



2025–2026 TJA BALLOT INFORMATION

CANDIDATES FOR 3RD VICE PRESIDENT ONE POSITION AVAILABLE



Erica Hernandez

Lieutenant, Hays County Sheriff's Office

Erica Hernandez has dedicated more than 25 years of service to Hays County. In May 2022, she was elected as Director for the Texas Jail Association, a role she proudly fulfills. Erica began her law enforcement career in Hays County as a corrections officer in February 2000. In February 2020, she was promoted to Lieutenant of the Hays County Sheriff's Office Corrections Bureau.

Throughout her tenure, Erica has held various positions, including corrections officer, shift corporal, support services corporal, shift sergeant, administrative sergeant, lieutenant of jail operations, and lieutenant of support services. She currently oversees the jail operations division.

Erica holds several certifications, including a Texas Commission Peace Officer License, a Master Jailer's License, Certified Field Training Officer, Background Investigator certification, and Jail Administrator certification. In 2020, she was honored with the Regional Law Enforcement Academy Director's Award. Erica graduated from the National Jail Leadership Command Academy (NJLCA) in 2023.

CANDIDATES FOR DIRECTOR TWO POSITIONS AVAILABLE



Steve Buntyn

Lieutenant, Harris County Sheriff's Office

Steve Buntyn is a Detention Lieutenant at the Harris County Sheriff's Office (HCSO). He holds a Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (TCOLE) Master Jailer license and is a TCOLE Instructor. He has served as a supervisor in the jail for sixteen years. He has worked in the field of corrections for over twenty-seven years serving in many areas of jail operations.

Detention Lieutenant Buntyn has worked in housing, classification, laundry, inmate disciplinary, grievance, training as well as many administrative areas. He has worked closely with the Texas Commission on Jail Standards as the liaison during the HCSO annual jail inspections for many years.

Detention Lieutenant Buntyn has a diverse background in the operation of jails and is a graduate of the National Jail Leadership Command Academy, Class #13. He is also a life member of the Texas Jail Association.



Sheleana Davis

Assistant Jail Administrator, Robertson County Sheriff's Office

Sheleana Davis began her career in county corrections in 2009 with the Brazos County Sheriff's Office. She later worked in education in both Hearne and Bryan School Districts. For the last three years, Sheleana has worked as the Assistant Jail Administrator for the Robertson County Sheriff's Office in Franklin, Texas.

She received her Bachelor of Science degree from Sam Houston State University and a Master of Public Administration from the University of Phoenix with honors. Sheleana holds a Master Jailers License and graduated from the Correctional Management Institute of Texas (CMIT) Mid-Management: Leadership for Corrections Professionals course. She is also a graduate of the CMIT Jail Administration Management and Operations training. Sheleana recently graduated from the National Jail Leadership Command Academy, Class #49 and was elected Class President. Additionally, she serves as a Director on the TJA Board, as well as serving on the TJA Training Committee.



Adam Guerrero

Lieutenant, Wilson County Sheriff's Office

Adam Guerrero has dedicated 13 years to the field of corrections, demonstrating a strong commitment to professional development and leadership.

He holds an Advanced Jailer Proficiency certification and serves as a Jail Mental Health Officer Master Trainer. Additionally, he has completed the Basic Instructor Course and is instrumental in launching the Field Training Program for the Wilson County Sheriff's Office Jail Division.

Passionate about mentorship, Adam is also working on implementing a Peer-to-Peer Support Program to enhance officer well-being. His mission is to train today's officers to become tomorrow's leaders, ensuring the future of corrections is guided by knowledge, integrity, and resilience.



Emily Lopez

Jail Administrator, Ward County Sheriff's Office

Emily Lopez was born, raised and resides in Ward County. Emily is a family-oriented person who loves spending time and making memories with her children and family.

Emily has served Ward County Sheriff's Office for over 15 years beginning as a jailer and correctional LVN in 2009. Emily holds a Master Jailer License, Jail Administrator Certification, Jail Mental Health Officer Certification, TCOLE Basic Instructor and has been a Licensed Vocational Nurse in the State of Texas and surrounding compact states since 2007. Emily has filled many positions within the jail as a jailer, correctional LVN, jail mental health officer, assistant jail administrator, and for the past 5 years as the jail administrator.

Emily Lopez is dedicated and committed to furthering her education in corrections, as well as advancing and being an advocate for the corrections profession as a Board of Director for the Texas Jail Association.



Justin Marinari

Lieutenant, Brazos County Sheriff's Office

Justin Marinari has worked for the Brazos County Sheriff's Office for 13 years. He is currently a Lieutenant of the Special Services Division that includes Intake/Release and Custodian of Records. He also has experience working in many different areas of corrections to include training, basic county corrections instruction, jail floor operations, policy/procedure development, transport, and other administrative duties.

Justin holds a Master Jailer License and Master Peace Officer License. He is a graduate of the National Jail Leadership Command Academy, Class #35 and the FBI-LEEDA Leadership Institute Trilogy. He also obtained the Certified Jail Officer and Certified Jail Manager Certification through the American Jail Association.

Justin's formal education includes earning a master's degree in criminal justice leadership and management from Sam Houston State University.

Justin was recently blessed to have the opportunity to attend the FBI National Academy Session 293 earning a Graduate Certificate in Criminal Justice Education.



Levi Vance

Operations Lieutenant, Tom Green County Sheriff's Office

Levi Vance has been employed with Tom Green County for over 18 years. He served as Shift Sergeant for five years and was promoted to Operations Lieutenant in August 2019. He carries an Advanced Jailer, Basic Peace Officer, and a Basic Instructor License.

Levi attended the CMIT Mid-Level Management course, and he is an instructor for the Basic County Corrections Course. Levi has been an active member of the Special Operation Response Team since 2016 and the Commander since February 2018.

Levi has been an active member of the Texas Jail Association for over 15 years, serving the membership for over five years. He was appointed the secretary in 2019 and was elected to the Board of Directors in 2020. He has served as the Technology Chair and the Entertainment Chair for the TJA Board. He is also active in his community serving the local Little Leagues in the area.



2025–2026 **ELECTIONS** **WILL OPEN SOON!**

**The 2025–2026 Electronic Ballot will open March 31, 2025
and will close April 30, 2025 at 4:30pm CST.**

A Voting PIN will be required to cast your vote. This unique number will be emailed to eligible voters soon. This number will also be printed on the nametags of eligible voters.

**In order to be eligible to vote, members must have a
current TJA Membership as of the morning of March 15, 2025.**