THE TEXAS JAIL ASSOCIATION KEY ISSUES

Vol XXII, No. 2 Spring 2018



Spring 2018 Edition

Message From The President



Hello TJA members,

As my term as TJA President comes to a close, I would like to take a minute to thank each of you for your support for the Texas Jail Association. It has been a challenging year to say the least. Hurricane Harvey and the devastation left in the aftermath impacted the Gulf Coast region and will continue to have an impact for quite some time. The decision to cancel the JMI Conference, while a difficult one, was the right one. You supported the TJA Board in the decision and eased our minds.

The passing of Past President **Brent Phillips** was certainly a huge blow to TJA and the field of corrections. Brent was a mentor and friend to many and was certainly a rock that we all leaned on for advice and support. I will miss watching him walk (almost a jog to

me!) briskly around the conference, making a point to say hello to everyone.

One of Brent's goals was to increase the regional training being offered to the membership. Thanks to **Mary Farley**, **Carmella Jones**, and the hosting agencies, I believe we have accomplished that goal. While I don't have the final numbers at this time, I can assure you there was an abundance of training completed around the state.

As we prepare for the 32nd Annual Conference, I encourage everyone to attend. The conference is being held at the Renaissance Hotel in Austin, May 14-18, 2018. You will be exposed to top notch training put on by some of the best instructors available. Thank you to **Kevin Stuart** and the training committee for the work put in to continue to make this one of the best training conferences around. If you haven't already, you need to get registered and make your reservations now. Time is ticking away.

As this year closes, I will hand the gavel over to the very capable **Martin Gonzales**. I have no doubt he will continue the excellence of the Texas Jail Association, as I hope I have done. I will continue to be involved in TJA even after the gavel passes and I become Immediate Past President, and eventually a guy that was president a long time ago. Thank you for your support during this year and for your continued support of the Texas Jail Association. See you in Austin!

Todd Allen

TJA President 2017-2018





KEY ISSUES DEADLINES

June 1, 2018 for July 2018 Publication

September 1, 2018 for October 2018 Publication

December 1, 2018 for January 2019 Publication

March 1, 2019 for April 2019 Publication

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May 16th | 2:30pm - 5:30pm

Blood Bus will be located outside during the TJA 32nd Annual Conference. All Donors are entered in a drawing for a \$100 Gift Card.



Membership Report

I would like to thank the committee members who have dedicated their time and efforts in helping our association grow over the past year and in writing our new "member spotlight" articles.

Becky Caffey, Board Member, Brown County

Debby Alaniz, Member at Large, Hale County

Terry McCraw, Member at Large, Collin County

Our current membership is as follows:

Professional: 1,675

Associate: 33 Affiliate: 17 Business: 19

Our May conference is just around the corner and I look forward to seeing everyone there. With your help, I hope to report an even higher membership number at our annual business meeting. Safe travels.

Dan Corbin

3rd Vice President Membership Committee Chair

Training Report

Greetings TJA Members! I hope you all had a wonderful holiday season. We are looking forward to another year of great training. The Training Committee met to finalize the lineup for the 32^{nd} Annual Conference. A lot of thought and preparation is being done to ensure we are providing the training you want and to cover all of the latest legislative changes. Everyone has done a great job and I really think this upcoming conference will be a great experience for all. Registration for the 32^{nd} Annual Conference is open now!

Please don't forget TJA's Regional Trainings. These trainings have been very well received so make sure you take advantage of the opportunity. Watch your email for 2018 dates and locations.

Training is at the core of the Texas Jail Association's mission. Please take advantage of all that we have to offer, and please give us your feedback so we are offering relevant and needed training. All training opportunities can be found on our website at www.texasjailassociation.com. We look forward to seeing you in Austin!

Kevin Stuart

Brazos County Sheriff's Office TJA 2nd Vice President <u>kstuart@brazoscountytx.gov</u> 979-361-4846

Texas Commission

On

Jail Standards

presents:





• Two person teams

- Double elimination tournament
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Date: Wednesday, May 16th from 9:00am-4:30pm

Register onsite at the 32nd Annual Texas Jail Association Conference at the Renaissance Austin Hotel, May 14-18, 2018

TJA REGIONALS De-escalation in the Jail

By Carmella Jones

The core value of the Texas Jail Association is training. The two conferences, hosted in May and September, are focused on providing relevant training to TJA members. President Phillips wanted to take the training out of the conference locations and reach the officers that could not attend these annual training events. This was his priority before his terminal illness diagnosis, then it became his mission. Now it has become a legacy.

These new regionals, envisioned by Brent Phillips, are solely developed by TJA without a co-sponsor. The curriculum is formed, developed and decided by the board. The Texas Jail Association provides funding for this independent training.

De-escalation regionals have been a huge success. Our goal and promise to our late Past President and regional training visionary, **Brent Phillips**, was to teach 1,000 attendees per year. Brent was influential in the planning of last year's Rights and Wrongs of Mental Health regionals conducted across the state. Sadly, the final numbers fell short of one thousand.

The response to the De-escalation for Jails training has been overwhelming. The support from the TJA board and general membership has been gratifying and rewarding. To those of us who have made this idea become reality, and by this, I mean everyone who attended the De-escalation in Jails training class, everyone involved in the planning, hosting, instruction, paperwork, promotion, training credit, and crisis management, should be uplifted and pleased to be a part of this astounding project, and most of all, to have accomplished so much toward the mission and purpose of the Texas Jail Association. There is a special thank you all on behalf of our Past President Brent Phillips. He would be humbled and honored by this massive response of his wish to take training to those who need and want it. Thank you.

























Update on McLennan County Jail Reintegration Program

By: Ricky Armstrong - Jail Administrator McLennan County Sheriff's Office



One year ago, I published an article about our Reintegration Program that piloted in November of 2016. The program started in the trusty wing with two interns and a full-time Program Specialist. Since then, the program has grown. We now offer the Reintegration Program to approximately 480 inmates in three different wings.

The program could not be possible without the help of the following area collegiate internships: Master's level students from the University of Texas – Arlington, Baylor School of Social Work, and Tarleton State University School of Social Work; a Bachelor's level student Tarleton State University School of Social Work; and a Licensed

Chemical Dependency Counselor practicum student from McLennan County College Mental Health/Substance Abuse Program by hosting a LCDC practicum student.

All of our inmates have the opportunity to apply for the program. Each individual must complete an application process that includes a short essay as to why they want to be in the program. Once accepted into the program, the individual will participate in different activities to include Alcoholic Anonymous classes, Narcotic Anonymous classes, life skills meetings, and group meetings.

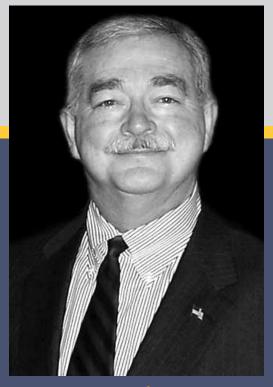
We currently have 22 inmates participating in the program and 122 on the waiting list to join. We have helped 192 people since November with a recidivism rate of only 6 inmates.

I believe the success of our program is greatly due to the fact it is not a cookie cutter program. We work with each individual to see what his or her needs are.

The interns individually focus on each inmate for needs such as housing, employment, transportation, mentorship, peer support, etc. They work to present a plan for the individual when they are released so they may become a productive citizen of our county upon release.

The second part of the success is based on the community-based program. The inmate has the opportunity upon release to continue classes and programs and transition into the community-based program with others in the community that are looking for help or were previously incarcerated.

The number 22 may seem like a small amount when you hold an average daily population of 1154. My theory is if we help at least one individual become a productive citizen, we have actually helped not only the individual, but our community as well.



Speaker **Bill Brown**

You won't want to miss TJA's 2018 Annual

Prayer Breakfast

Thursday Morning May 17, 7am - 8am

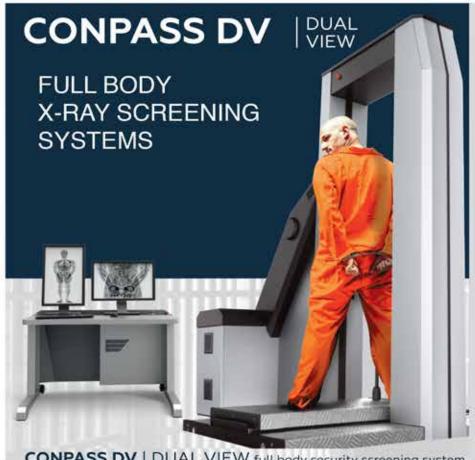
Bill Brown is the recently retired Northeast Regional Executive for Arkansas Blue Cross Blue Shield, with 29 years of service. He has performed mission trips to Lebanon, Iraq and Afghanistan—some of the very countes in which he once protected the freedom of America. Bill served during times of war and peace in seven countries during his 21 years of military service.

He has been a martial arts instructor for many years teaching Ryu Kyu Shaolin Shakai Karate and Kobudo. Bill is very active in the Central Baptist Church. He is very involved in mentoring young men and has a particular passion for the young men and women who have recently returned from Iraq, Afghanistan and other contested areas. Bill is working with individuals from this group who struggle with PTSD and/or finding their way back into society. He tries very hard to help them 'get to the other side'.

Bill and his wife Cindy reside in Jonesboro, Arkansas where they are active in many other social projects.



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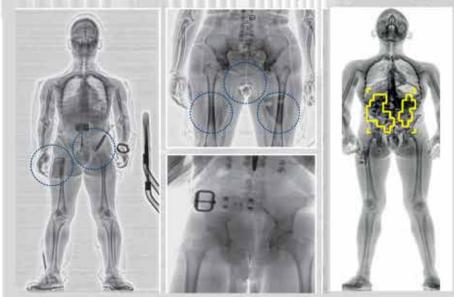


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10 *Sears Ago in*Texas Jail Association



The year was 2008. There was lots of financial news in the world as stock markets plunged around the world. **Carla Stone** was Texas Jail Association President, **Danny Downes** was TJA Past President, and **Robert Green** was incoming President. At the annual awards banquet, TJA honored the wife and family of TJA Founder **Jerry Baggs** who passed away in October 2007. **Bob Patterson** was recognized as the recipient of the 2nd Jerry Baggs Leadership Award. The Texas Commission on Jail Standards and the Texas Association of Counties received the Presidential Award for all of their support of the Texas Jail Association. **Carmella Jones** was named into the Hall of Fame. TJA's membership was continuing to grow and totaled 1024 in the spring of 2008.



















The Chaplain's Corner Major Larry Don Cook



Major Larry Don Cook Waller County Sheriff's Office TJA Chaplain

Hello friends and colleagues, I hope this issue of our magazine finds you all warming up, drying out, and ready for spring. We've had a winter filled with rain, snow, sleet, and freezing temperatures. I know we're all ready for a change in our life, from dreariness and darkness to warmth and sunshine!

We can relate this to our spiritual life as well. We all have faced those times where we experience that dreariness and darkness in our personal life; it seems like it's always raining on our parade! Nothing goes right, it seems like it is one disaster after another, and we can't catch a break. We feel beat down, trampled on, and used up, and we feel we can't make it another day. We feel all alone.......Faith my friends, FAITH, will deliver you from this. We're not alone. Far from it, for God sees our trials and tribulations, every single one of them. And He is THERE! We have FAITH the rain and cold will go away. It WILL warm up and sunshine will prevail. FAITH.

I know from my own personal experiences that God is never far away from us. In my career spanning over three decades, there have been numerous times that I could have been killed or seriously injured, but wasn't. It wasn't anything I did, it was God's Loving Arms wrapped around me, protecting me from harm. God has protected me from Satan so many times I quit trying to count them. If you worked in any Texas prison, you walked among demons daily; Satan's minions were all around you. I have stared into a cell on Texas' Death Row and knew I was staring Satan in the face. Evil permeated the air. It was palpable. Yet every time I experienced this, I felt God's presence, his Hands on me, protecting me from danger and evil. My FAITH in Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior allowed me to have no fear. In the 23rd Psalms, David writes, "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of Death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me." I remembered that particular verse and my FAITH that God was with me, He was protecting me, and I was safe because MY God would not let harm come to me; MY God had bigger plans for me.

Many people will dispute faith, and denounce "blind faith" as being like sheep. We ARE God's sheep, His flock, His children, and our faith tells us He would never desert or abandon His children. Even when Moses and his people wandered in the wilderness for forty years, He was there with them.

If you don't know Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior, and believe that He gave His life on that cross on Calvary so that you may have everlasting life, I urge you to take some time and think about that. People will argue endlessly that Heaven doesn't exist, and there is no God. My question to them is, "you sure you want to bet your salvation on that? You sure you want to bank where you spend Eternity on that?" Not me, for I have FAITH that God sent his only son to die for me.

"Lord, we ask that you look over us, protect us, and guide us, so we may live our lives in a manner that brings honor and glory to you. Bless us and protect us as we go about our daily duties, protecting your flocks from those who would do harm to them. Watch over us and keep us safe, and keep our loved ones safe as well. Wrap Your Loving Arms around those hurting, heal the sick and injured, and most of all, help those who are non-believers to see your Glory and Grace, feel the warmth of Your love, and help them come to know Your Son Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior, so they may dwell in Your House forever, amen."

If any of you would like to talk, I'm there for you. God bless all of you, and see you in May!

INEQUITIES IN PREDATORY PRACTICES AND CASH REGISTER JUSTICE

Dan Richard Beto

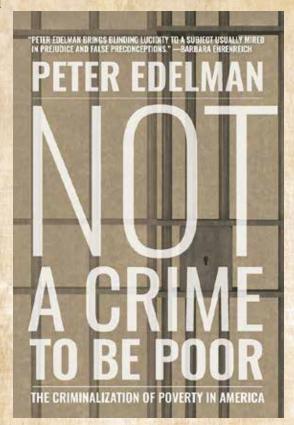
Review of Not a Crime to be Poor: The Criminalization of Poverty in America, by Peter Edelman. New York: The New Press, 2017, 293 pp., \$26.95 (hardback).

According to an impressive biographical sketch appearing on the Georgetown University Law Center's website, Peter Edelman, the author of *Not a Crime to be Poor: The Criminalization of Poverty in America*, is the Carmack Waterhouse Professor of Law and Public Policy and the Faculty Director of the Center on Poverty and Inequality. Professor Edelman, who earned a bachelor's degree and an LL.B. degree from Harvard, has been on the faculty of Georgetown Law since 1982. Early during the Clinton administration he was Counselor to Donna Shalala, Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services, and later was Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation. Other commendable work experience includes serving as Director of the New York State Division for Youth and Vice President of the University of Massachusetts. In addition, he was a Legislative Assistant to

Senator Robert F. Kennedy and was Issues Director for the 1980 presidential campaign of Senator Edward M. Kennedy. Earlier in his career he was a Law Clerk for Judge Henry J. Friendly of the U. S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit and later for Supreme Court Justice Arthur J. Goldberg. He was also employed by the U. S. Department of Justice as Special Assistant to Assistant Attorney General John Douglas. Professor Edelman has made significant contribution to the literature on a variety of social and legal issues, including his earlier book *So Rich, So Poor: Why It's So Hard to End Poverty in America*.

In the introduction of *Not a Crime to be Poor*, Professor Edelman sets the tone of the book when he writes about abusive practices in our criminal justice system and their impact on those struggling to eke out an existence as follows:

Beyond mass incarceration, beginning in the 1990s we adopted a new set of criminal justice strategies that further punished poor people for their poverty. Low-income people are arrested for minor violations that are only annoyances for people with means but are disastrous for the poor and near poor because of the high fines and fees we now almost routinely impose. Poor people are held in jail to await trial when they cannot afford bail, fined excessive amounts, and hit with continuously mounting costs and fees. Failure to pay begets more jail time, more debts from accumulated interest charges, additional fines and fees, and, in a common penalty with significant consequences for



those living below or near the poverty line, repeated driver's license suspensions. Poor people lose their liberty and often lose their jobs, are frequently barred from a host of public benefits, may lose custody of their children, and may even lose their right to vote. . . . Many debtors will carry debts to their deaths, often hounded by bill collectors and new prosecutions.

The book is divided into two parts. In the first part, entitled "The Criminalization of Poverty" and consisting of eight chapters, the author describes practices akin to a "system of modern peonage" and "cash register justice."

In the book's first chapter – "Ferguson Is Everywhere: Twenty-First-Century Debtors' Prisons" – Professor Edelman provides an overview of how offenders – mostly minor offenders and African American – are financially exploited by criminal justice

systems throughout the United States that exist by extracting limited financial resources from those who can least afford it. The second chapter – "Fighting Back: The Advocates and Their Work" – provides examples of attempts to combat and reform abusive practices, such as delayed initial appearances, outrageously excessive fines and fees, reliance on predatory private probation companies, suspension of driver's licenses for failure to pay court imposed assessments, and oppressively high bail requirements. Continuing on the bail theme, chapter three is devoted to cash bail requirements and the need for reform, which we are now witnessing in a number of jurisdictions.

"The Criminalization of Mental Illness" is the focus of the fourth chapter, in which the author describes the abuse of the mentally ill and the chemically dependent in the criminal justice system and the need for reform, moving them from a punitive system to one where treatment is emphasized. Professor Edelman recognizes the difficulties in institutionalizing reform and creating a fundamental change in the system's culture when he writes:

There is no magic way to accomplish either prison reform or improvement in services for the mentally ill or treatment for those with addictions (often the same people). What gets fixed often gets unfixed after a while. In some states, a governor or legislative leader or even a progressive corrections commissioner will lead the way to change, but governors and legislators and commissioners come and go. Outsiders – lawyers, other advocates, and journalists – are more often the catalyst for change and must be the force for keeping it, once achieved. But it must be noted that, all along, there are caring and courageous mental health professionals who stay at it day after day and press for change whenever they can get a hearing.

In the fifth chapter – "Child Support: Criminalizing Poor Fathers" – Professor Edelman examines the criminal justice system's efforts to collect child support from mostly indigent fathers. "Criminalizing Public Benefits" is the title of next chapter, in which is described how eligibility of certain benefits for the needy – welfare, unemployment insurance, housing, employment, and education and training – are withheld from persons in the criminal justice system. Chapter seven – "Poverty, Race, and Discipline in Schools: Go Directly to Jail" – provides an overview of practices in certain American schools that promote the "school-to-prison pipeline," such as sending misbehaving children to adult courts and criminalizing truancy. In this chapter the author cites Texas and Georgia for their reform efforts in this area.

Chapter eight is devoted to such topics as crime-free housing ordinances, government efforts at deterring desegregation, and the criminalization of homelessness, described by former Attorney General Eric Holder as "costly, unjust, and not a solution to homelessness." Professor Edelman concludes this chapter with the following words of caution:

After eight years of strong support from Washington, we have a man running the Department of Housing and Urban Development, Ben Carson, who knows absolutely nothing about the importance of the agency he heads. The challenge for the cities that are pushing ahead to create more housing and decriminalize homelessness is to sustain their momentum until a better day. We shall see.

Found in the two chapters in the book's second part – "Ending Poverty" – is Professor Edelman's vision for reform.

The author begins Chapter nine – "Taking Criminal Justice Reform Seriously" – with the following observation:

Mass incarceration was and still is about race, but it is also about poverty, and especially race and poverty combined. The people locked up have always been disproportionately poor and of color, and for the most part their incarceration has ensured that they would stay poor for the rest of their lives.

This chapter provides a brief history of America's failed experiment with mass incarceration and describes efforts in some jurisdictions to ease the plight of those with criminal records, such as expungement and decarceration. Highlighted in this chapter are the work of individuals in Pennsylvania, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, and California to bring about positive change in their jurisdictions.

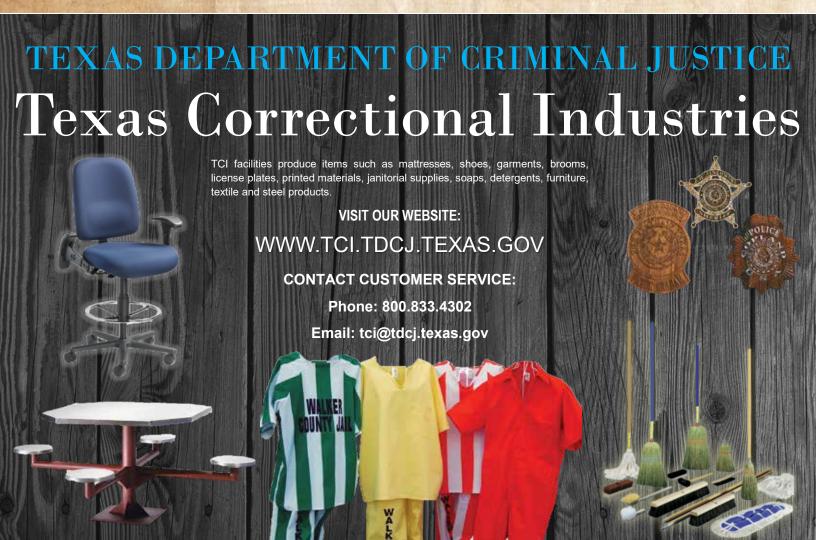
In the final chapter – "Turning the Coin Over: Ending Poverty as We Know It" – Professor Edelman offers his ambitiously hopeful thoughts on what must be done to bring about an end to poverty and to stem the tide of mass incarceration:

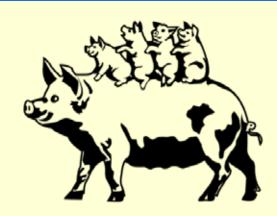
We have to turn the coin over and provide prenatal care for all, child development for all children, first-class education for all, decent jobs and effective work supports, affordable housing, health and mental health, lawyers as needed, safe neighborhoods, on violence on the streets or at home, healthy communities, economic, social, racial and gender justice, and justice rather than charity. One can add to the list and elaborate the items mentioned. We want all of this for many reasons, among them that it will reduce the number of people who get locked up.

A number of initiatives throughout the United States that are making some progress in instituting much needed reform are identified in this final chapter.

In Not a Crime to be Poor: The Criminalization of Poverty in America, Peter Edelman has placed a clear and critical eye on our criminal justice system, and has found it to be severely wanting. This is an excellent book and an easy read, for which the author is to be commended. Unfortunately, considering the fractious climate and childish behavior currently found in Washington, it is doubtful that meaningful reforms will find support or a champion in the federal government. If reform is to be achieved, it will come from those few leaders at the local level and then replicated elsewhere.

Dan Richard Beto, a life member of the Texas Jail Association, spent more than four decades in the criminal justice system. He is a past President of the Texas Probation Association and the National Association of Probation Executives, and was the founding Executive Director of the Correctional Management Institute of Texas at Sam Houston State University.





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2018 BYLAWS CHANGE PROPOSAL

TJA BYLAWS — 2018 PROPOSAL AND DISCUSSION

Upon recommendation of the By-Laws Committee: the Texas Jail Association Board of Directors unanimously approved the following changes and hereby present same to the membership for approval.

A. Professional

Personnel working at or in support of a Texas county jail as defined by the Texas Commission on Jail Standards. Professional membership in the association shall consist of sworn, certified, and civilian staff actively employed with any Texas city or county detention facility or lock-up. Professional members would also include retired officers and civilian staff who previously maintained eligibility as a Professional member.

B. Associate

Active or retired law enforcement personnel, including federal, state, and local entities working with or in support of Texas county or city jails. For persons including members of the general public, Government Offices of the State of Texas, organizations who support the mission and goals of Texas Jails, the Texas Jail Association, and who promote the professional advancement in the field of detention services. Associate Members include out of state members.

C. Affiliate

A person interested in the operation and administration of jails as approved by the by the Texas Jail Association.

C. D. Business (Non-Voting)

Any business desiring to show support of the Texas Jail Association's efforts and goals.

D. E. Lifetime

- a. Past Presidents of the Texas Jail Association, those individuals elected to the Association's Hall of Fame, and other honorees as approved by the board.
- b. Any Professional member who has elected to purchase a membership equivalent to ten (10) years of the annual dues based on the current fee schedule in one lump sum.

Strikethrough = removal Underline = new proposed wording



2018-2019 TJA ELECTION NOMINEES

3RD VICE PRESIDENT NOMINEE



Ricky ArmstrongCaptain/Jail Administrator, McLennan County Sheriff's Office

Ricky Armstrong has over 27 years' experience in the field of corrections. He became the McLennan County Jail Administrator in 2015 and is responsible for all aspects of operations, including but not limited to security, classifications and healthcare of inmates.

Ricky holds his Jailer and Peace Officer Master Certifications. He is a charter member of the McLennan County Behavior Health Leadership Team and also sits on the board of McLennan County Reintegration. Ricky has served on the Texas Jail Association Board as a Director for the last two years. He recently received Cenikor Foundation's Community Leader of the Year 2017 award in the Waco area. Ricky is a graduate of the National Jail Command Leadership Academy,

DIRECTOR NOMINEES



Frances Dembowski *Lieutenant, Travis County Sheriff's Office*

Frances Dembowski has been employed with the Travis County Sheriff's Office for over 17 years. She currently holds the rank of Lieutenant. Frances is dual certified and has obtained her Master Jailer and Master Peace Officer Licenses. She has experience working numerous assignments within the jail and courthouse security.

Frances is a graduate of the Department of Public Safety's Fitness Institute and is certified as a law enforcement fitness specialist. In addition to various professional development training, Frances has an Associate's Degree in Criminal Justice. Frances has served as a Texas Jail Association board

member for the last two years and is currently the TJA Secretary.



Cody Greinke Corporal, Guadalupe County Sheriff's Office

Cody Greinke has been with Guadalupe County Jail for nine years. He was promoted to Corporal, acquired his Advanced Jailer License, became a certified Mental Health Officer and a CPR instructor. In addition, Cody has been a leader of the Special Emergency Response Team for six years. Prior to being promoted to Corporal, he was a Gang Investigator.



2018-2019 TJA ELECTION NOMINEES



Eric HensleySergeant, Montgomery County Sheriff's Office

Eric Hensley was appointed to the Board of Directors in 2017 and has served on the TJA Training Committee for several years. He is assigned to the Jail Division as a Supervisor with Montgomery County. Eric has dedicated 17 years of service to the Jail Division and is responsible for the daily operation of the jail. He supervises the safety and security of 55 Detention Staff and 1,200 inmates. Eric helped form and populate a Veteran Dorm, consisting of counseling, veteran affairs and re-entry assistance. He also helped implement a plan to promote civilian supervisors in the jail.

Eric graduated from the National Jail Leadership Command Academy (NJLCA), Class #10 and returned as a mentor for two NJLCA classes. He assists with the instruction of the Defensive Tactics for Jail School through TEEX. Eric is a veteran of the Unites States Marine Corps with 8 years of honorable service.



Bill JenningsLieutenant, Gregg County Sheriff's Office

Bill Jennings was hired at the Gregg County Sheriff's Office on January 16, 2002. He has advanced through the ranks from Jailer to Lieutenant, and is currently a Facility Administrator for a maximum-security jail, and a low risk security facility. Bill is a Certified Jail Manager through the American Jail Association, a 2013 graduate of the National Jail Leadership Command Academy- Class #12, and a graduate of the Correctional Management Institute of Texas Jail Administration: Management and Operations Course.

Bill currently holds an Advanced Peace Officer Certificate and a Master Jailers Certificate from TCOLE. Bill has been a member of the Texas Jail Association for over a decade and was appointed Directors in 2013. Bill actively promotes continuing education and training for his staff, and has a strong

to the Board of Directors in 2013. Bill actively promotes continuing education and training for his staff, and has a strong passion and commitment regarding professionalism in the field of corrections.



Terry McCrawAssistant Chief, Collin County Sheriff's Office

Terry McCraw began his law enforcement career at the Collin County Sheriff's Office in 1995 after serving four years in the United States Marine Corps. In 1998, he was promoted to Sergeant and to Lieutenant in 2000. Terry was promoted to the rank of Captain in 2010 and began serving as Assistant Chief Deputy/Jail Administrator in January 2017. He served two decades on the Detention Response Team and served on the Collin County Veteran's Court/North Texas Regional Veterans Court and Mental Health Manage Counsel Advisory Board. Terry currently holds an Advanced Peace Officer License, Master Jailer License and is certified as a Mental Health Peace Officer.

Terry currently serves as a member of the TJA Membership Committee under the direction of Dan Corbin.



2018-2019 TJA ELECTION NOMINEES



Clifford Robinson *Jail Administrator, Hockley County Sheriff's Office*

Clifford Robinson has 22 years of experience as a corrections professional. He began his career in the private sector and rose up through the ranks. Clifford then went to work in a county jail. He is currently the Jail Administrator for the Hockley County Jail and has held that position since August 5, 2011. Clifford strives for excellence within his agency and cooperation with other agencies, daily. He holds true to basic core values of honesty, integrity and dedication. Clifford vows to never forget where he came from. Clifford respectfully asks for your vote as he runs for the position of Director.



Kit WrightSergeant, Brazos County Sheriff's Office

Kit Wright has been with the Brazos County Sheriff's Office since 2007. Her healthcare team oversees the care and treatment for approximately 600 inmates. Kit is a nurse, holds a TCOLE jailers license, is a Mental Health Officer, certified in Veterans MH and carries the CCHP certification. Kit is a strong advocate for training in all areas of corrections. She has worked to provide additional correctional health care training to agencies throughout the state. Kit is a lifetime member of the Texas Jail Association and a TJA Board Member since 2015.

THANK YOU TO THOSE THAT HAVE NOMINATED.

Voting opens April 15 and will close on May 16 at 4:30pm.

Voting will be available online at www.texasjailassociation.com. A voting booth will also be available at the 32nd Annual TJA Conference and the ballot can also be accessed via the TJA Conference App.

This year's vote will require a unique PIN in order to keep voting secure and easy.

This number will be sent out via email to the address TJA has on file. Qualifying members will also have their PIN printed on their name badges at the 32nd Annual TJA Conference. If you do not receive your PIN via email by April 15 and do not plan on attending the conference, please contact Sharese Hurst to update your email address.

Sharese Hurst | 936-294-1687 or sharese@shsu.edu

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT









Les Karnes, Brown County Sheriff's Office

Les Karnes began his career at the Brown County Jail in 2002. He has held several different positions in the jail and is currently the Jail Administrator. Les has always led by example and is always willing to lend a helping hand. When asked why he chose this profession, Les stated "It is not something I aspired to do. I Just needed a job with benefits. I have since then come to understand that being a jailer is not just a job; it's a career that not everyone can handle. I've come to realize that, even though confining people against their will is not a glorious trade, it is necessary. We as jailers are tasked with the duty of keeping the public, and inmates, safe from harm. Jailers are often overlooked and live in the 'shadows of police officers,' but our job is just as important to the community and the justice system. I take pride in being a jailer and knowing that I am doing my part for the community."

I asked him of his opinion of the Texas Jail Association and he replied, "I was just a child when the association was formed. It was well established by the time that I actually became a jailer, and it took me six years before I joined. The TJA has created a unified voice for jail staff across Texas. I have realized what an invaluable source this organization is. They provide an incredible amount of training, not to mention the social networking that it facilitates. So, my professional opinion of TJA, in one word, it's awesome!"

Les also stated, "I would recommend non-members to join. It is the best way I can think of to obtain quality training for professionals who have dedicated their life to the field of corrections. It has been around for 32 years. I hope to see it grow and expand over my lifetime. One day, I would like to look back and see that I have done my part to facilitate this growth like so many of the members before me."



Lisa Jowers, Brown County Sheriff's Office

Lisa Jowers has been with the Brown County Jail since 2015. Lisa previously worked for the Texas Department of Criminal Justice for sixteen years. During her time, she worked in many different areas of the criminal justice system. Brown County was very fortunate to have been able to hire Lisa. She came to us with a lot of knowledge and skills. In 2016, Lisa received "Jailer of the Year" from Brown County. Lisa is a very hardworking, loyal employee. Lisa has a knack for being able to calm the most irate or distraught inmate. She attended her first Jail Conference in 2017 as a result of her award.

Lisa stated the conference was "hands down the best educational training I have received. Even though I came from a corrections background, being able to meet with officers, supervisors, and related staff from across Texas was advantageous. Knowing we all share

the same and also different issues and resolutions that we all face is invaluable. I would encourage anyone working in corrections or law enforcement to join this organization. I feel every officer that is set on this type of employment as a career should be allowed to attend these seminars and classes that are available through the Texas Jail Association."

WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND THE STATE

ECTOR COUNTY

Congratulations to **Jeffery Brown** on his promotion! He was promoted from Booking Officer to Booking Corporal on shift two in the detention center. Corporal Brown has been with the Sheriff's Office one year and seven months.



Sheriff **Mike Griffis** congratulates **Reno Lewis** on his recent promotion from Sergeant to the rank of Lieutenant. Lewis's duties include being the training coordinator for all the deputy's required TCOLE classes, public relations, and crime prevention, as well as maintaining license requirements for the sexually oriented businesses. Lewis has been with Ector County since February of 2013. He began his career in law enforcement in Hudspeth County, serving as a Constable for 10 years then moving to the Hudspeth County Sheriff's Office for four years. Lewis also served the Sheriff's Office in Reeves's County for 12 years.



HOUSTON COUNTY

Houston County Sheriff Office Jail Promotion

In January, Sheriff Darrel Bobbitt announced James Ryan Hutcherson's promotion to Jail Sergeant. Hutcherson came to work at the Sheriff's Office in April 2014. He started out as a part-time jailer and went full-time shortly thereafter. Hutcherson completed jail school and received his State Jail License.



LUBBOCK COUNTY

Officer **Michael Bates** was recognized by Lubbock County Sheriff **Kelly Rowe** as the Detention Officer Employee of the Month for January 2018. Bates has been employed with the agency since February 2, 2015. He is a member of the Detention Response Team, and is a certified TCOLE Instructor. Officer Bates takes an active role in ensuring other officers are maintaining an adequate level of safety and security in the confinement area, and provides guidance when he sees an issue. He focuses on delivering constructive criticism to his peers when necessary.



On January 24, 2018, Sheriff Kelly Rowe congratulates newly promoted lieutenant assigned to the Detention Center, **Natalie Ybarra**. Deputy Ybarra has been with the agency since 1988, beginning her career as a jailer, moving over to the Law Enforcement Division as a sergeant in the Courts Division, and then making her way back to detention. Many co-workers look to Lieutenant Ybarra's knowledge and wisdom in working detention.



Zachary Thill was recognized for Employee of the Month for February.



Sheriff Kelly Rowe welcomes the new clerk and officer recruit class: Sonny Deleon (clerk), Sara Huges, David Judd, Michael Puentes, Channing Robinson, Andrea Valenzuela, and Bret Lewis.



Chief **Cody Scott**, Assistant Chief **Kim Howell**, and Captain **Ron Jenkins** announce the following promotions: Sergeant **Paul Cartwright** and Sergeant **Jaime Rodriguez** promoted to Sergeants assigned to the Detention Center.





WICHITA COUNTY

Sheriff's Office Quarterly Awards Ceremony December 12, 2017 & January 2, 2018

Retirement:

Chief Deputy **Derek Meador** has retired. Chief Meador began his career with the Wichita County Sheriff's Office on June 24, 1996 working in the Detention Center. He worked his way through the ranks and was promoted to the rank of Chief Deputy on January 2009.



Promotions

Sheriff **David Duke** promoted several employees this quarter:

Deputy Chief **Derrald Choate** to **Chief Deputy**



Lieutenant William Rutledge to **Deputy Chief**





Sergeant Greg Wilson to Lieutenant



Left to Right: Chief Deputy Derrald Choate, Deputy Chief William Rutledge, Lieutenant Greg Wilson, Sergeant Cole McGarry, Corporal Jeff Lee, and Sheriff David Duke

Corporal Cole McGarry to Sergeant



Deputy **Jeff Lee** to Corporal



Detention Officer **Derrick Nabors** to Corporal Detention Officer Emily Montgomery to Corporal Detention Officer Stacie McCray to Sergeant



Left to Right: Corporal Derrick Nabors, Corporal Emily Montgomery, and Sergeant Stacie McCray

Awards

Deputy Brett **Brasher** received the Sheriff's Commendation Award.



Left to Right: Deputy Brett Brasher and Sheriff David Duke

Business of the quarter:

Mark Hoque - Advanced Signs

Mark Hogue is the owner of Advanced Signs. Mark has been a longtime supporter of the Wichita County Sheriff's Office. He does all of our sign work, decals our vehicles, and always ensures that we are getting a great job at a fair price. He has been very supportive of out citizen's Alumni Association and helps them with their numerous fundraisers



TEXAS JAIL ASSOCIATION

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