big concern of our kids not going to school. I know that the judge and the commissioners and there’s a judge that’s hearing truancy cases, and they were having truancy cases yesterday and today. And we had a very active judge at one time, and judge from Orange Grow, that heard a lot of cases on truancy. And it was an ongoing

process almost every week for three days a week. And that kind of put a reduced, our children from staying out of school, trying to put them back in school. So that is one of the pressing concerns.” (“Sarah N. Reyna With Jim Wells County Sheriff Daniel J. Bueno,” [Alice Echo-News](#), 2/23/24) Minute 4:00

**VIDEO: In February 2024, Bueno Said Another Key Issue Was Drugs And How It Impacts The Ability Of Companies To Hire Because So Many People Have Positive Drug Test Or A Criminal History.** “And of course, one of the other ones is the fact that the availability of drugs, that affects a lot of US citizens and businesses because you can't find that quality employee anymore. They either been involved in, in drugs, and been involved in criminal activity because of drugs. And that causes a problem for the industries or businesses and in people that are trying to hire individuals. They either failed a drug test, or at one point or another did some drugs. And of course, some of these companies will not tolerate that type of criminal history.” (“Sarah N. Reyna With Jim Wells County Sheriff Daniel J. Bueno,” [Alice Echo-News](#), 2/23/24) Minute 4:30

## *Other Roles In Community*

**Bueno Has Served As A School Board Member For Ben Bolt - Palito Blanco Independent School District And As President Of The Mexican American School Board Association of Texas.** “He is involved in organizations that aim to help victims of child abuse and domestic violence. He has served as president of the Mexican American School Board Association of Texas and has been a school board member for Ben Bolt - Palito Blanco Independent School District.” (Melissa Cantu Trevino, “Here's Why South Texas Sheriff Daniel Bueno Earned Congressional Recognition,” *Alice Echo-News Journal*, 9/29/21)

**Bueno Served On The School Board For At Least 17 Years.** “The Ben Bolt-Palito Blanco board members consist of president Higinio Garcia, who has served for 10 years; vice-president Daniel Bueno, who has served 17 years; secretary M. Wicho Gonzalez, having served three years; and board members, Noe Cadena with 14 years of service; Gracy S. Garcia with nine years; Oscar O. Garcia with 12 years of service; and Rolando Ramirez with eight years on the board.” (“BB-PB School Board Honored,” *Alice Echo-News Journal*, 1/22/09)

- **In 2011, Bueno Was President Of The School Board.** “The Ben Bolt-Palito Blanco Independent School District Board of Trustees met in closed executive session for more than five hours Tuesday night as they met with the district's principals and athletic staff to discuss potential cuts for next year's budget, including a possible reduction in staff. ‘It was a long night,’ Board President Daniel Bueno said. ‘It's a critical situation that will take its course. Of course, it's not only Ben Bolt-Palito Blanco, but every school district in the state.’” (Anthony Ruiz, “BBPB School Board Looking At Every Angle,” *Alice Echo-News*, 3/31/11)

# PUBLIC RECORDS

## CRIMINAL RECORDS & LAWSUITS

**NOTE:** A review of federal legal records produced one case where Bueno was identified as a party in his capacity as chief of police of Alice. One case (2007) involved a former Alice police sergeant suing the city for wrongful termination. The case was settled.

## PROPERTY RECORDS

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| Listed Owner    | Daniel Bueno  |
| Address         |   |
| Zillow Estimate | \$215,300   |
| Square Feet     | 1,776   |
| Source          | <a href="#">Jim Wells County Appraisal District</a> |



### Daniel Bueno Owns

(Property Search, [Jim Wells County Appraisal District](#), Accessed 5/13/24)

**JIM WELLS COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT**  
G Carlos Rodriguez Jr, CTA, RPA - Interim Chief Appraiser / Tax Assessor-Collector  
PO Box 607, Alice, TX 78333 / (361)668-9656

[NEW PROPERTY SEARCH](#) | [SEARCH RESULTS](#) | [PROPERTY INFO](#) | [ORIGINAL TAX STATEMENT](#)

#### OWNERSHIP INFORMATION

| Account #     | Owner Name   | Mailing Address | Legal Description                   |
|---------------|--------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1043302800100 | BUENO DANIEL |                 | APLES SEC 202,291 PT A-450 0001.000 |

#### 2023 TAX YEAR TAXES DUE - AS OF 05/14/2024

| Tax Year | Base Due | Penalty / Interest | Attorney Fees / Other Fees | Total  |
|----------|----------|--------------------|----------------------------|--------|
| → 2023   | \$0.00   | \$0.00             | \$0.00                     | \$0.00 |

### Bueno's Property Taxes Have Been Paid.

(Property Search, [Jim Wells County Appraisal District](#), Accessed 5/14/24)

#### 2023 TAX YEAR DETAIL - AS OF 05/14/2024

| Taxing Unit          | Appraised Value | Net Taxable Value | Base Due | Penalty / Interest | Attorney Fees / Other Fees | Total  |
|----------------------|-----------------|-------------------|----------|--------------------|----------------------------|--------|
| JWC GEN FD           | \$103,916.00    | \$73,916.00       | \$0.00   | \$0.00             | \$0.00                     | \$0.00 |
| BEN BOLT-PB ISD      | \$103,916.00    | \$0.00            | \$0.00   | \$0.00             | \$0.00                     | \$0.00 |
| FRESH WTR SUP DIST 1 | \$103,916.00    | \$103,916.00      | \$0.00   | \$0.00             | \$0.00                     | \$0.00 |
| JWC LAT RD           | \$103,916.00    | \$73,916.00       | \$0.00   | \$0.00             | \$0.00                     | \$0.00 |
| BRUSH CNTRY GRDWTR   | \$103,916.00    | \$103,916.00      | \$0.00   | \$0.00             | \$0.00                     | \$0.00 |
|                      | \$0.00          | \$0.00            | \$0.00   | \$0.00             | \$0.00                     | \$0.00 |
| <b>TOTAL</b>         |                 |                   | \$0.00   | \$0.00             | \$0.00                     | \$0.00 |

## POLITICAL RECORDS

### Campaign Contributions

**Bueno Has Made No Federal Political Contributions.** ([Federal Election Commission](#), Accessed 5/13/24)

**On June 8, 2016, Bueno Made A \$14 Donation To Marisa Yvette (Garcia Utley).** (Daniel Bueno Contributions, [Texas Ethics Commission](#), 6/8/16)





## **Political Endorsements**

**In 2022, Bueno Endorsed Democratic Congressional Candidate Michelle Vallejo (TX-15).** “Democratic congressional candidate Michelle Vallejo continues to attract support from statewide leaders, drawing endorsements from current, former and aspiring Democratic elected officials. Democrats from the conservative to the progressive wing of the party have publicly backed Vallejo in her effort to keep the district blue as she runs for District 15 against Republican candidate Monica De La Cruz. ... From elsewhere throughout the district, Brooks County Commissioner Rolando Gutierrez, Jim Wells County Commissioners Wicho Gonzalez and Margie Gonzalez, and Jim Wells County Sheriff Danny Bueno have endorsed her as well.” (Berenice Garcia, “Rio Grande Valley Congressional Candidates Still Seeing Widespread Support,” *The Monitor*, 9/10/22)