



40TH ANNUAL TJA CONFERENCE

MAY 4–MAY 8, 2026 | SAN MARCOS, TX

Monday, May 4

7:30am Registration for Participants

8:30–9:15am **OPENING CEREMONY**

Veramendi

Presentation of Colors

Travis County Sheriff's Office - Honor Guard

National Anthem

Maria Edwards

Welcoming Remarks

Frances Dembowski, Sharese Hurst, Sheriff Anthony Hipolito, Ricky Armstrong

9:15–9:30am **Election Information and Introduction of Candidates**

Veramendi

9:30–9:45am Break

9:45–11:30am **KEYNOTE SESSION**

Veramendi

A Plot Against the Downtown Detention Center

Sheriff Daron Hall, Brian Beazley, Cory Witkus,
and Thomas Conrad

11:30am–1:00pm Lunch (On Your Own)

1:00pm **Jerry Baggs Annual Golf Tournament**

Kissing Tree Golf Course

1:00–5:00pm **BREAKOUT SESSIONS** (choose one)

I The Basics

Texas Commission on Jail Standards

Spring Lake AB

II Legislative Update

Greg Whitley

Spring Lake C

III Below 100

Kenny Lemons

San Marcos River

IV Interacting with Veterans in a Jail Setting (TCOLE 4902)

Melvin Bowser

Chautauqua

5:00–7:00pm **Annual Jack Crump Scholarship Fundraiser Bar-b-que**

Veranda

\$10 per person to be collected at the event

Tuesday, May 5

7:00–11:30am Exhibitor Set-up

Veramendi

8:00–9:30am **BREAKOUT SESSIONS** (choose one)

**I Just Tell Me What You Want to Eat!
How Assertiveness Affects Your Wellbeing**
Melvin Bowser

Spring Lake A

II Integrity 101
Jason Davis

Spring Lake B

III Hot Topics
Texas Commission on Jail Standards

Spring Lake C

**IV Corrections Tactical Teams -
Risk and Liability Management**
Dionisio Dorado & Shawn Garcia

San Marcos River

V Fighting Fentanyl - The Noah Rodriguez Story
Mark Andrews & Janel Rodriguez

Chautauqua

9:30–10:00am Break

10:00–11:30am **BREAKOUT SESSIONS** (choose one)

I Finding Your Voice
Ricky Armstrong

Spring Lake A

II Staying Out of the Jail You Work In: Let's Talk Liabilities
Aimee Crockett

Spring Lake B

**III Why a Trauma Informed Culture Change
is Key to Staff Wellness**
Karen Ranus

Spring Lake C

IV Recruitment and Retention
Rowdee Edwards & Johnny Jaquess

San Marcos River

V Road To Retirement
Cynthia Gonzales

Chautauqua

11:30am–1:00pm Exhibit Hall Opens - Lunch and Fellowship for Participants

Veramendi

11:30am–5:00pm **Annual Blood Drive**
sponsored by Southern Health Partners

Parking Lot

1:00–2:30pm **BREAKOUT SESSIONS** (repeat from 8:00am)

2:30–3:00pm Break - Visit with Exhibitors

Veramendi

3:00–4:30pm **BREAKOUT SESSIONS** (repeat from 10:00am)

Wednesday, May 6

8:00–9:30am **BREAKOUT SESSIONS** (choose one)

I The Power of the Rubber Chicken

Jess Christensen

Spring Lake A

II Peer Support

Tamara Spencer

Spring Lake B

III Don't Be That Guy: Redux

Ray Scifres

Spring Lake C

**IV Emotional Intelligence:
Know Thy Self, Know Thy Co-Worker**

Heath Crossland

San Marcos River

9:00am–5:00pm **Jail Standards Showdown**

Hosted by the Texas Commission on Jail Standards

Chautauqua

9:30am–2:00pm Exhibit Showroom Open

Veramendi

9:30–10:00am Break - Visit with Exhibitors

Veramendi

10:00–11:30am **BREAKOUT SESSIONS** (continued from 8:00am)

11:30am–1:00pm Lunch in the Exhibit Hall

1:00–2:30pm **BREAKOUT SESSIONS** (repeat from 8:00am)

2:30–3:00pm Break

Foyer

3:00–4:30pm **BREAKOUT SESSIONS** (continued from 1:00pm)

Thursday, May 7

7:00–8:00am **Prayer Breakfast**

Veramendi

8:00am **Jail Administrator Photo**

Veranda

8:15am **Sheriff's Photo**

Veranda

8:30–10:00am **BREAKOUT SESSIONS** (choose one)

**I The Culture We Create: How Organizational
Psychology Shapes Correctional Behavior**

Marcy Calnan

Spring Lake A

II Suicide Prevention

Tamara Spencer

Spring Lake B

Thursday, May 7 continued

- III The Edge: Combating Complacency in Corrections** *Spring Lake C*
Melvin Bowser & Sarah Bigham
- IV Corrections K9 - Start to Finish** *San Marcos River*
Charles Lenhard & Jeremy Landen
- V Report Writing** *Chautauqua*
Jason Davis & Jess Christensen

10:00–10:30am Break *Foyer*

10:30–12:00pm **BREAKOUT SESSIONS** (choose one)

- I Building Hope Behind Small Walls: Programming in Rural Jails** *Spring Lake A*
Marcy Calnan & Robert Whitfield
- II Complicance** *Spring Lake B*
Jennifer Segura
- III Motivating Your Employees From Tip-Off to the Final Buzzer** *Spring Lake C*
Alan Johnston
- IV Jail Based Competency Restoration** *San Marcos River*
John Shoemaker, Jennifer Brashear, & Keisha Morris
- V Trauma Medical Care** *Chautauqua*
Jessica Medrano

12:00–1:30pm Lunch (On Your Own)

1:30–3:00pm **BREAKOUT SESSIONS** (repeat from 8:30am)

3:00–3:30pm Break

3:30–5:00pm **BREAKOUT SESSIONS** (repeat from 10:30am)

7:00pm–12:00am **Dinner and Casino Night** *Veramendi*

Friday, May 8

8:00–11:30am **Gangs and Social Media: CSTIU Gang Identification** *Veramendi*
Noe Enciso & Antolin Torres