

THE TEXAS JAIL ASSOCIATION KEY ISSUES

Vol XIX, No. 2

Spring 2015



Spring 2015 Edition

Message From The President



Greetings to all,

As I sit at my computer, the realization hits me that this will be my last *Key Issues* article to compose as your President. It's hard to believe my year has almost come to an end. Thank you for allowing me to serve you, and I hope I have served you well. God blesses us throughout our lives, and mine has been blessed immensely both personally and professionally. Understand, I believe in an open door policy, except right now. I'm not sure they would understand why the Chief is a little teary eyed.

Jerry Baggs, I hope I've made you proud. I know the day the Lord felt it was time to have you with Him, there were a few things you still wanted to see completed. The new Lubbock facility is open, the Association is thriving, and we are continuing to develop and grow in the profession to which you dedicated yourself and loved so much. You may not be here physically, but your presence is felt every day. I know those who knew you would get a good laugh when I refer to you as my guardian angel. This is mostly because some of your antics could be better described as a little devilish as you were always one for a good laugh, but you have been my angel. Your work for this Association continues; you're just clocking in from Heaven. I know this because you have placed people in my path, as I served on the Board, who worked together to ensure the Association's continued success.

I want to thank my sheriff, Past President **Kelly Rowe**, for not only giving me opportunities in my career, but for always taking the time to answer any question I may have. It has been empowering to have a past president as a resource. Thank you for your guidance, support, and encouragement. I will be forever grateful. Your continued involvement

with the Association is an example to all future past presidents. One's term may end, but one never quits serving.

To **Billy Bryan**, our Parliamentarian, Past President, and historical guru. The list could go on but simply said, thank you. Thank you for being my mentor and someone that I am blessed to call my friend. Thank you for challenging me with "what if's" and "why not's," and making me a better person. Thank you for reviewing my speech, being a sounding board, and calming my nerves. These are all fond memories I have, not to mention the deep and intellectually stimulating conversations shared over an adult beverage. Heck, I'm smiling now as I write this. I have thoroughly enjoyed our discussions and have taken your advice to heart. Your love for this Association knows no bounds. It shows every day. You are happy to stay behind the scenes, never taking credit, but always pushing us forward.

To all of the mentors who have influenced my life and tenure as your President, I send a special thank you to God for placing you in my path. Past President **Bob Patterson**, Past President **Mary Farley**, **Carmella Jones**, and the entire Board of Directors, you ROCK! I couldn't have done any of this without you. You have made my experience one I will never forget. I will pass on all I have learned.

My gratitude and success this year would not be as full without **Sharese Hurst** and the staff at the Correctional Management Institute of Texas. She is the glue keeping us all together and on task when our daily job duties can take its own toll on our time. Sharese has taught me about conference planning, contracts, and speaker agreements, but mostly she has shown me how much she loves our Association and membership. She always says a prayer just when it is so needed and extends kindness to others. You truly are an inspiration.

I look forward to seeing everyone at our 29th Annual conference. Know that I'm a hugger, so don't be surprised if I share a hug of gratitude. I am

honored to pass the gavel to your incoming President, **Shane Poole**. I am also excited because Shane has a great work ethic, vision, and love for this Association. I look forward to what the future continues to bring.

With the future in mind, don't forget to VOTE if you are attending the 29th Annual Conference in Austin, Texas. Members will elect a new third vice president who will become your future president, in addition to two new board members. We are excited to have such a large number of members running for Board positions this year.

You are our future so get involved and make a difference in someone else's life, just as another person has made a difference in yours. Pay it forward and pay it back.

Once again, thank you for allowing me to serve you. It has been one of the most rewarding experiences I have had in my career, and it's all because of you. I will forever cherish the friendships I have made.

May God continue to bless you,



Kim Howell

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- Message From The President.....2**
- Legislative Update.....4**
- Training Committee Report.....5**
- Prayer Breakfast.....6**
- Vendor Report.....7**
- Jail Administration Management and Operations Number Sixteen.....8**
- Nominations Committe Report.....11**
- Are There Any New Tricks to Leadership Out There?...12**
- Tech Committee Conference App Update.....14**
- Membership Committe.....15**
- In Memory.....17**
- What's Happening Around the State.....18**
- Board of Directors.....28**

JAILPARDY!

We are excited to announce the 2nd Annual Jailparty Competition, presented by TCJS during the May conference in Austin. Sharpen your skills! "Jailparty" is based on the popular TV game show "Jeopardy." We hope that everyone joins us to test your knowledge and skills during the conference. We always have a great time as we watch the friendly rivalry between agencies and co-workers in the competition.

- Teams will be single player
- No lifelines
- Only 27 contestants will be allowed to play (sign up as soon as possible)

- Single elimination
- Winner will be determined by point value based upon wagers
- Answers WILL NOT have to be in form of a question

We look forward to seeing a large turnout for this friendly competition.

"Jailparty" will take place on Wednesday, May 13th and continue on Thursday, May 14th in the Glass Oaks Ballroom. Contact Sharese Hurst at sharese@shsu.edu or 936-294-1687 to register.

JAILPARDY				
CONSTRUCTION	LIFE SAFETY	HEALTH SERVICES	INMATE	CLASSIFICATION
100	100	100	100	100
200	200	200	200	200
300	300	300	300	300
400	400	400	400	400
1000	1000	1000	1000	1000

KEY ISSUES DEADLINES



June 1, 2015 for July 2015 Publication
 September 1, 2015 for October 2015 Publication
 December 1, 2015 for January 2016 Publication
 March 1, 2016 for April 2016 Publication

Send your articles on CD or via email to
 Sharese Hurst, Texas Jail Association
 Correctional Management Institute of Texas
 Sam Houston State University
 Huntsville, Texas 77341-2296; sharese@shsu.edu.

Legislative Update

The 84th Session of the Texas Legislature convened on Tuesday, January 13, 2015, at High Noon. New Legislators were sworn in and the Senate said goodbye to Governor **Rick Perry** and Lieutenant Governor **David Dewhurst** before inaugural events later for newly elected Governor **Greg Abbott** and Lieutenant Governor **Dan Patrick**.

In these seven weeks, 2851 bills and 1131 resolutions have been filed. Not much else has happened other than hearings on open carry and daily work on the state budget. March 13th is the end of the 60 day filing period for most bills other than local or emergency. Then, the work will begin a faster pace as bills are marked up by committees and brought to the floor for votes.

Some bills of interest filed thus far in the session are:

Bill: HB 161

Last Action: *02/09/2015 H Referred to County Affairs: Feb 9 2015 2:57PM*
Caption Text: Relating to housing prisoners in a tent or other facility in lieu of a county jail.

Bill: HB 549

Last Action: *02/18/2015 H Referred to County Affairs: Feb 18 2015 12:06PM*
Caption Text: Relating to certain duties of the Commission on Jail Standards regarding visitation periods for county jail prisoners.

Bill: HB 875

Last Action: *03/02/2015 H Referred to Corrections: Mar 2 2015 3:50PM*
Caption Text: Relating to the verification of the veteran status of inmates and prisoners.

Bill: HB 890

Last Action: *03/02/2015 H Referred to Homeland Security & Public Safety: Mar 2 2015 3:50PM*
Caption Text: Relating to reducing certain fees for a license to carry a concealed handgun for county jailers.

Bill: HB 1141

Last Action: *02/04/2015 H Filed*
Caption Text: Relating to reports regarding the use of restraints on pregnant prisoners in county jails.

Training Committee Report

By: D. Brent Phillips, 2nd Vice President

Spring has sprung and the 29th Annual Conference in Austin, Texas is right around the corner. If you have not registered for the conference you need to do it now. **YOUR** Training Committee has lined up an ALL STAR cast of presenters with a vast array of topics for this year's conference.

We are still firming up the Jail Management Issues (JMI) Conference 2015 in Galveston and it is sure to be a huge success. Our new, larger venue and the ability for additional break-out sessions will offer a wider variety of topics than in the past. We expect JMI 2015 to be bigger and better than ever.

There are so many exciting things regarding training and TJA. As a new, or renewing, member of the Texas

Jail Association, you are entitled to one online course e-token, provided by Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX). This e-token will allow you access to one (1) professional development course free of charge.

Just a reminder, your Association is what you make it. You will have the opportunity to elect new board members at the 29th Annual Conference. Your input and participation in all events at each conference help make them a success. The Texas Jail Association and your Board Members strive to provide each of you with exceptional training opportunities throughout the year and a professional organization second to none.

I am looking forward to seeing you in Austin.

2015 Training Opportunities

Date	Workshop Title	Location
May 11-15, 2015	29th Annual Texas Jail Association Conference ¹	Huntsville, Texas
May 31-June 5, 2015	Mid-Management Leadership Program ³	Huntsville, Texas
June 1-4, 2015	Leadership for Support Staff ³	Montgomery, Texas
July 27-30, 2015	Drug Impact Conference ³	San Antonio, Texas
August 24-27, 2015	Jail Management Issues Conference ¹	Galveston, Texas
September 13-18, 2015	Mid-Management Leadership Program ³	Huntsville, Texas
September 20-25, 2015	Jail Administration: Management & Operations ²	Huntsville, Texas
April 24-26, 2016	National Jail Leadership Command Academy ¹	Huntsville, Texas
March 28-April 1, 2016	Women in Criminal Justice Conference ¹	Montgomery, Texas

¹ Contact Sharese Hurst at 936-294-1687 or sharese@shsu.edu, or visit www.cmitonline.org.

² Contact Carmella Jones at 936-294-1668 or carmella@shsu.edu, or visit www.cmitonline.org.

³ Contact Angela Semar at 936-294-1676 or asemar@shsu.edu, or visit www.cmitonline.org.

For additional training opportunities visit www.texasjailassociation.com.

Prayer Breakfast 2015

This year's Prayer Breakfast speaker at the 29th Annual Conference will be **David Worth Hinton**. The Prayer Breakfast will be Thursday, May 14, 2015 in the Glass Oaks Ballroom at the Austin Renaissance Hotel from 7:00AM-8:00AM.

David founded Outreach for America in 1988. It is a non-profit ministry designed to win the lost to Jesus Christ and to train others to do the same, helping our nation return to the values of faith on which it was founded. While Outreach for America stands firm on its beliefs in God, the focus of the ministry is not about religion—it's about loving and serving God and people.

David spent several years working in the streets of New York City, New Orleans, Miami, Detroit, Toledo and many other inner-city streets, taking out teams of laymen and watching the Lord work through ordinary people—empowering them to lead many to Jesus. This changed their lives forever, as they returned and used the same principles of “soul-winning” in their own local areas and churches.

God then began opening doors to rodeos, prisons, public schools, Indian reservations, many local churches, including state and national conventions and conferences across the United States and Canada. He has ministered in music at conferences and special meetings for Andrew Wommack, Dave Duell, Billy Joe and Sharon Daugherty, Joyce Meyer and many others. David's unique way of mixing his music with the Word of God brings refreshing to God's people,

hope to the hurting, and a desire for God to those that are lost.

David has appeared on the “Discovery Channel” and two other nationwide television programs several times, as well as many local TV and radio broadcasts. He has just begun production on his own daily television show, “Give Me Some Word,” that will air in the Tulsa area. He has written, produced, scored and starred in the Hollywood Production movie, *How the West Was Won*. This movie is touching and changing lives all

over the world and is a phenomenal outreach tool! He has 12 CDs in his discography library and continues to write songs that speak to the lost and encourage people all over the world.

Just as the name suggests, the heartbeat of Outreach for America is Evangelism, Soul Winning and Outreach. The Lord recently put it on David's heart to sow seed into all 50 of these United States and that He would deliver a harvest in each one—changing the face of our nation. David's testimony is powerful, full of God's grace and makes very clear the fact that God loves people, and people need the Lord!



Special thanks to this year's sponsors, LaSalle Corrections and Southern Health Partners.

Conference includes:

- Excellent training and materials
- TCOLE credit
- Exhibitor Showroom
- Great door prizes
- Awards Banquet
- Refreshment breaks
- Certificate of training
- Jail tours
- Golf Tournament
- Jailparady

⊙ Renaissance Austin Hotel – Austin, Texas

⊙ May 11-15, 2015

⊙ \$190.00 Member/\$220.00 Non-member before April 26, 2015

⊙ Register online at:
www.texasjailassociation.com



29TH ANNUAL TEXAS JAIL ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE

Cancellation Policy:

A. A full refund of fees paid will be authorized when a written request for refund of conference or program fees is submitted at least 10 days prior to the scheduled start of the program.

B. A refund of 70% of the fees paid will be authorized when a written request for refund of conference or program fees is submitted less than 10 days prior to the scheduled start of the program.

C. No refund will be given for participants that do not attend the program and no advance notice of cancellation is received.

D. Substitutions may be made prior to the first day of the program for persons that are unable to attend. Advance notice is requested.

E. The Executive Director may make exceptions to the refund policy in the event of an emergency that prevents the participant from attending as scheduled.

Some of the topics to be presented in 2015 are:

- Objective Jail Classification
- Understanding & Managing Human Resources
- PREA
- Medical Issues for Small Jails
- Hot Topics for Small Jails
- High Risk Transport/Hospital Duty
- Searches & Pat Downs
- Ethics – Negative Retention
- Budget
- Peer to Peer Recognition
- Hispanic Gangs
- Financial Planning
- Inmate Games
- Wellness
- Cuffs & Consequences
- Strategies for Employee Evaluations
- Fingerprinting
- Life Safety
- Distracted Driving
- Inmate Behavior Management
- Required Report Writing & Escape Presentation
- Legislative Update
- CERT
- Communication
- Problem Coworkers
- Retirement Planning
- Use of Force
- Emotional Intelligence

If you have any questions, please call
Sharese Hurst at (936) 294-1687. Thank you.

Conference dress code is business casual.

A member of The Texas State University System. An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Institution.

Duplicate as needed for multiple flyers.

Jail Administration Management and Operations Number Sixteen

By: Carmella Jones

The latest group attending the JAMO (Jail Administration Management and Operations) training on February 15–20, 2015, had the following things to say after their week of learning concluded:

“Thank you so much for giving me the opportunity to come to this class. I have more confidence about being the jail administrator now. I have a lot of new ideas to take back to my jail and share with my staff.”



“I have learned so many things and met so many great people that I can contact and ask questions. I have been able to step back and look at myself as a supervisor.”

“This week taught me to be a better person, not just my job but in life.”

“This is just what I needed. Thank you for getting me on the Jail Administration Management and Operations attendance list. This training is amazing.”



Those of you who have attended the JAMO training at the Correctional Management Institute of Texas, know that these comments are very true. There are also many remarks about the exceptional good food, the excellent speakers, and the extraordinary opportunity to network with other administrators and instructors. Yes, it is all that and more. The fact that it is no cost to the Sheriff's Office is an added bonus.



The sixteenth session began on Sunday, February 15, 2015 with opening remarks and welcome by Sheriff **Dennis Wilson** of Limestone County. Sheriff Wilson has been

involved with both the development and continuation of this program. Sheriff Wilson provided a history of the jail administration program, an overview of the upcoming legislative initiatives, and his personal passion for mental health issues in the jail. **Mary Farley**, Jail Administrator in Bosque County, then introduced the wellness and fit for duty segment of the training which includes daily voluntary walks around the Sam Houston State University Campus.



Sheriff **Maxey Cerliano** presented a section on Fiscal Issues. **Mark Warren** discussed Supervisory Skills and Managing the Transition. TJA Past Presidents **Gary Pinkerton** and **Carla**

Stone provided information about Your Duties as a Jail Administrator. **Robert Davis** from Flowers Davis PLLC, presented Legal Issues, and **Elizabeth Sutherland** discussed Human Resource Issues. **Mary Farley** and **Carla Stone** provided lessons on Con Games, and I delivered a work





behavior assessment and a session on Professionalism and Ethics. **Shannon Herklotz** supplied information concerning Inspection Requirements and Reports, followed by **Darren Jackson** presenting information

on the Basics of County Government and Policy and Procedures Updates. **Randy Garner** offered The Leadership Toolbox and Legacy Leadership, which is always a hit with participants.

There were 36 attendees in the 16th Class from all over the state. Those attending were:



Nathaniel Akers - Hunt County; **Laura Balditt** - Bexar County; **Mark Beadle** - Jefferson County; **Carolyn Berryman** - Montague County; **Julie Boydston** - Hemphill County; **Angelo Brock** - Ellis County; **Laura Chadwick** - Lee County; **Sheri Davis** - Bosque County;



Reyes Espinoza - Jim Hogg County; **Craig Frankum** - Sabine County; **Maria "Lupe" Garza** - Dallas County; **Barbara Gomez** - Bastrop County; **Angel**

Gonzalez Jr. - Taylor County; **Brandi Graham** - Hamilton County; **Thomas Graves** - Limestone County; **Craig Gutierrez** - Jim Wells County; **Kerri Heaton** - Clay County;

Brandon Henderson - Brazos County; **Clarence Henry** - Brazos County; **Chad Hooper** - Angelina County; **Sherry Jacobs** - Lamar County; **Lisa Johnson** - Wichita County; **Jason Jouett** - Runnels County; **Jessica King** - Chambers



County; **Marivette Mirelez** - Brooks County; **Robert Moore** - Franklin County; **Brian Newby** - Jack County; **Michael Olsen** - Sabine County; **Valdo Paredes** - Austin County; **Christina Pounds** - Comanche County;

Ernestine Sanders - Dallas County; **James Stephenson** - Galveston County; **Amy Torres** - Brooks County; **Brandon Torres** - Jim Wells County; **Amanda Vickery** - Knox County; and, **Luke Whitehead** - Gregg County.



On the final evening of the training, special recognition was given to several outstanding attendees. Those recognized for Leadership were Maria "Lupe" Garza and Ernestine Sanders from Dallas County. Those recognized for Inspiration were Julie Boydston of Hemphill County and James Stephenson from Galveston County.



If you are interested in attending the next Jail Administration Operations and Leadership Training program scheduled for September 20 – 25, 2015 contact

Carmella Jones at 936-2944-1668 or carmella@shsu.edu. You can obtain application information thru CMIT website www.cmitonline.org on the training event calendar.





**“I’LL GIVE YOU A 99%
INMATE PHONE COMMISSION!”**
Do you really understand what 99% represents?

The Inmate Telecom Industry is infamous for bait and switch tactics!

For every \$75 deposited on inmate telephone services, how much do your inmates actually have left after provider fees to place phone calls?

OTHER PROVIDER’S FEES



NCIC Inmate Phone Services, and our partners, charge the lowest fees in the industry and have no hidden revenue. With lower ancillary fees, jails experience a 40% to 60% increase in call counts within the first month of moving to NCIC, benefiting both the inmates and the facility.

Visit our booth at the upcoming conferences of the National Sheriffs Association and American Jail Association, so we can explain the “Numbers Game” and how we can generate more calls for your inmates and more revenue for your jail.

Can you answer these questions about your Current Provider?

- How much does the family of your inmates pay to the phone provider to deposit money into the inmates account?
- Is your inmate phone company asking the FCC to cap or eliminate your commissions?
- Have you actually read what your inmate phone company has filed in the current FCC proceedings or are you just relying on what they tell you?
- How much is your inmate phone company charging for Single Payment Products and TextCollect?
- Have you noticed that your revenue per inmate has dropped in half in the past seven years?



P.O. Box 551 • Longview, TX 75606
903-757-4455 • Sales@NCIC.com

Nominations Committee Reports

By: Shane Poole, 1st Vice President

Howdy fellow TJA Members! We put out the call for nominations and wow, did y'all answer! We're blessed this year with an outstanding slate of candidates running for 3rd Vice President and the Board of Directors. The competition is going to be intense with the candidates bringing a wealth of knowledge, experience and skills for you to consider on Election Day, not to mention a sincere desire to serve you and the Texas Jail Association.

I won't go into their bios here as you will get to read all about them in the conference materials and meet them in person during the 29th Annual Conference, but I did want to mention each by name, title and county. Please take time to speak with them for a few minutes as they campaign for your vote. Ask them why they want to serve and what they plan to bring to the table during their term. These are some great folks and I'm proud of the commitment they have made to TJA, so get to know them before you vote.

First up are your candidates for 3rd Vice President. **David Burrous** is a Captain and the Jail Administrator for the Hardin County Sheriff's Office in Kountze. **Martin Gonzales** is also a Captain and the Jail Administrator for Atascosa County Sheriff's Office in Jourdanton. Both candidates have served you well over the past two years as members of the TJA Board to become eligible to run for 3rd Vice President. Keep in mind that with your vote for 3rd Vice President, you are selecting the person that will move up through the Vice President ranks each year in succession and will eventually lead TJA as your president.

Next up is your slate of candidates vying for two positions on the TJA Board of Directors. I cannot say enough about their willingness to take on this challenge and the support their Sheriffs have offered in allowing them to run for the Board. Being a Board member is a lot of work, particularly around conference time, but it can be one of the most rewarding professional experiences you will have in Corrections so my hat is off to them!

Dan Corbin comes to you as the Chief Administrator for the Lubbock County Sheriff's Office in Lubbock, Texas. **Gregg Doyle** is a Lieutenant and Assistant Jail Administrator for the Palo Pinto County Sheriff's Office in Palo Pinto. **Eric Hensley** is a Senior Sergeant and Shift Supervisor for the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office in Conroe. **Joe Hester** is the Chief Deputy and Jail Administrator for the Waller County Sheriff's Office in Hempstead. **Edwardo Jackson** comes to you as the Courthouse Security Sergeant with the Travis County Sheriff's Office in Austin. **Henry Reyes** is the Deputy Chief and Assistant Jail Administrator

for the Bexar County Sheriff's Office in San Antonio. **Bryce Thompson** is a Detention Captain with the Collin County Sheriff's Office in McKinney. And last, but not least is **Kit Wright**, a Sergeant with the Brazos County Sheriff's Office in Bryan. Whew! They can almost field their own baseball team!

So Members, you have your work cut out for you. Make it a point to meet your candidates and select the folks you believe will serve you and the Texas Jail Association with pride and distinction. I don't think you can go wrong with anyone running, so it is up to you!

And for those of you that have considered joining the Board but have not made the leap yet, we have opportunities for you to serve on any number of standing and special purpose committees. Just grab me or one of your Board members and let them know you want to become a committee member. It will give you an idea of what the Board does, how you can contribute, and help you decide on your own candidacy for next year.

The 29th Annual Texas Jail Association Conference is going to be our best yet, so see you there and take care my friends!

TEXAS CORRECTIONAL INDUSTRIES

800.833.4302

www.tci.tdcj.texas.gov



Signs, Decals & Printing
Janitorial Supplies
Offender Clothing
Fencing
Clogs



Are There Any New Tricks to Leadership Out There?

By: Shane Poole, NJLCA Class #18

I recently had the honor and opportunity to attend and graduate from the 18th Class of the National Jail Leadership Command Academy (NJLCA) put on by the Correctional Management Institute of Texas and the American Jail Association in Huntsville, Texas. After being able to reflect upon my experience for a week or two, I'd like to share a bit of what I learned and wholeheartedly encourage anyone who can attend a future class to do so.



First, allow me to share a bit of my background to lend some perspective to my observations. I have over 27 years with my Department—24 of those in supervisory roles from line supervisor to command staff. I served 21 years with the US Army Reserve with my last four as a Sergeant Major. I have a degree in Criminal Justice, an advanced degree in leadership and ethics, and attended the FBI National Academy (Session 244). So I'm confident in saying that I've been in a leadership class or two and have been teaching on the topic for over 20 years. All that said, what an experience this class was!

In *The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People*, Stephen Covey tells us that number seven is "sharpening the saw." By that he means you should "balance and renew your resources, energy, and

health to create a sustainable, long-term, effective lifestyle," continuously improving your personal and interpersonal spheres of influence. I needed to "sharpen the saw."

So my boss agreed to send me and on March 1st of this year, I found myself in a room with 33 folks from all over the United States. My colleagues hailed from New Mexico, Kansas, Florida, Virginia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Arkansas, New Jersey, Kentucky, Alabama, Nebraska, and of course, Texas!

Our instructors were **Susan McCampbell**, President of the Center for Innovative Public Policies, Inc and a driving force behind the NJLCA; Dr. **Randy Garner** with Sam Houston State University's College of Criminal Justice; **Wayne Dicky**, Brazos County Jail Administrator; **Marydell Guevara**, Director of the Miami-Dade County Corrections and Rehabilitation Department; and, **Tim Ryan**, retired



Director of the Miami-Dade County Corrections and Rehabilitation Department. Assisting with the class were three previous NJLCA graduates brought back as mentors. This group included **Lisa Burch** of Ft. Myers, Florida, **Chawana Moore** from New Hanover County, North Carolina, and **Michael**



Tolerico out of Passaic County, New Jersey.

We had a good bit of “homework” due prior to the class, but nothing unmanageable. But right out of the gate, Tim and Susan had us discussing the challenges we face as organizations and as individuals in leadership roles. You guessed it, we had a lot more in common than not! It would seem that



our brothers and sisters across the country face the same problems we do in our own agencies every day. That in itself was reassuring, and offered the hope of some collective insight into the solutions to these problems that we might discover throughout the week. Several hot topics garnered from almost 600 NJLCA attendees were presented and we each had to pick one to focus on within a group and report back to the entire class later in the week.

We then went on to discuss essential leadership and creating a legacy with Dr. Garner. I learned about influencing the development, education, behavior and thinking (D.E.B.T.) of others in my leadership relationships. We’ve all heard various definitions of leadership, but Dr. Garner has a unique way of framing the topic that it was meaningful and relatable to what I do every day. Still more was to come on the personal and interpersonal spheres of influence as we discussed our own self-awareness and understanding with the results of our Myers-Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI) personality inventory we took as part of the homework. Recognizing and embracing who we are based on the assessment lent greater meaning to the

classes and was a common thread throughout the course as we continued to “sharpen the saw.” (I’m an “I” by the way.)

The material comes at you fast and furious, but we discussed the use of statistics (it was actually fun); agency mission, vision and values; agency culture; criticism, conversations and accountability; managing recruiting, retention and the generations of your workforce; strategic planning and budgeting; collaboration with colleagues; succession planning and developing your future leaders; and, leading and managing change...still more sharpening.

We also had study groups and broke bread together for every meal as a part of building a sense of community and camaraderie within Class #18. **Sharese Hurst** and the CMIT staff facilitated this throughout by being great hosts and leaving us well satisfied with our experience at Sam Houston. Graduation was even a new twist for me, but I’ll leave that for you to discover when you attend yourself!

By the end of our little journey together, we had all become well-acquainted with our colleagues and the instructors alike, and what they brought to the table. So I’ll end this essay with answering my first question--are there any new tricks to leadership out there? There are no shortcuts to good leadership. Only time, experience and most importantly, the knowledge we gain from one another through opportunities like the NJLCA will help you achieve your goal of becoming an exemplary leader. Check it out today at www.nationaljailacademy.org!

If you have been a member of the Texas Jail Association for at least one year and are in a mid-management position at your agency, you can apply to attend the NJLCA under the Jerry Baggs Memorial Scholarship. This scholarship covers your tuition, lodging and meals. For more information, log onto www.texasjailassociation.com. The NJLCA scholarship information can be found on the home page.



Tech Committee Conference App Update

We are currently working on our new Conference App and are on track for an April 10th launch date. We are very excited about the features and we think the app will enhance your conference experience. There will be surveys built into the app so be sure to participate so that we can continue to improve and meet your needs.

It has everything you'll need for a great conference experience in the palm of your hand. The app will be available to download a few weeks before the conference from the Apple App Store and the Google Play Store. We'll have more details to come, so be on the lookout for more information through email, our Facebook page <http://www.facebook.com/TexasJailAssociation>, and Twitter @TexasJail.

App Features

Some of the features include viewing the full event schedule; bookmarking classes to be notified when they start; and viewing other important details, like where the sessions are located and who's speaking. You can even create your own schedule!

Locate your favorite Vendors with interactive maps and stay up to date with Vendor giveaways and other activities through push notifications.

The app will keep you in the loop with everything going on with push notifications to win door prizes and getting other

important announcements. One of the best features will be the ability to access all the class session documents and presentations any time you like! You'll be able to view all the course materials directly on your mobile device or download them directly to your PC when you get back home. No more carrying paper copies or jump drives!

There will be a short presentation during opening ceremonies and Technology Committee Members will be readily available to assist throughout the conference. If there are any questions or concerns please feel free to contact one of the committee members listed below.

Stay tuned for more information to come!

Kevin Stuart
Todd Allen
Byron Shelton
William Phariss

kstuart@brazoscountytexas.gov
todd.allen@tomgreencountytexas.gov
byron.shelton@co.bell.tx.us
william.phariss@grimescountytexas.org



Correctional healthcare should not be a headache.

Try a dose of NaphCare.

When you choose a correctional healthcare partner, make sure you choose the best. At NaphCare, we offer you an exceptional team of healthcare professionals, an ONC-certified EHR system, and the Proactive Care you need to stay on top of problems before they start. Simply put, we give you peace of mind and save you money in the process.



your independent correctional healthcare choice

We believe trust still matters.

Visit us online at naphcare.com
or call 800.834.2420.

2090 Columbiana Rd. / Ste. 4000
Birmingham, AL 35216

Membership Report

By: Todd Allen

Greetings fellow TJA members!

As we near the 29th, yes 29th!, Annual Texas Jail Association Conference, I would like to challenge everyone to grow this Association and the annual conference to record numbers. The Texas Jail Association strives to provide and promote the best training available in our profession. The training committee has put together an incredible line-up of courses for this conference, and you will most certainly leave with tools that will help you in your career.

Our current membership is at 991 members. My challenge for you is simple. If every current member will encourage at least one officer from your department to join TJA, we can double our membership in a very short amount of time. As a member, you know the benefits of membership. Not only the training you can receive, but instant access to hundreds of some of the greatest minds in our profession, by utilizing the list serve. Why not share this with everyone in your department?

As was mentioned in the previous edition, TJA has partnered with TEEX (Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service) to offer an awesome training opportunity. All new memberships and membership renewals will receive one free online course of your choice! Upon renewing your membership or paying for a new membership, you can request an eLearning token from TJA. The token will be good for 60 days. Here is a list of courses currently being offered:

- Use of Force in a Jail Setting (16 hours) Intermediate Course
- Interpersonal Communications (16 hours) Intermediate Course
- Inmate Rights and Privileges (16 hours) Intermediate Course
- Suicide Detection and Prevention (16 hours) Intermediate Course
- Inmate Health Care – Basic Medical (6 hours)
- Inmate Health Care – Advanced Medical (6 hours)
- Inmate Health Care – Basic Psychiatric (8 hours)
- Inmate Sexual Assault Prevention – PREA (8 hours)
- Report Writing and Documentation (4 hours)
- Effective Interviewing and Documentation (4 hours)
- Basic Criminal Investigation (40 hours)
- Death Investigation (40 hours)
- Field Training Officer (24 hours)

In addition to the free online courses, we are continuing the membership drive contest. The contest rules are as follows:

New Memberships:

Agencies that enroll 20 or more new members get a free registration for the 29th Annual TJA Conference in Austin, Texas.

Individuals who enroll 10 or more new memberships will receive a free shirt from the TJA sales booth.

Individuals who enroll 20 or more new memberships will receive a lifetime membership from the Association (\$300 value).

A cash prize will also be given at the Annual Awards Banquet in May to the individual who recruits the most new members.

Renewals:

Individuals who get 5 members to renew their membership will receive a shirt from the TJA sales booth.

Individuals who get 10 members to renew their membership will receive a cash prize at this year's Annual Awards Banquet in May.

All new membership and renewal applications must list the name of the referring person.

If you have any suggestions, or ideas, regarding membership in the Texas Jail Association, please do not hesitate to contact me or any of the committee members.

Todd Allen

Tom Green County Jail

325-659-6599 • Todd.allen@co.tom-green.tx.us





★ Texans Helping Texans ★

TJA AND SHP 3RD ANNUAL BLOOD DRIVE

**Come down and donate on the 12th and 13th.
Blood Bus will be located outside.**

★ All Donors are entered in drawing for \$100 Gift Card ★



**Southern Health
Partners**

Your Partner In Affordable Inmate Healthcare

In Memory

In Memory of TJA Past President Bob Knowles by Tarrant County Sheriff Dee Anderson



The recent loss of our beloved Executive Chief Deputy **Robert “Bob” Knowles** has left a hole, literally and figuratively, in the Tarrant County Sheriff’s Office that will be almost impossible to fill. Bob’s jail management experience, his loyalty and dedication, his love of this agency and his co-workers are all things that we continue to miss, each and every day. Though the dedicated men and women of this agency continue to work and excel every day, it is with a heavy heart that we go about our business without the leader of our confinement division.

We are still mourning the loss of a friend and colleague. A family man, a Christian who lived life as an example of Christianity, Bob’s loss leaves a huge void in the Tarrant County Sheriff’s Office.

Mention Bob Knowles and one word always comes to mind first – jails. Bob loved jails more than anyone I’ve ever known, or heard of. It was a fascinating relationship he had with jails, and it was an honor to have Bob work for me the last 14 years after 27 years of service to Dallas County.

He leaves behind a legacy that will live on for generations. His knowledge of jail operations, and his love of all things pertaining to jails, is second to none. A recognized expert in the field, Bob was frequently called upon to testify as an expert witness on jail matters of all kinds. He possessed an uncanny knowledge and understanding of

the jail standards we must all live by. He could quote the standards chapter and verse from a book most of us find about as easy to comprehend as a foreign language.

Bob’s love of jails was surpassed only by his love of his family and friends. Bob’s wife Marie, children and grandchildren were his true joy in life. The light shined in his eyes whenever he talked of his family. His memory will be cherished by his family and all those who knew Bob.

Chief Knowles shunned the spotlight and loved working behind the scenes. I can never reveal how many things Bob did to help people without their knowing, how much he gave of himself and how much he cared for the people who worked for him, and with him. Bob personally paid out of his pocket for many of those in need, and required no mention ever be made of his generosity. Whenever any issue arose, personal or professional, I could always count on a call from Bob and the question “what can I do to help?”

Beyond the professional loss is a profound sense of personal loss for many. Bob and Marie have become dear and trusted friends to my wife Rebecca and I. I have lost a dear friend as well as a wonderful employee. Even throughout his illness, Bob came in with a smile on his face and a pleasant greeting for everyone. Small in stature, he was tough beyond belief and did more on most days than people half his age.

I have been asked many times by those in this agency and around the state “is there anything we can do to honor Chief Knowles and his memory?” My answer is always “do what Bob did. Work to be the best you can be, run the best jail you can and don’t settle for second best. Live the way Bob lived and that will pay him a great honor.”

On behalf of the Tarrant County Sheriff’s Office and the entire Knowles family, I want to offer my sincere thanks to all those across this great State of Texas and across the entire nation who showed such kindness in the wake of Bob’s death. Your calls, flowers, cards, prayers and well wishes meant more to us than you can ever know. We are all so very grateful.

Through us, and through each of you, a great man lives on through memories and knowledge left behind. He will not be forgotten.

In Memory Of Anna Dolores “Lita” Sifuentez August 25, 1960 – January 14, 2015



Anna “Lita” Sifuentez, 54, of Bryan, went to be with her Lord on January 14, 2015.

Lita was born on August 25, 1960 to **Fernando** and **Leonor (Sanchez) de los Santos** in Houston. She graduated from Bryan High School in Bryan in 1977 and earned a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice from Kaplan University in 2008.

Family and friends experienced unquantified smiles and joy by her amazing decorative cakes and spectacular home cooking, including her legendary Two Sisters Salsa. If anyone ever needed a favor, Lita was always among the first to volunteer her services. Lita personified a principle of putting the needs of others above her own, which inspired her to proudly serve the men and women of the Brazos Valley as a Deputy Sheriff for over 20 years. Her highest honor in law enforcement came in 2013 when she was sworn in as a Special Deputy U.S. Marshal for the Presidential Inauguration in Washington D.C. Lita also served as the Vice President of L.I.F.E. at LEMIT (Leadership Inventory for Female Executives).

She is preceded in death by her parents, Fernando and Leonor (Sanchez) de los Santos; brothers, Fernando “Sonny” and Juan Carlos de los Santos; and son, Gilbert Gabriel Sifuentez.

Lita leaves behind her loving husband of 36 years, **Gilbert Sifuentez**; son, **Gabriel D. Sifuentez** and wife **Hope**; siblings, **David de los Santos** and wife **Denise**, **Joe de los Santos** and wife **Pam**, **Yolanda Myatt** and husband **Wade**. She also leaves behind her nieces, Leah Kirstein, Sierra Robbins and husband Justin, and Sonya Tijerina; and nephews David “Mick” de los Santos, John de los Santos, Jared de los Santos and wife Loren, and Zachary and Joshua Myatt.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND THE STATE

BRAZOS COUNTY

PROMOTIONS

January 30, 2015, Brazos County Sheriff **Chris Kirk** congratulated newly promoted Critical Incident Team (CIT) Deputy **Michael Calhoun**. Calhoun received his Peace Officer license in December 2010 and started working at The Brazos County Sheriff's Office in May 2011 in the Detention Center as a Deputy /Jailer. Calhoun promoted to the Work Crew Division in February 2012 and transferred to the CIT Division in February. He is a member of the Detention Response Team (DRT) for the Detention Center.

Pictured from left to right: Sheriff Chris Kirk, Deputy Michael Calhoun, Lieutenant Kevin Stuart and Jail Administrator Wayne Dicky



Brazos County Sheriff Chris Kirk congratulated newly promoted Sergeant **Michael Stumpf**. Sergeant Stumpf was promoted on March 6, 2015. Michael Stumpf was born and raised in South West Houston and moved to the Bryan/College Station area in 2000 to attend college. Stumpf first worked at the Brazos County Emergency Center 911 in 2001 and worked there until July 2004 when he was accepted as a patrol officer for College Station Police Department. He attended the Basic Peace Officers Academy at TEEEX from August to December 2005 where he received his Peace Officer License and remained a patrol officer for College Station until August 2010. Stumpf started working at the Brazos County Sheriff's Office in September 2010 as a Detention Officer; transferred to the Transport Division in August 2011 and then promoted to the Patrol Division in April 2013. Stumpf will remain in the Patrol Division where he will work as a night shift supervisor and serve a member of the SERG Team.



March 13, 2015, Brazos County Sheriff Chris Kirk congratulated newly promoted Patrol Deputy **Francisco Benavides**. Deputy Benavides started working at The Brazos County Sheriff's Office in April 2011 as a Detention Officer. Deputy Benavides is a native of Bryan, Texas. He received his Peace Officer license in February 2013. Deputy Benavides moved to the Intake and



release Division in October of 2013 where he continues to work until he transfers to the Patrol Division on April 11, 2015. Deputy Benavides also serves in the Army Reserves at the rank of Sergeant.

DONATION

On January 31, 2015, Sheriff Chris Kirk received a donation of \$7,500.00 from Mayor **James Soefje** and the Wixon Valley City Counsel. This donation will enable the Brazos County Sheriff's Office to purchase additional in-car radars, traffic safety equipment and additional training opportunities for our staff to better serve the community. We want to thank Mayor James Soefje and the Wixon Valley City Counsel for their generous donation.



Pictured from left to right: Sheriff Chris Kirk and Mayor James Soefje

SERGEANT SAMUEL BALLEW RETIREMENT

On Friday, February 27, 2015, Sergeant **Samuel Ballew** retired from the Brazos County Sheriff's Office following 27 years of service. Sergeant Ballew was born in Bryan, Texas and was a 1979 graduate of Bryan High School. He began his career with the Brazos County Sheriff's Office as a Reserve Deputy in January 1988 and was chosen as a Deputy for the Detention Center in July 1989. Since February 1989, he has served the citizens of Brazos County in many capacities. He became a Corporal in the Detention Center in April 1993, transferred to become a Patrol Deputy in October 1993, promoted to supervisor for patrol in 1998 and then to Sergeant in patrol in September 2012. He also served as a Field Training Officer.



During his time as a Deputy, Sergeant Ballew received numerous awards and commendations. These included:

- 1994 Life Saver Citation from Bryan Fire Department
- 1995 Deputy of the Year
- 2008 Master Peace Officer Certificate
- 2009 Master Jailer Certificate

Numerous citizen and internal commendations regarding work with citizens, crime victims, investigations, and work within the community by volunteering and helping with the Special Olympics, Tip A Cop Program and various other programs.

Sergeant Ballew has been married to his wife Gayla for 33 years and together they have three daughters, Crystal, Amanda, and Samantha with husband Matt Ketchum and 5 month old grandson Wyatt. As he leaves the Brazos County Sheriff's Office, he will spend more time with his family and will continue to serve the community as a Reserve Deputy, back to where he started his career.

COLLIN COUNTY

RECENT RETIREMENTS



Administrative Secretary **Vicki Wheatley** recently retired from the Collin County Sheriff's Office. Vicki retired with twenty-four years of service. She was congratulated by Sheriff **Terry Box** and was

presented with a retirement plaque for her dedication and years of service.

SERVICE ANNIVERSARIES

Three employees have reached significant milestones. Detention Officer **Jaime Cook**, Detention Officer **John Davis**, and Sergeant **Daniel Cates** all received a plaque for twenty years of service. All were praised for their dedicated service with the Collin County Sheriff's Office.



SWEARING IN CEREMONIES

Sheriff Terry Box held a swearing in ceremony in March. New Patrol Deputy **Matthew Polk**, along with Detention Sergeant **John Beeman**, were sworn in. Congratulations to all!



PROMOTIONS

Sheriff Terry Box congratulates **Chris Havey** who was recently promoted from Sergeant to Lieutenant in a recent ceremony.



SPECIAL COMMENDATIONS

Deputy **Keith Griffin** was presented the Life Saving Award for his heroic actions. On December 15, 2014 Deputy Griffin was dispatched to a medical call, when he arrived he found **Vanita Bates** unconscious and slumped over with her seat belt still on. He quickly removed her from the vehicle and began rendering CPR. Deputy Griffin realized that Mrs. Bates was not breathing so he retrieved his AED from his vehicle and attached it to Mrs. Bates. The AED did not give the command to shock, but did instruct him to begin CPR. Deputy Griffin began performing CPR on Mrs. Bates and continued until EMS arrived. The quick and appropriate response by Deputy Griffin resulted in Mrs. Bates surviving her medical emergency.



ELLIS COUNTY

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Haley Jordan Cleveland of Midlothian has been awarded an academic scholarship from the Sheriffs' Association of Texas. Haley is enrolled at Texas State University. Her career goal



Left to Right: Ellis County Sheriff Johnny Brown, Haley Cleveland and retired Ellis County Sheriff Ray Stewart.

is to become a respiratory therapist. She is the daughter of **Bobby and Jennifer Cleveland** of Midlothian. Her grandparents are retired Ellis County Sheriff **Ray Stewart** and wife Iris of Midlothian, and **Margaret Cessna** of Red Oak. She is the great-granddaughter of **Charles and the late Zane Minter** of Midlothian.

Matthew Smith was recently awarded a \$500 academic scholarship from the Sheriffs' Association of Texas. Matthew is the son of **Glen and Heidi Smith**, and **Shelley Smith**. Glen Smith is an investigator with the Ellis County Sheriff's Office. Heidi Smith is a tele-communicator with the Ellis County Sheriff's Office.



Left to Right: Ellis County Sheriff Johnny Brown, ECSO tele-communicator Heidi Smith, Matthew Smith and ECSO investigator Glen Smith.

Colten Prater, who serves as captain of Ellis County Sheriff's Explorer Post, was recently awarded a \$500 academic scholarship from the Sheriffs' Association of Texas. Colten is in his junior year of studies at TWU, where he is majoring in Criminal Justice. His career goal is to become a federal law enforcement officer with the U.S. Marshal's Office. Colten is the son of **Jeff and Shawna Prater**. Jeff Prater serves as a Deputy with the ECSO Training Division and is the Lead Advisor over the ECSO Explorer Post.



Left to Right: Ellis County Sheriff Johnny Brown, Colten Prater and Deputy Jeff Prater.

SORT TRAINING

The Ellis County Sheriff's Office recently conducted its first-ever Special Operations Response Team training for detention officers. Groundwork for the specialized course began about two years ago when several members from the ECSO Training and Jail divisions completed

Sort instructor training. The next step involved ECSO completing its development of policies and procedures for a Special Operations Response Team at Wayne McCollum Detention Center. With those pieces in place, the first training course saw six detention officers complete the work, which included physical, classroom, tactical and scenario training. The training was conducted on-site at Wayne McCollum Detention Center and out of view by inmates, with a number of people from ECSO's different divisions volunteering their time to serve as actors during the different scenarios. The ECSO's first SORT members, who will continue training together on a monthly basis, will now go back to their respective shifts and recruit others.



Kneeling, from left: Kevan Sipla, Marcus Hernandez, (standing) Sergeant Angelo Brock, Joshua Huff, Kenneth Koepsell, Bradley Morris, Corporal Daniel Gonzales and Joshua Howard.

ECSO EXPLORERS STATE CHAMPS

Ellis County Sheriff's Office Explorer Post 106 brought home the overall state championship trophy along with multiple plaques and medals from the 2014 Texas Law Enforcement Explorer Advisors Association state competition. ECSO sent three four-person Explorer teams to the event, which drew 93 teams from across Texas and out-of-state to compete in skill scenarios and individual challenges at the University of Texas at Arlington. The post's A team secured the first place overall team ranking in the state competition after achieving an average score of 99.75 out of 100 possible, the highest score ever recorded in the competition's 25-year history.



ECSO TOUR

Students in Lewisville ISD's Dale Jackson Career Center's criminal justice class and their teacher, **Cathy Rascon**, recently visited the Ellis County Sheriff's Office. The students had a question-and-answer session with Sheriff Johnny Brown, toured Wayne McCollum Detention Center and observed a demonstration by one of the ECSO canine teams.



HATCHER SPECIAL OLYMPICS



For the second year in a row, Ellis County Sheriff's Deputy **Ken Hatcher** took his support for Special Olympics to another level, rappelling off of the Bank of America tower in downtown Dallas on Saturday, November 8, 2014. Hatcher has raised \$1,870 for Special Olympics of Texas in his two years of participating in the Over the Edge fundraiser. Over the Edge is as a primary fundraiser for Special Olympics of Texas, which serves 44,000 Special Olympians. In 2014 alone, law enforcement personnel raised \$96,000 across the state. Hatcher began volunteering with Special Olympics several years ago at a Special Olympics summer games hosted by the Cedar Hill Police Department. "The athletes work so hard and they are so competitive," Hatcher said. "It is just awesome to see them compete in the games."

LEADERSHIP MIDLOTHIAN

The Ellis County Sheriff's Office hosted Leadership Midlothian in December. The members met with Ellis County Sheriff Johnny Brown for a question-and-answer session. They also learned about the ECSO canine program with Deputy **Klinton Valley** and his canine, **Blade**; and were taken on a tour of Wayne McCollum Detention Center.



TOY DRIVE

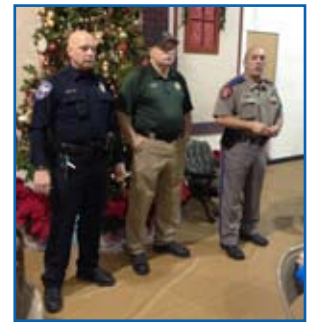


The fifth annual Ellis County Toy Drive saw the delivery of 15 large boxes of toys and \$500-plus in gift cards delivered to the Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services in Waxahachie.

The Ellis County Sheriff's Office's Training Division coordinates the toy drive each year. Shown are, from left, Ellis County Sheriff's Deputy **Ken Hatcher**; Ellis County Sheriff's Deputy **Hunter Barnes**; **Akilah Davis**, lead administrative assistant, Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services; **Cynthia Winters**, regional director, Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services; and Ellis County Sheriff's Deputy **Rupert Hernandez**.

TEXAS BAPTIST HOME PARTY

Texas Department of Public Safety Senior Trooper **James Colunga**, assisted by members of the Ellis County Sheriff's Office and Waxahachie Police Department, served up a pizza party and gifts for children at the Texas Baptist Home for Children in Waxahachie on December 23. "It means the world to me to help with community efforts such as this," Ellis County Sheriff **Johnny Brown** said. "I want these kids to know that law enforcement cares about them." From left, Waxahachie Police Officer **David Bittle**, Ellis County Sheriff **Johnny Brown** and Texas Department of Public Safety Senior Trooper **James Colunga**.



AWARDS RECEIVED BY THE COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION

The Ellis County Sheriff's Office Communications Division was recognized with two major awards and five nominations during the annual PSAP Supervisor Meeting at the North Central Texas Council of Government Regional 9-1-1 offices in Arlington. The recognitions were extended for telecommunications work from September 1, 2013-August 31, 2014.

ECSO telecommunicators **Heidi Smith**, **Jeff Shepherd** and **Gloria Myers** were honored as Communication Team of the Year for their exemplary performance during the Milford pipeline explosion November 14, 2013. The team has more than 38 combined years of experience working for ECSO. Smith is a 19-year veteran, Shepherd, an 11-year veteran; and Myers, an

GREGG COUNTY

8-year veteran. All hold Master Telecommunicator certificates, the highest level possible, with the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement. The recognition for ECSO telecommunicators extended beyond the Communication Team of the Year award, with a second ECSO team recognized as a nominee in the same category.

Telecommunicators **Nancy Brinker**, a 17-year veteran; **Brandy Songer**, an 8-year veteran; and **Caitlin McClelland**, a 1.5-year veteran, were honored for their work during a November 2013 incident involving a triple homicide.

ECSO telecommunicator **Jennifer Pitts** was honored with the 9-1-1 Professional Award. Pitts has served as a telecommunicator since 2010 and joined ECSO in 2011. She attained her Advanced Telecommunicator certificate with TCOLE in October.

ECSO telecommunicator **Kristie Brewer**, who holds an Advanced Telecommunicator certificate and is an 11-year veteran with the agency, was recognized as a nominee for the Telecommunicator of the Year award.

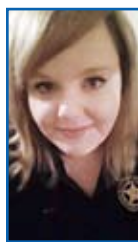
ECSO Communications Supervisor (Nights) Becky Rodgers was recognized as a nominee for Supervisor of the Year. Rodgers has served with ECSO since 1997 and holds Master Telecommunicator, Instructor and TCIC/NCIC Instructor certificates with TCOLE. She also serves as a Supervisor Terminal Agency Coordinator for ECSO.



Left to Right: Kelly Williams, North Central Texas Council of Governments; Ellis County Sheriff's Office Telecommunicators Jennifer Pitts, Becky Rodgers, Gloria Myers, Heidi Smith and Jeff Shepherd; and Ellis County Sheriff Johnny Brown.



Left to Right: Nancy Brinker, Caitlin McClelland and Nancy Songer.



Kristie Brewer

On December 19, 2014 at approximately 19:45 hours, Gregg County North Jail Facility Inmate Kristian Causey attempted to commit suicide in a medical cell by hanging himself with some ace bandages that had been around one of his legs.

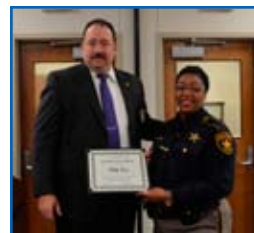
Working the control room that day were Jailers **Doug Williams** and **Mason Stith** who observed the activity going on in the med cell and immediately called for available officers to respond to the in progress attempted suicide.



Deputy **Jarrold Alexander**, along with Jailers **Demarcus Johnson** and **Michael Pierce** immediately responded to the med cell and were able to prevent the inmate from carrying out the suicide attempt by cutting the bandage away from the inmates neck and releasing the knot the inmate had made to carry out the suicide attempt.

Due to their quick response and actions taken by all, three the suicide attempt was prevented and the inmate did not sustain any major damage, or death, to himself.

LUBBOCK COUNTY



Ruby Doss was recognized for employee of the month for December.

Sheriff **Kelly Rowe** and the LCDC Captains welcomed the following new hires to the Lubbock County Sheriff's Office family after a long day of defensive tactics: **Tammy Smith, James Snow, Orlando Luna, Jonathan Rowser, Ashlie Glover, Brian Autry, Kasi Isbell.**





Roberto Garcia was recognized for employee of the month for January.

Assistant Chief **Kim Howell**, Sergeant **Whitney Clements**, Corporal **Nayda Santos**, Corporal **James Cruz** and Corporal **Daniel Mitton** attended the National Institute of Corrections Direct Supervision Training in Aurora, Colorado.



Tracy Hix is retiring from the LSO after a long career of 21 years; Tracy worked in the Patrol Division as a deputy, LCDC Logistics Division as a transport officer and inmate work programs officer. We wish Tracy well as he moves on to the next chapter in his life.

Ronald O'Neal was recognized for employee of the month for February.



Sheriff Kelly Rowe welcomes the new officer recruit class as they began their Direct Supervision training: **Trinity Flores, Gregory Coffman, Sarah Ellison, Tanner Jasper, Michael Bates, Rendy Drounette, Juan Garcia, Ryan Hernandez, Anthony Luna, Danny Tyler, Ricky Williams.**



Susan Ramer was recognized for employee of the month for March.

Sheriff Kelly Rowe welcomes the new support clerks to the LCDC family: **Shawn Holbert, Nancy Gonzalez, Jonathan Peel, Tasha Nealy.**



CHILDREN'S MIRACLE NETWORK CHANGE BANDIT CAMPAIGN

The LCDC staff came through once again when called upon to donate to a worthy cause, the Children's Miracle Network Change Bandit Campaign. Thank you to our dedicated staff who are always there to give to those in need.

A Shift	\$68.22
B Shift	\$400.24
C Shift	\$82.29
Logistics	\$26.00
Total:	\$576.75
Lubbock County Offices	\$429.29
Grand Total:	\$1006.04

ROBERTSON COUNTY

Sheriff Gerald Yezak is pleased to announce that Phil Sumner, jailer with the Robertson County Sheriff's Office, recently received the national designation of Certified Jail Officer (CJO) by the authority of the American Jail Association through the Jail Manager Certification Commission.

This certification is granted upon the successful completion of a background application, a series of 15 courses and an intensive three hour final examination jointly prepared by the American Jail Association and the Jail Manager Certification Commission. Certification in jail operations is a demonstration of competency and professionalism



in the field. It documents the mastery of a strong level of knowledge in the specialty and demonstrates continuing education and growth.

Mr. Sumner was born in Los Angeles, California and graduated from Carson High School in Carson City, Nevada. After a stint in the United States Navy, Phil earned an Associate Degree in Computer Network Administration from Blinn College. He began his career in the correctional profession as a county jailer with the Robertson County Sheriff's Office on June 25, 2007. Phil currently possesses Advanced Jailer Proficiency Certification with the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement. In addition to his State Jailer Certification Phil is also a Certified Telecommunications Operator. He currently resides in Bremond.

Sheriff Yezak applauds Mr. Sumner in acquiring his National Certification as this honor is not a requirement or option with the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement. He also supported Phil in his endeavor ever since Phil first discussed with Yezak his plans to obtain the Certified Jail Officer status. "What is also interesting," says Sheriff Yezak, "is that in the State of Texas there are currently only eight county jailers that are CJO's and Phil is one of them. That in itself is how Phil brings distinction not only to himself but also to Robertson County. With there being so few CJO's in Texas County jails, Phil's achievement is evidence of his dedication and determination to further himself in his chosen profession. Phil should feel a great sense of pride in this accomplishment."

TRAVIS COUNTY

The sport of Dragon Boat racing has been around for thousands of years and is rich with history and culture. On October 28, 2014 Travis County Sheriff's Department Corrections Field Training Officers were given the opportunity to learn about the sport and experience Dragon Boat racing first hand, while working on team building skills at the annual FTO luncheon. The luncheon, held at Festival Beach Park in Austin, Texas was an all-day event that began with a delicious breakfast cooked by the TCSO BBQ team. After breakfast and a short introduction to Dragon Boat racing, the FTO's divided up into four teams and got to work. Two teams hit the water in the Dragon Boats

while the other two teams engaged in activities geared towards teamwork and leadership skills. After each team had the opportunity to get acclimated to the boats and practice their new found skills, they competed in a 2000 meter preliminary race, determining who would race in the finals after lunch.



While everyone was trying to win on the water, it soon became clear that perhaps an even harder challenge was underway on the shore where the leadership games were taking place. Many leadership games were played by the groups, but one challenging game in particular stood out. The smaller FTO teams were assigned a blueprint design and given a stack of lumber with notches in it, and were tasked with putting the lumber together according to the blueprint. The catch: only one person could look at the blueprint at a time. This game challenged the teams and tested not only their leadership skills but their patience. It was interesting to see which leadership styles these individuals naturally gravitated toward when stress became an issue. In the end, the puzzles were solved and everyone was able to step back with a sense of accomplishment and perhaps a better understanding of themselves and their coworkers.



Later that afternoon, the teams hit the water for the final races and one team was announced as the victor. It seemed that everyone enjoyed the day (even if they may have been a bit sore the next day). Overall, the reviews were very positive. FTO Neil Reilly said: "The dragon boat was a perfect example of

how to accomplish goals as a team. Working together is more efficient than a group of individuals working at their own beat. It was a great learning experience for the field training officers to take back with them to their sections.”

The Travis County Sheriff’s Department takes great pride in educating and empowering their next generation of leaders. At the end of the day the training was just as much about mentoring our future leaders as it was about fellowship. Hopefully participants not only had fun rowing, playing games, and seeing old friends; but also have gained new skills in their tool box to utilize on their individual shifts. If you would like to learn more about the Travis County Dragon Boat team or the Travis County Sheriff’s Department Corrections FTO program please contact Captain Michael Gottner 512-854-9770.

WASHINGTON COUNTY

TEXAS SHERIFFS VISIT STATE CAPITOL

Washington County Sheriff, **Otto Hanak**, was one of more than 120 Sheriffs and other law enforcement officers from around the state that visited the 84th Legislature on Wednesday, February 18, 2015. The Sheriffs traveled from near and far in an effort to express their interest in what legislative actions are taken, show their support of lawmakers, and exhibit a strong unity among the Sheriffs of Texas.

The Legislative Committee and staff of the Sheriffs' Association of Texas coordinated this special event to facilitate the Sheriffs' involvement in the legislative process. Resolutions were passed in both the House and Senate recognizing the Sheriffs and the Sheriffs' Association of Texas. Sheriffs spent the remainder of the day meeting with their individual Senators and Representatives to discuss pending legislation and provide input on bills that affect the citizens of the State of Texas. The Sheriffs feel this contact is crucial to providing meaningful law enforcement in their counties.



Founded in 1874, the Sheriffs' Association of Texas is a non-profit professional and educational organization dedicated to the preservation of peace and the protection of the lives and property of the citizens of Texas. The Legislative Committee is appointed by the President of the Sheriffs' Association of Texas and is composed of Sheriffs from around the state. For more information on the Sheriffs' Association of Texas visit www.txsheriffs.org, or call 512.445.5888. Story and photo courtesy of Sheriffs' Association of Texas.

WICHITA COUNTY

There were many accolades handed out on March 6, 2015 at the Wichita County Sheriff’s Office. Congratulations to everyone!

PROMOTIONS

Sheriff **David Duke** promoted Deputy **Lee Crossman** to the rank of Corporal and Corporal **Carl Magee** to the rank of Sergeant. He also promoted Detention Officer **Ivan Galarza** to the rank of Corporal and Detention Corporal **Amanda Delgado** to the rank of Sergeant.



Left to Right, Sheriff David Duke, Corporal Lee Crossman, and Sergeant Carl Magee. (Corporal Ivan Galarza and Sergeant Amanda Delgado not pictured).

SHERIFF COMMENDATION

Sheriff **David Duke** presented a Sheriff Commendation to Deputy Brien Conner. Conner, who is assigned to the Community Services Unit as a Recruitment Deputy, was recognized for his success with setting up job fairs with local organizations and other recruitment events. He was also recognized for his success utilizing FaceBook and other social media.



Left to Right: Sheriff David Duke and Deputy Brien Conner.

Sheriff **David Duke** presented a Sheriff Commendation to Lieutenant **Ray Schultz**, Sergeant **Jerry Cox**, Corporal **Mark Whipple**, and Deputies **Victoria Hatcher** and **John Warner**. On February 3, 2015, the above deputies responded to a check welfare call on the side of US 287 near Electra, Texas.

Upon arrival they encountered an adult male who was acting erratically. As they tried to get him under control, he struggled and ran into the lanes of traffic. He was tased but continued to evade them. He was eventually placed in handcuffs and stopped breathing shortly thereafter. The above deputies attempted to revive the male until EMS arrived.



Left to Right: Sheriff David Duke, Deputy John Warner, Deputy Victoria Hatcher, Sergeant Jerry Cox, Corporal Mark Whipple, and Lieutenant Ray Schultz.

LIFE SAVING AWARD

Sheriff David Duke presented a Life Saving Award to Deputy **Ralph Burdick**. On January 01, 2015 he conducted a traffic stop on the Lloyd Ruby Overpass. The female driver exited the vehicle and attempted to jump off of the overpass. **Deputy Burdick** quickly grabbed her and pulled her to safety.



Left to Right: Sheriff David Duke and Deputy Ralph Burdick.

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

Sheriff **David Duke** presented Deputy **James Carpenter** with a Certificate of Merit for his help in assisting the Criminal Investigations Division identify and apprehend a suspect who was involved in numerous thefts in Wichita County.



Left to Right: Sheriff David Duke and Deputy James Carpenter.

Sheriff David Duke presented a Certificate of Merit to Detention Officer **Gary Whatley**. Whatley and his Inmate Work Crew have been responsible for moving furniture in and around the courthouse, as well as painting, refinishing desks, doors, and benches in the courthouse. They also constructed a wooden obstacle course for K9 training. Whatley was also recognized for his upcoming retirement on March 16, 2015. He was been employed with the Sheriff's Office since March 10, 2003.



Left to Right: Sheriff David Duke and Detention Officer Gary Whatley.

CERTIFICATE OF CIVIC ACHIEVEMENT

Sheriff David Duke presented a Certificate of Civic Achievement to Detention **Corporals Sean Bigham** and **Sammy Hankins** and **Detention Officer Joseph Cohen** for their participation in No Shave November. At the end of November, people donated money to vote on who had the best beard. \$250.00 was raised and given to a Wichita County employee who had a family member battling cancer. **Corporal Bigham** won 1st place, **Officer Cohen** won 2nd place, and **Corporal Hankins** placed 3rd.



Left to Right: Corporal Sean Bigham, Detention Officer Joseph Cohen, and Corporal Sammy Hankins.

SHERIFF'S BUSINESS AWARD

Sheriff David Duke presented a Sheriff's Business Award to **Reno Gustafson** (Falls Distributing Company) for his contribution of banners, signs, and water to the Sheriff's Office and for being a major sponsor of the Citizen's Academy Alumni Association.



Left to Right: Sheriff David Duke and Reno Gustafson.

K-9 BARS

Sheriff David Duke presented K-9 bars to **Deputies Chris Barnett** and **Gabriel Villarreal** who recently became K-9 Officers.



Left to Right: Sheriff David Duke, Deputy Gabriel Villarreal and Deputy Chris Barnett.



TEXAS JAIL ASSOCIATION

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2014-2015

Kim Howell, President

Lubbock County Sheriff's Office
P.O. Box 10535
Lubbock, TX 79408
Phone: (806) 549-8002
khowell@co.lubbock.tx.us

Shane Poole, 1st Vice President

Travis County Sheriff's Office
P.O. Box 1748
Austin, TX 78767
Phone: (512) 854-9770
shane.poole@co.travis.tx.us

Brent Phillips, 2nd Vice President

Polk County Sheriff's Office
1733 North Washington
Livingston, TX 77351
Phone: (936) 327-6822
dbrentphillips@hotmail.com

Todd Allen, 3rd Vice President

Tom Green County Sheriff's Office
122 W. Harris
San Angelo, TX 76903
Phone: (325) 659-6597
todd.allen@tomgreencountytx.gov

Steve Fisher, Immediate Past President

Walker County Sheriff's Office
751 FM 2821 West
Huntsville, TX 77320
Phone: (936) 435-2400
sfisher@co.walker.tx.us

Carla Stone, Treasurer

Kaufman County Sheriff's Office
P.O. Drawer 849
Kaufman, TX 75142
Phone: (972) 932-9736
chiefstone@kaufmancounty.net

Jennifer Matejcek, Secretary

Grimes County Sheriff's Office
382 FM 149 West
Anderson, TX 77830
Phone: (936) 873-6402
jmatejcek@co.grimes.tx.us

David Burrous, Director

Hardin County Sheriff's Office
P.O. Box 1990
Kountze, TX 77625
Phone: (409) 246-5246
david.burrous@co.hardin.tx.us

Larry D. Cook, Director

Chambers County Sheriff's Office
P.O. Box 998
Anahuac, TX 77514
Phone: (409) 267-8337
lcook@co.chambers.tx.us

Martin Gonzales, Director

Atascosa County Sheriff's Office
1108 Campbell Avenue
Jourdanton, TX 78026
Phone: (830) 769-3434
acso3434@aol.com

Byron Shelton, Director

Bell County Sheriff's Office
111 W. Central Ave.
Belton, TX 76513
Phone: (254) 933-5409
byron.shelton@co.bell.tx.us

Jennifer Stephens, Director

Kaufman County Sheriff's Office
P.O. Drawer 849
Kaufman, TX 75142
Phone: (972) 932-9737
sgtstephens@kaufmanso.com

Kevin Stuart, Director

Brazos County Sheriff's Office
1835 Sandy Point Road
Bryan, TX 77807
Phone: (979) 361-4846
kstuart@co.brazos.tx.us

AJ Bonner, Sergeant-At-Arms

Hale County Sheriff's Office
1900 South Columbia
Plainview, TX 79072
Phone: (806) 296-2724
lt@halecounty.org

Larry Gilbreath, Sheriffs Representative

Terry County Sheriff's Office
P. O. Box 1106
Brownfield, TX 79316
Phone: (806) 637-2212
tcsher@dntspeed.net

Tim Quintana, Vendor Representative

Southern Health Partners
P. O. Box 372
Campbell, TX 75422
Phone: (972) 658-0617
tim.quintana@shpjails.com

Kyle McNew, Vendor Representative

Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service
P.O. Box 40006
College Station, TX 77842
Phone: (979) 458-2762
kyle.mcnew@teex.tamu.edu

Stephen "Scott" Simonton, Chaplain

Palo Pinto County Sheriff's Office
P.O. Box 279
Palo Pinto, TX 76484
Phone: (940) 659-3593
deputysimonton@yahoo.com

Carmella Jones, Historian

Correctional Management Institute of Texas
Box 2296
Huntsville, TX 77341
Phone: (936) 294-1668
carmella@shsu.edu

Bill Bryan, Parliamentarian

Detain, Inc.
P.O. Box 1056
Belton, TX 76513
Phone: (254) 780-0288
wjb@vwm.com

Sharese Hurst, Executive Director

Correctional Management Institute of Texas
Box 2296
Huntsville, TX 77341
Phone: (936) 294-1687
Fax: (936) 294-1671
sharese@shsu.edu