

THE TEXAS JAIL ASSOCIATION KEY ISSUES

Vol XXII, No. 3

Summer 2018



Summer 2018 Edition

Message From The President



TJA Members,

Well, Summer is upon us in Texas and the 32nd Annual Jail Conference is behind us. I must say that the conference was a tremendous success thanks to the leadership of Past President **Todd Allen**, the 2017-2018 TJA Board, and **Sharese Hurst** and her consistently solid staff. Now we look forward to Galveston and the Jail Management Issues (JMI) Conference September 10-13, 2018. First Vice President Kevin Stuart and the 2017-2018 Training Committee will deliver another solid training lineup in Galveston. I look forward to seeing all of you there!

Before I continue, I'd like to congratulate the new newly elected TJA Board Members: 3rd Vice President **Ricky Armstrong** (McLennan County), Board of Director **Frances Dembowski** (Travis County), and **Bill Jennings** (Comal County). The By-Laws language modification was approved by vote as well. Thank you to the TJA Membership for exercising your vote during this year's elections.

During my inauguration speech in May, my messages were elaborate but clear. I thanked all the influential people, mentors, and predecessors that came before me. I have always believed in humility, and I have always appreciated the people that created my path and the path to the advancement of corrections and law enforcement. Without those folks creating paths, we would not be in our present state. My goal for TJA was also addressed – for the Texas Jail Association to reach out to every corner of the state for the sake of offering needed assistance and networking. This process is difficult without the participation of Texas Sheriffs, Jail Administrators, and Jail Staff to reach out to the Texas Jail Association as well. I believe together we can make this vision a reality for the benefit of improvement throughout Texas jails.

In closing, I would like to once again thank Past President Todd Allen for his service to this board and for his mentorship. I consider Todd a good friend and I have learned from him throughout the years. It was an honor to be sworn in as President by him.

I think that our vendors deserve some recognition for their continued support of our great organization. It is difficult to assume that we would be as successful without their support.

Since 2013, when I first began seeking an elected board position, I have freely given out my personal phone number and my availability has been open to all inquiries, regardless of rank, jail capacity, or jail location. As your President for 2018-2019, my availability remains the same. I may be from South Texas, but my assistance is available to all Texas Jails at any time of the day.

Thank you for reading and thank you for your continued support.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Gonzales'.

Captain Martin Gonzales
TJA President
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Jourdanton, TX 78026
830-769-3434 ext. 2248 (Office)
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Message From The Immediate Past President



Like sands through the hour glass...oh wait, never mind. The older generations will get that line. As we closed out the 32nd Annual Conference, my time as president of the Texas Jail Association (TJA) closed as well. It was truly an honor and a privilege to serve the membership of this association. So many wonderful people guided me through the journey from board member to president. There are just too many to name. As I listened to the membership numbers and training hours being read at the business meeting held at the 32nd Annual Conference, I was filled with pride knowing our numbers had grown to over 2000 members. Numerous attendees at the conference shook my hand and said what a great conference it was and applauded the training and said I did a great job. While the accolades are appreciated, I can tell you, NO ONE person does this alone. The work of the board of directors, the committee members, the CMIT staff and countless others to pull off not only the May Conference, but also all of the business of the association throughout the year is immeasurable.

The training standards that were set by the presidents before me helped pave the way to where TJA is today. Past President **Brent Phillips** set a lofty goal to increase membership and training during his tenure as president. He challenged us to meet that goal and because of you, the membership, and the work of the folks mentioned above, we met and exceeded that goal! I hope that I was able to carry on the excellence that is TJA and the presidents that follow me will continue to grow this association.

There are far too many people for me to thank for their support in this journey, however I would like to mention a few. Without the support of these folks, this would never have been possible. **Mary Byrne** introduced our county to TJA and many of the people that mentored me along the way. Sheriff **Joe Hunt** and Chief Deputy **Truman Richey** fully supported TJA and allowed me to run for the board of directors. Sheriff **David Jones** and Chief Deputy **Dale Pearce** continued to support me and TJA and understood the demands of being involved in TJA. The Lieutenants, **Beth Mull** and **Amy Leleux**, who held down the fort while I was away for board meetings, or taking care of TJA business. Finally and most importantly, thank you to my wife, **Sarah Allen**. She took care of the house and our boys throughout this journey, never once complaining. Okay, she complained a little bit when she had to coach my Little League team once. You are truly my rock and I can never repay you for the sacrifices you made for me.

Thank you for allowing me to be your president. I have passed the gavel to the very capable **Martin Gonzales**. I know he will continue to serve you well.

Todd Allen



Immediate Past President

Membership Report

Membership Committee for 2018-2019

Ricky Armstrong, 3rd Vice President
McLennan County
(254) 405-4522
ricky.armstrong@co.mclennan.tx.us

Michael Gravitt, Member at Large
Tarrant County
(817) 713-1600
mlgravitt@tarrantcounty.com

Levi Vance, Member at Large
Tom Green County
(325) 659-6597
Levi.Vance@co.tom-green.tx.us

Becky Caffey, Board Member
Brown County
(325) 641-2202 becky.caffey@browncountytexas.org

Terry McCraw, Member at Large
Collin County
(972) 547-5208,
tmccraw@collincountytexas.gov



Current Membership

Professional: 2,166

Affiliate: 13

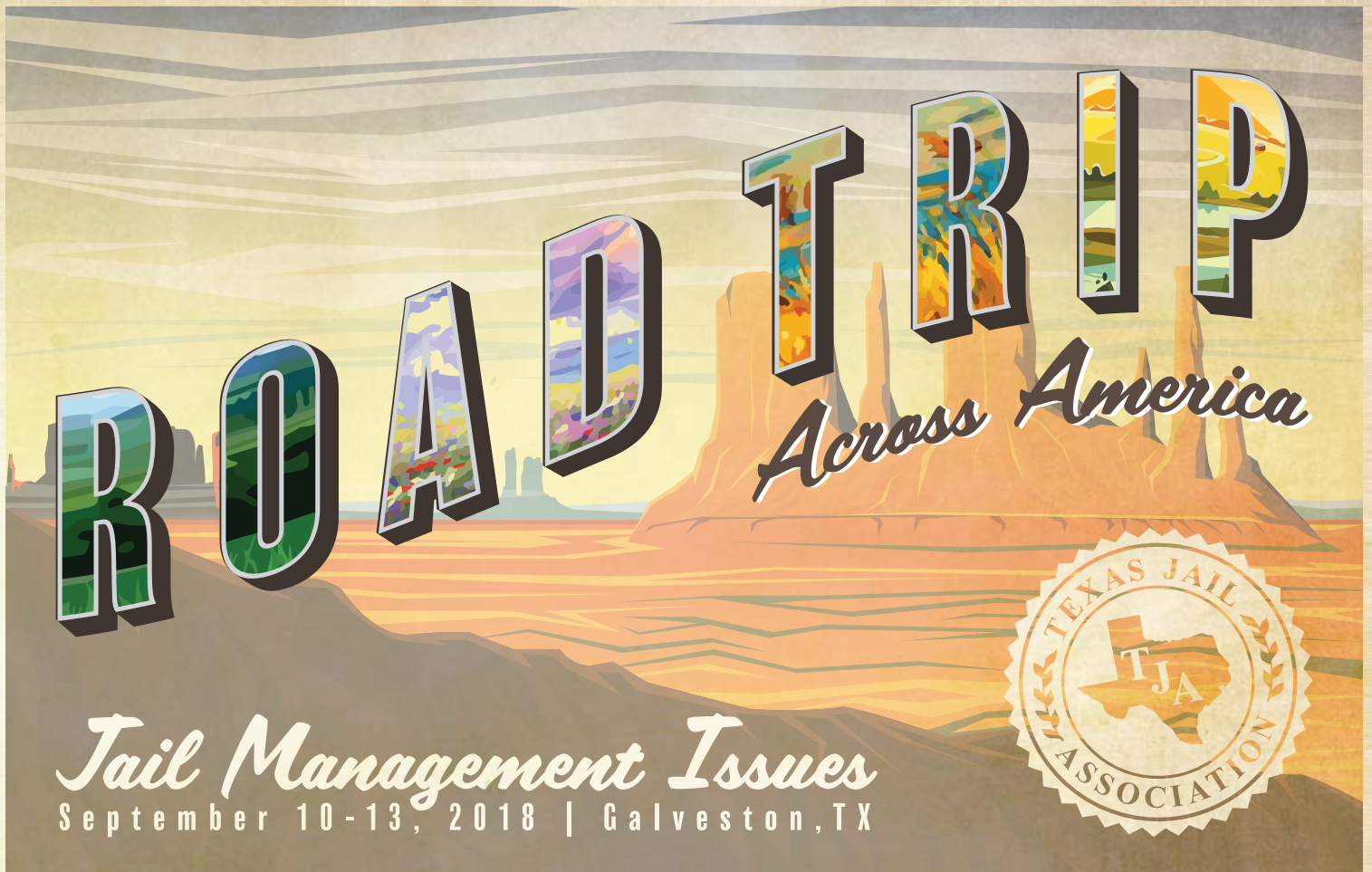
Business: 40

Updates:



Michael Gravitt and Levi Vance have verbally committed to serve on the Membership Committee. Terry McCraw and Becky Caffey have agreed to stay on the Committee for continuity going forward. I look forward to working with this great group of professionals in serving the members of our great Association





P O S T C A R D

2018 JAIL MANAGEMENT ISSUES

ROAD TRIP
Across America



September 10 - 13, 2018 | Galveston, TX

Cost

\$220.00 for TJA Members

(must be current as of September 2018)

\$250.00 for non-members

(includes a 12 month membership)

Topics

Leading Behind the Badge, No Right Way to Do the Wrong Thing, Gangs, Inmate Behavior Management, Working with Our Veterans, I Am A.J. Foyt, Choosing Community Over Conflict, Courthouse Safety and Security, Media Relations, and More...

for more information:

Sharese Hurst

sharese@shsv.edu | 936.294.1687

Texas Jail Association

www.texasjailassociation.com



WIP (Women in Partnership) started many years ago as a way for the women of the Travis County Sheriff's Office to connect, support, and develop each other. As times change, so must we embrace change. With that being said... this year is dedicated to reenergize WIP, and what better way than to give it a makeover with a name change setting out our values, mission, and goals. We are looking for opportunities to connect with women from all career fields to network, and provide encouragement and support. Our goal is to be active within our department, looking for opportunities to grow, and encourage volunteering in our community. Our new Logo is S.T.R.I.V.E. which stands for Strength – Tenacity – Respect – Integrity – Valor – Exemplary.

STRENGTH - Physical power, emotional toughness, source of support, asset

TENACITY - Not readily relinquishing a position, principle, or course of action

RESPECT - Moral uprightness

INTEGRITY - Quality of being honest and having strong moral principles

VALOR - Boldness or determination in facing great danger; fearlessness, audacity, boldness, backbone, spirit

EXEMPLARY - Serving as a desirable model; representing the best of its kind



Mission

To support, inspire, and motivate the women of the Travis County Sheriff's Office.

Goals

Maintain pride in the criminal justice field;
Encourage the application of the highest ethical standards by sharing the exchange of methods and ideas; and
Secure a closer official and professional relationship among the women of TCSO.

Opportunities

Support staff with development of career goals;
Mentor staff to gain knowledge, training, and experience;
Provide encouragement and support; and
Encourage volunteering within TCSO and in the community



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where to proceed. The unintended result of establishing community partnerships was the services coming full circle. Past participants of the V.E.T.S. Program are now working for these organizations to assist current and future participants. The past participants bring with them a sense of hope and determination to help those still struggling in the justice system, knowing it is possible to succeed in the civilian world.

During the first year, the V.E.T.S. Program recorded a 10% return rate to the program. Unfortunately, not all Justice Involved Veterans will see immediate success.



It is up to the individual Veteran to follow through with the resources he/she received while in the program and to choose to continue down a positive path. During the past year, two program participants have been accepted into Veterans Treatment Court, three veterans have chosen to work for the very organizations that assisted them during their time of need, and one other has started his own non-profit for assisting veterans. The program has met some very wonderful organizations

and members of the community who truly have the best interest of the veterans at heart. One person in particular who the program would like to highlight is Lieutenant General Steven Hummer. Lieutenant General Hummer, trained through the Military Veteran Peer Network, provides peer-to-peer counseling to the Justice Involved Veterans in the program. Lieutenant General Hummer provides the veterans with encouragement and support and brings to the table years of experience dealing with veterans. During the program's Memorial Day Ceremony, Lieutenant General



Hummer donated a flag flown over the headquarters of Regimental Combat Team-7 in Diwaniya, Iraq in May 2003. This gesture spoke volumes to the participants in the program and attests to the reach these programs have on the community, the criminal justice system, and the program participants.

Through meaningful partnerships with the community of Montgomery County and the support of Sheriff Henderson, over 170 veterans have been a part of the V.E.T.S. Program.

Training Committee Report

By Dan Corbin, 2nd Vice President, Training Committee Chairman

It was great seeing all 537 members at the 32nd Annual Conference in Austin in May. Our First Time Attendee reception was a huge success. I hope you enjoyed the networking opportunities as well as the great training, of which I am happy to report we offered 14,499 hours of training credit for the conference. Our training committee is already working on the class schedule for our Jail Management Conference in September and will strive to ensure it will live up to the high standards of training expected at a TJA Conference. In addition to this conference, we are also planning our annual regional trainings with more to follow as it is finalized.

TJA Vendor Update

By Doug Morgan

The 32nd Annual Texas Jail Association Conference in Austin Texas has come and gone, but the memories and relationships made will continue well beyond the conference. From starting the week with one of the most successful golf tournaments in TJA history, to ending the week with Sheriff Daniel Law and the Texas High Riders performing after the banquet, it was truly a great week.

We would like to thank all of the vendors who took time out of their schedules to attend the conference, as well as for their financial support. Because of the attendance and financial support from all of our vendors, we are able to provide great training, networking, and fellowship to the field of corrections across the great state of Texas.

This year, the vendor hall was sold out with 106 companies represented. Once again, thank you for your continued support.

A quick reminder that the TJA Jail Management Issues Conference has moved to the month of September to better accommodate our members. This year, the conference will occur on September 10 – 13, 2018 at the Galveston Island Convention Center. The host hotels will be the San Luis Resort and the Galveston Island Hilton. Mark your calendars to attend. The exhibit packet can be found under the vendor tab on the Texas Jail Association website, www.texasjailassociation.com. We hope to see you there!

The vendor committee is here to make your exhibit experience an effective and profitable experience. Please contact us if you have any ideas or suggestions for upcoming conferences.

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KEY ISSUES DEADLINES

September 1, 2018
for October 2018 Publication





December 1, 2018
for January 2019 Publication

March 1, 2019
for April 2019 Publication

June 1, 2019
for July 2019 Publication

Send your articles on CD or via email to
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Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, Texas
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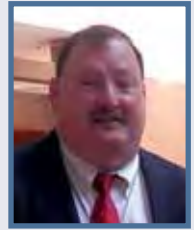
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The Chaplain's Corner



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

Hello to all my associates from the Texas Jail Association! I hope this writing finds everyone healthy, safe, and prospering.

Our annual TJA Conference is now in the history books; from what I have been told, it was a fantastic conference! Unfortunately, due to health concerns, I wasn't able to attend this year. This would have been my twelfth conference, and I promise you I was so disappointed not to be able to attend, as this conference is the highlight of my year.

I'd like to take a moment and extend a heartfelt thank you to Immediate Past President Todd Allen for having the faith and belief in me to appoint me as the Chaplain for 2017-2018. It was an honor and a privilege, and I am so thankful and blessed that God led him to make me his choice. It means so much to be picked to represent the faith and spiritual being of an organization such as ours. We are all very aware that we definitely need God in our everyday lives, and surely need His blessings, guidance, wisdom, and protection as we go about our daily walk in our chosen vocation.

I'd like to thank our new TJA President Martin Gonzales for choosing me as the TJA Chaplain for a second term in 2018-2019. Talk about an honor! But I give the Glory to God, because God has seen fit to lead me down a path that allows me to reach out to my brothers and sisters and share His word with them. That is a blessing beyond belief.

I look forward to seeing all of you at the September conference in beautiful Galveston, Texas!

Our Heavenly Father, I ask that you continue to watch over us all as we go about our work. Keep, guard, and watch over our families, keep them safe and free from harm. Lord, I ask that you grant wisdom, knowledge, and guidance to each of us, let us make decisions that are moral and righteous, and serve to bring Glory to Your Holy Name. These things I ask in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, Amen.



God bless and protect us all!

EL VIEJO



El Viejo (The Old Man) that's my unofficial title at my department. A little background on myself, my title is Sergeant **Israel Lopez**. I have been employed with the Atascosa Sheriff's Office since August 1991 – no need to go into the age issues. Several years ago, a young female officer started addressing me as "Viejo" since then my name has also evolved into "Old Man." Viejo, in the Spanish language, is a term used out of respect not necessarily referring to one's age (I hope). One day I asked that young officer why she called me Viejo. She replied "as a young officer you took me under your wing. You taught and mentored me." I saw potential in that officer and made time for her.

As the "old ones" in our agencies we have a responsibility to the next generation of professionals in our field. We carry knowledge gained from years of training, every day experiences, and knowledge from mistakes we made along the way as young officers. We should be the mentors and educators. We need to stop and make time for the young officers – the ones always asking questions, the eager to learn, and the ones seeking knowledge and advancement. There is potential in all of us, unfortunately we also have the stragglers and the ones that will never seek advancement. They are in their comfort zone, doing just enough to get by. They are here just to make it through the day and collect a paycheck.

The experience we have gained through the years cannot be taught. Some say experience is the best teacher. I tend to agree. It is also said that knowledge is power. That power is also useless unless it is shared evenly.

I say this to the young officers: Take advantage of the Old Ones, pick their brains, ask them questions, observe from a distance, watch, learn, and hopefully you won't make the same mistakes we made.

I once heard a young officer say "Sgt. Lopez has been here so long he used to book inmates on stone tablets with a chisel." Not quite, but I have seen many changes in my career. Luckily, I managed to catch on to most of them.

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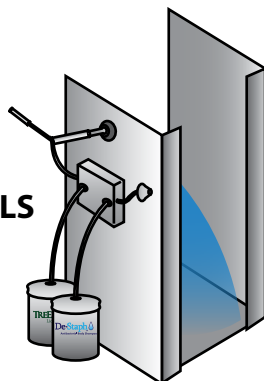
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- Jails
- Penal Institutions
- Military
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- NON-TOXIC
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- FAST ACTING

Voice of Hope's Walk a Mile in Her Shoes



*Christopher Warwick, Christopher Mendez,
Jacob Perez, Jonathan Alonzo*

their support of victims of sexual violence and to raise awareness. The 11th Annual Walk a Mile in Her Shoes was held April 28th, 2018 at Lowes Home Improvement in Lubbock, Texas.

The march also raises funds to support victim services offered by Voice of Hope. The Lubbock County Sheriff's Office Detention Response Team (DRT) committed to participate and raise money in support of Voice of Hope's mission.

To promote the event, DRT filmed a public service promotion with a local sportscaster, Pete Christy; the KCBD I Beat Pete challenge can be viewed at:

<http://www.kcbd.com/story/38033489/i-beat-pete-annual-high-heel-challenge-vs-lubbock-county-sheriffs-office-detention-response-team>



Pepperballed Team Leaders: Not Pictured
Mauro Castillo
Edward Gonzales
Jaime Rodriguez

Event Security: Not Pictured
Elroy Holmes

Voice of Hope commits to offering help, hope, and healing to all persons affected by sexual violence by providing education, awareness, and support as far as our arms can reach.

Voice of Hope exists to provide victims of sexual abuse, sexual assault, and/or sex trafficking in Lubbock County and the surrounding communities with free, confidential crisis assistance, advocacy, and support without regard to age, race, ethnicity, gender, or residency, and to promote public awareness of the realities of sexual victimization and strive towards its elimination through outreach, activism, and community education.

Walk a Mile in Her Shoes is Voice of Hope's annual awareness march.

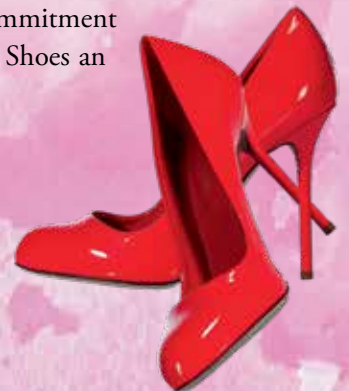
Male participants don stilettos and walk one mile to demonstrate



For fundraising efforts, each shift selected a member to march, and the DRT member of the shift who raised the most money would get to utilize the Pepperball system against the other DRT Team Leaders; other staff assisted by cooking burgers for the walk participants and serving as event security. A raffle and numerous bake sales were held, and Deputy Walt Bushey hosted a self-defense course; the combined efforts of the Detention Center staff raised just over \$3,700.

The efforts and generosity of the LSO demonstrates a commitment to the victims and community we serve. Their commitment helped make the 2018 Walk a Mile in Her Shoes an overwhelming success.

Cooks: Not Pictured
Michelle Daniel-WAM Team Coordinator
Mauro Castillo
Jeremy Tidwell
Jeff Howell (ICSolutions – contract staff)





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32ND ANNUAL TEXAS JAIL A



ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE



THE IMPACT OF PARENTAL INCARCERATION ON CHILDREN'S LIFE CHANCES

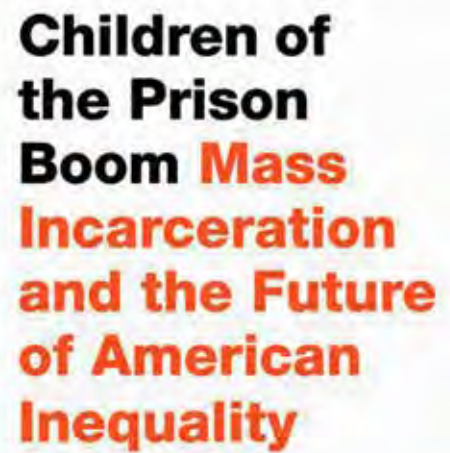
by
Donald G. Evans

Review of *Children of the Prison Boom: Mass Incarceration and the Future of American Inequality*, by Sara Wakefield and Christopher Wildeman. New York: Oxford University Press, 2014, 230 pp., \$26.95 (paperback).

For more than a decade there has been a flurry of journal and mass media articles, as well as books by academics and journalists, offering explanations of how and why America became known for leading the world in imprisoning its citizens. A number of these accounts discuss the failure of the “tough-on-crime” approach and the war on drugs, while others concentrate on the social consequences of mass incarceration. Lately, research is noting the impact of mass incarceration on workforce participation rates and in increasing income insecurity, inequality, and racial disparity. As this mass incarceration literature has grown, so have the approaches and sites of investigation examined by researchers. These investigative sites include exploring mass incarceration’s impact on employment, mental health, and the success or lack of success of released prisoners returning to the community. The authors of this book – Sara Wakefield, an associate professor of criminal justice at Rutgers University, and Christopher Wildeman, an associate professor of policy analysis and management at Cornell University – have given us much to think about in this informative and readable discussion and explanation of their findings into the impact of parental incarceration on children and the eventual impact of the future of American inequality.

The book comprises eight chapters and a very helpful methodological appendix with extensive notes and references that will assist readers seeking to explore further the issues addressed in this study. In the introduction, the authors point out that this book is about children who at some point in their lives have experienced the incarceration of a parent during the period following the 1970s and the commencement of the increase in prison populations. These experiences by the children have two general outcomes; in some cases a few are motivated to do better in their lives and in other cases, generally the majority, it results in adverse consequences that “ripple from infancy throughout childhood and even adulthood.” Their book is also about how mass incarceration “has transformed racial inequality among children,” creating serious implications for the future of inequality in the United States. The authors provide a brief background to their study by discussing macro-level change and its impact on childhood inequality by noting how economic shifts such as the “great recession” and the subsequent increase in unemployment became problematic for the children. They write: “The influence of parental circumstances on the lives of children is apparent not only in differences between birth cohorts but also in long standing racial disparities in health, educational and occupational attainment and well-being.”

The aim of their research is to examine the implications of parental imprisonment on the welfare of children; they note that this exploration is particularly critical today “because, contrary to earlier periods in American history, millions of children now experience it.” The authors provide us with a snapshot of mass imprisonment by defining it not only in terms of the volume of citizens incarcerated but also the racial disparity that has occurred. They comment on the suggested link between imprisonment and crime reduction and note that the impact of this reduction effect is much smaller than claimed by “get tough advocates.”



Children of the Prison Boom **Mass Incarceration and the Future of American Inequality**

Sara Wakefield
Christopher Wildeman

In the chapters that follow the authors build their case regarding the long-term implications of mass incarceration on inequality by demonstrating how it affects children and especially to the unique risks faced by African American children who have a greater chance of enduring the imprisonment of their fathers. Their findings are the result of a blend of quantitative and qualitative evidence that enable them to explore three areas where paternal imprisonment appeared to have causal effect: mental health and behavioral problems, infant mortality, and child homelessness. In all of these three categories the authors found a robust association with paternal incarceration.

In chapter seven, the professors continue their investigation by examining the question of mass imprisonment's contribution to childhood inequality. In reviewing the results of their analysis the authors noted that there was a clear distinction concerning black-white inequality among adult men. The experience of prison has become common for black men and the findings noted that between 20-25 percent of black men can expect to experience a prison sentence by their early thirties. The authors state that this experience affects well-being in a number of domains, especially in income security, and heightens the risk of divorce. Their findings support a claim that paternal incarceration does do harm to children with the exception of abusive fathers. They also found that "effects on black-white disparities in childhood inequality were far greater than the effects on adult inequality." Wakefield and Wildeman state: "The prolonged absence of a father due to imprisonment has become common for recent generations of black children – especially those whose fathers dropped out of high school." They make a strong argument for the need to recognize that "paternal incarceration can exacerbate racial inequalities in children's well-being and development." It is their opinion that we can no longer "ignore the relevance of the penal system for black children" who have been born in the last two decades.

This is a well written and clear exposition of research conducted to examine the neglected aspect of the consequences of mass incarceration and although the findings are both disturbing and dismaying, the researchers believe that there are solutions that can make the future look less bleak. What they suggest is broader social welfare interventions and much narrower criminal justice interventions. They clearly state that even though imprisonment is at the center of the problem, the "solutions are not found in the criminal justice system." Wakefield and Wildeman suggest the following:

Investment in education, social welfare, drug treatment, and job training programs for all children;

Broad-based social interventions for disadvantaged children;

Investment in crime-reduction programs; and

Redirect crime-control and punishment efforts towards the most violent offenders.

What is clear from their suggestions is that they are convinced that the solutions to reducing the inequality for children now and in the future must take place outside of the criminal justice system and will require significant investing in the communities most affected. The authors close their timely book with a reminder that "without substantial public investment in these communities, it is unlikely that the long-term consequences of mass imprisonment will be undone, and the crushing poverty and lack of opportunity of today will be transformed into another generation of children of the prison boom." For those of us who are both interested in and committed to advocating and working for safer and healthier communities, this book is an important read.

Donald G. Evans is a Senior Fellow with the Canadian Training Institute in Toronto, Ontario. He is a past President of the American Probation and Parole Association and the International Community Corrections Association.

By-Laws Report

I hope this finds all of you well. We had a great conference and I appreciate all the participation in our voting process. This year you voted to approve a change in the definition of our Professional and Associate Members as well as removing the Affiliate Member category. I feel that these changes are in the spirit of our mission and I'm excited that our By-Laws are now more inclusive to all those who support the advancement of the corrections profession.

Your committee will continue to review our By-Laws to ensure they are in alignment with our mission. I encourage each of you to familiarize yourself with the By-Laws and to reach out to any member of this committee for questions or concerns. The By-Laws can be found on our website at the address below. Please stay safe and I look forward to seeing you all soon.

<http://www.texasjailassociation.com/about/documents/bylaws.pdf>

Kevin Stuart (Chairperson) kstuart@brazoscountytexas.gov 979-361-4846

Billy Bryan – Parliamentarian

Bill Jennings – Director

Daniel Quam – At Large

Violations Across the State

Part of our job as jail staff is to keep up with the new laws and rules that affect the jails. The Texas Commission on Jail Standards conducts inspections on each jail every year to make sure we are complying with the standards and laws of the state of Texas.

There are currently 22 jails listed to be out of compliance with the Texas Commission on Jail Standards. For more details, visit the Texas Commission on Jail Standards website, <https://www.tcjs.state.tx.us/> and click on the link in the right column of the page that reads Non-Compliant Jails.

Here are a few of the most common violations:

Audible Communication – Two-way voice communication shall be available at all times between inmates and jailers, licensed peace officers, bailiffs, and staff designated by the sheriff.

All corridors and passages to exits, the exits themselves, discharging stairways, and other means of egress shall be continuously illuminated at all points with not less than 1.0 foot-candle measured at the floor, and shall be so arranged that the failure of any lighting unit or bulb will not leave any area in darkness

All life safety equipment shall be out of reach of inmates or otherwise secured from unauthorized tampering. At least one self-contained breathing apparatus shall be available and maintained in or near each facility control station. All staff shall be trained and quarterly drills conducted in the use of this equipment. A minimum of one unit shall be provided for each building of a multi-building facility and on each floor of a multistory facility

Testing Emergency Power Equipment – Emergency power equipment shall be tested at least once each week and the electric load transferred to the circuits at least monthly

Identification. Procedures for intake screening to identify inmates who are known to be or observed to be mentally disabled and/or potentially suicidal and procedures for compliance with Code of Criminal Procedure Article 16.22 and referrals to available mental health officials;

Each sheriff/operator shall investigate and verify the veteran status of each prisoner by using data made available from the Veterans Reentry Search Service (VRSS) operated by the United States Department of Veteran Affairs or similar service. (b) Each sheriff/ operator shall provide assistance to prisoners identified as veterans, identified through either self-report or the VRSS, in applying for federal benefits or compensation for which the prisoners may be eligible under a program administered by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs. Assistance includes, but not limited to, direct assistance by qualified claims counselor, issuance of a referral card, or similar assistance. (c) Each sheriff shall maintain a log of positive VRSS returns with identifying prisoner number and whether a referral card was issued to the identified veteran prior to his or her release. If a referral card was not issued, a reason shall be provided on the log.

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The Courtroom Challenge: Quick Draw

New Challenge Born, Old Rivalries Resurrected

By William T. Phariss, Mental Health Trainer, Texas Commission on Jail Standards

The Texas Commission on Jail Standards held the inaugural Courtroom Challenge Tournament at the Annual Jail Management Conference held at Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, Texas in October of 2000. It has gone through transformations over the years. Originally, the game was based off of winning jurors by answering questions correctly concerning Minimum Jail Standards. Next came Jailpardy! This version was based off the television game show Jeopardy! This year marked a new evolution.

After a short hiatus from the TJA Conference, The Courtroom Challenge is back. Not only is it back, but it is an entirely different game. We have rebranded it "The Courtroom Challenge: Quick Draw." The game uses Kahoot! to deliver a new trivia styled format. Contestants are no longer just in a competition for the right answer. Points per question are based off being correct and how quickly a team answers. Both teams answer simultaneously as the questions are projected on a screen. There are fifteen timed questions per round. At the end of the questions, the winner is declared.

Being back and being a new format, we were unsure about the turnout. This year, we had twelve teams from seven different counties compete in a double elimination tournament bracket. Brown, Carson, Grayson, Gregg, McLennan, Lubbock, and Travis counties all competed. There were five teams from Travis County and two teams from Lubbock. Carson teamed up with Lubbock for a hybrid team.

In the first two rounds of competition, teams were given sixty seconds to answer the question. As the rounds progressed, the time to answer was shortened. Next came thirty second rounds. The semifinals went down to twenty seconds and the finals were decreased to ten seconds per question. Even though the round times decreased, the competition and audience excitement increased.

Travis County and Lubbock County made it to the finals. Both counties have won The Courtroom Challenge in previous years and the rivalry was very apparent. In the end, Lubbock County, consisting of members Traci Sasin and **Wade Goolsby**, was crowned this year's champion. They lost a round early and then climbed their way back to the top. Congratulations and great job!

Standing in their way to the top was a Travis County team consisting of **Alexander Nares** and **Brandon Shanklin**. They were undefeated until the final round. Lubbock County was their first defeat in the finals. However, due to it being a double elimination format, both teams had to face each other again. The final round was the most intense. With only ten seconds per question, both teams had to be on point. In the first three questions of the round, both teams answered correctly and so fast neither lost any points. No team had done that up until this point. Here were two teams each doing it three times in row. The tie broke, but not for long. It was a tense game back and forth. At one point, only three points separated the teams. To give you an idea of how important and incredible this is, each question is worth up to a thousand points. The competition was so intense that it all came down to the last question.

Congratulations to Travis County who earned 2nd Place. Great Job! They gave the Lubbock team an unforgettable fight to the end. Just behind was another Lubbock County Team consisting of Sergeant **Emily Flores** and Sergeant **Mark Masqueda** who earned 3rd Place. Hats off to them as well!

I would like to congratulate all of the teams that participated. Without your participation, this game would not have been a success. I know many have said they are excited to return next year for The Courtroom Challenge: Quick Draw. The TCJS staff will be spending the year developing new and more difficult questions for next year's competition.

The staff of the Texas Commission on Jail Standards would like to take this opportunity to thank the sheriffs and administrators for allowing your jail staff to not only participate in our challenge, but for allowing them to attend the conference as a whole. We would also like to thank those who participated in the tournament as well as those spectators that attended the session. I would like to encourage more counties and teams to participate in next year's competition. We continue to see numerous people attend the challenge but fail to enter the game. I would like to extend a challenge to all of you that read this article, get your teams ready now! Begin learning the standards and enter the game next year. By increasing your knowledge of minimum jail standards, you will limit your liability in the jail and that alone, will make for a more safe and secure environment to work in. We hope to see you all next year!



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2018 TJA/100 Club Golf Tournament

The 2018 TJA/100 Club Golf Tournament was a success thanks in part to you! This year's tournament consisted of 96 players, the highest total of players in the tournament's history. None of this could have been possible without the support of our sponsors: Five Star Corrections, Tito's Vodka, The Range at Austin, CORE Defense Solutions, Travis County Sheriff's Law Enforcement Association, Union Supply Group, Keefe, and Trinity Services!

We would like to give special thanks to CORE Defense Solutions for their generous donation of an AR-15 rifle (\$1500 estimated value). The rifle was raffled and generated \$1200 towards the Jerry Baggs' Scholarship fund. New this year for the tournament, in honor of Past President Brent Phillips, was the "Brent Phillip's Hole-in-One Challenge." It generated an additional \$500 towards the scholarship fund. The net total raised for the tournament was \$8448.96! Half of the proceeds will be split with the 100 Club of Central Texas and the other half will be placed in the Jerry Baggs' Scholarship fund.

Thank you to the TJA Golf Committee for their hard work and efforts in getting the tournament organized. We look forward to a better year in 2019!



Thank you

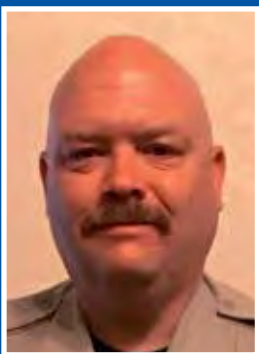
FROM THE
**TEXAS JAIL
ASSOCIATION**
NEW BOARD MEMBERS



The 32nd Annual TJA Conference is now in the books, and what a great conference it was. I want to start by thanking the membership for choosing me to serve as your 3rd Vice President. I look forward to what the future has in store for all of us.

I had the opportunity to teach a class on professionalism and ethics this year at the annual conference. I would like to thank the participants that attended my class and interacted with me. It was due to your participation in the class that made it a success. Thanks for helping make this conference great and I'll see you down the road.

Ricky Armstrong



I would like to thank everyone who voted for me to be a Director. I truly appreciate every member of this great Association. I look forward to serving you and working with the other Directors to make sure that all the conferences and trainings are the best they can be. I look forward to seeing and meeting more members in Galveston this year.

Bill Jennings

Comal County Sheriff's Office



I would like to thank all of the members that took the time and voted for me. I have been afforded the opportunity to serve as a Director and as Secretary through appointments. I take great pride in being elected as one of your Directors. It is in honor and a privilege that I take to heart. I will continue to serve the Association and all the members to the best of my capability. I look forward to the future and all the great things we can all do together as an Association. Your support is greatly appreciated and I am available to all the members if you need any assistance.

Thank You,

Frances Dembowski Director



I would like to thank all of the voters that participated in the TJA elections. Although I was not elected to the Board of Directors, I am honored that President Martin Gonzales appointed me to the position of Secretary. I look forward to learning about the operations of the Board with an insider's view. See you all in Galveston in September.

Secretary Terry McCraw

WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND THE STATE

ANGELINA COUNTY

On May 4, 2018, Angelina County Sheriff Greg Sanches swore in three new deputies – Deputy **Garland Waggonner**, Deputy **Brandon Rainwater**, and Deputy **Michael Perez**. This was a very special day because all three men began their law enforcement career as correctional officers in the Angelina County Jail before deciding to become licensed peace officers. They attended East Texas Police Academy in Kilgore, Texas together and even continued to work their shifts in the jail while driving back and forth to the academy each day. Deputy Perez, a former Army sergeant, faithfully fulfilled his duty with the Army National Guard and made up any academy class time he missed. Their dedication and hard work paid off. We are very proud to welcome Deputy Waggonner, Deputy Rainwater, and Deputy Perez!



Left to Right: Sheriff Greg Sanches, Deputy Garland Waggonner, Deputy Brandon Rainwater, and Deputy Michael Perez.

HOUSTON COUNTY

Donavan Mahan was recently promoted to jail sergeant on March 28, 2018. Sergeant Mahan came to work at the Houston County Sheriff's Office Jail in September 2017. He recently became a certified jailer after completing the State Jail Certification School that was held at the Houston County Sheriff's Office.



Left to Right: Chief Deputy Gary Shearer and Sergeant Mahan.

LUBBOCK COUNTY

On February 12, 2018, the Commissioner's Court recognized and presented service awards to the following Lubbock county employees: **Mary Gonzales** (25yrs), **Molly Ramos** (20yrs), Captain **Ronald Jenkins** (15yrs), Sergeant **Kevin Payne** (15yrs), **Kim Ammons** (15yrs), **Joel Buford** (10yrs), **Rose Monroe** (5yrs), **Gabriel Reyna** (5yrs), **Wade Goolsby** (5yrs), **Kasi Isbell** (5yrs), **Bryan Garza** (5yrs) and **Cody Baker** (5yrs). Chief **Cody Scott** was recognized for 30 years of service. Chief Scott began his career with Lubbock County in December 1987.



Officers **Allyson Kunkel** and **JoAnn Moore** were recognized by Lubbock County Sheriff **Kelly Rowe** as the Detention Officer Employees of the Month for March 2018. Kunkel and Moore responded to an officer needs assistance call in the facility's Medical Center. Upon arrival, Officers Kunkel and Moore immediately began to assist a medical staff member with rendering initial medical aid to an unresponsive officer. Officers Kunkel and Moore applied pressure to a major laceration on the officer's head while giving continued reassurance. The immediate actions of Officers Kunkel and Moore gave medical

staff the opportunity to focus on other complications related to the incident.

Officer Kunkel has been employed with the Lubbock County Sheriff's Office since November of 2015. Officer Kunkel later completed the certification for the ICE 287g program and is one of several Immigration Officers assigned to the Detention Center. Officer Moore started with the agency in October of 2016. Officers Kunkel and Moore have clearly demonstrated they are willing to go above and beyond in any situation they encounter. Sheriff



Rowe deputized **Brandon Jones** and **Darian Heathington**, and **Austin Moore** was welcomed and assigned to the Detention Center as a clerk.



Sheriff Rowe recognized **Edgar Garcia** as Employee of the Month for April 2018 and Officer **Heath Dillard** as Employee of the Month for May 2018.



Sheriff Rowe announced the graduates from the Basic County Correctional Officer Course: **Logan Knox** (Lamb Co), **Joshua Yeung**, **Channing Robinson**, **Francis Thompson** (Lamb Co), **Melissa Wilson**, **Ashtin Steffey** (Lynn Co), **Mary Burton Cox**, **Michael Soto**, **Brandon Williams**, **Joseph Jacquez**, **Andrea Uribe**, **Dacoda Perry**, **Kimberly Moore**, **Russell Smith** (Lamb Co), **Mara Juliao**, **Tomas Guzman** (Bailey Co), **Shakira Conwright**, **Jared Silva**, **Bret Lewis**, and **Jennifer LaMarr**.



The Lubbock County Detention Center recognized volunteers who dedicate their time and are committed to helping inmates in the Detention Center. The Lubbock County Detention Center has 170 volunteers offering classes of education, religion, re-entry, and rehabilitation to reduce recidivism and improve recovery. 2,505 classes and 430 baptisms were held last year with 30,926 attendees. Recognized were **Ann Krier** (Education Volunteer of the Year), **Rene Martinez** (Re-entry Volunteer of the Year), **Dr. Bret Hendricks** (Rehabilitation Volunteer of the Year), and **Rex**

Henderson and Larry Gunset (Religious Group of the Year). A big thank you to all the volunteers for changing lives and giving hope.



Sergeant **Mark Mosqueda** promoted to Sergeant assigned to the Detention Center. Officer Mosqueda began his career with Lubbock County on May 2017.



Walk a Mile in Her Shoes....all in an effort to help, heal, and give hope to all persons affected by sexual violence. Our very own Detention Response Team took that challenge to help raise money and awareness for a worthy cause. Shift staff and the Detention Response Team sponsored a variety of fundraisers – raising \$3,600 for Voice of Hope.



MCLENNAN COUNTY

The McLennan County Sheriff's Office Honor Guard had the privilege of posting the colors for the Annual Cattle Barons Ball for the American Cancer Society - saving lives by helping people stay well, helping people get well, finding cures, and fighting back against cancer. Call (254) 753-0807 for more information, or visit centraltexascattlebaronsball.org.



Left to Right: Lieutenant Tony Ward, Officer Marco Castillo, Sergeant Marco Hinojos, Deputy Michael Sine, and Corporal Mark Mocuta

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Gina Atkinson was promoted to the rank of detention sergeant on March 10, 2018 by Sheriff **Rand Henderson**.



ORANGE COUNTY

On March 28, 2018, Orange County Sheriff Keith Merritt promoted Corporal Justin Neely to the rank of sergeant. Sergeant Neely has been employed with the Orange County Sheriff's Office since November 20, 2000.



On March 28, 2018, Sheriff Keith Merritt promoted Officer Matthew LaFleur to the rank of corporal with the Orange County Sheriff's Office. Corporal LaFleur has been employed with the Orange County Sheriff's Department since November 23, 1999.



WICHITA COUNTY

Sheriff's Office Quarterly Awards Ceremony May 10, 2018

Service Award

Legend has it that Chief **Derrald Choate** began his career with the Wichita County Sheriff's Office in July 1987 as a Detention Officer. In November 1990, he became a deputy and in 1994 he was promoted to Corporal in the Patrol Division. Choate left the Sheriff's Office in 1996 to take a Law Enforcement position with the 6666 Ranch. He returned to the Sheriff's Office in 2007 as a deputy and was promoted to Sergeant in the Criminal Investigation Division in 2008. In 2011, he was promoted to Captain over the Patrol Division. He was promoted to Deputy Chief in 2012 and was then promoted to Chief Deputy in 2018. Today, we are recognizing Chief Choate for his 20 years of service to the Wichita County Sheriff's Office.



Left to Right: Chief Deputy Derrald Choate and Sheriff David Duke.

Tessa Price Award

This past February was the seventh anniversary of the tragic death of **Tessa Price**, who was killed by a drunk driver Sunday, February 13, 2011. Tessa was only 16 years old and was a junior at City View High School. She is survived by her mother **Lisa Gubernath**, and family. Tessa was active at her Church, loved going shopping, played soccer, and loved spending time with her family. The crime of a person driving while intoxicated caused Tessa to lose her life.

The year of Tessa's death, 2011, 9,878 people were killed and approximately 350,000 were injured by drunk driving. Each crash, loss of life, and injured person, impacted friends, family, co-workers and classmates. In 2016, 987 people were killed by drunk driving in the State of Texas.

The Wichita County Sheriff's Office remembers the life of Tessa Price by each driving while intoxicated (DWI) arrest. In 2016, the Wichita County Sheriff's Patrol Division made over 100 DWI arrests. Of the over 100 DWI arrests, Deputy Matthew Schenck made 37 DWI arrests. The 2017 Tessa Price Award goes to Deputy **Matthew Schenck**.



Left to Right: Deputy Matthew Schenck and Sheriff David Duke.

Tessa Price Memorial Scholarships

This year, Herb Easley Chevrolet has again graciously given two \$500.00 Scholarships to two students in remembrance of Tessa Price. The scholarships were awarded to:

Islam Sbeih is a senior at Midwestern State University and a criminal justice major. He is from Oakland, California and planning a career in the criminal justice field after graduation.

Brandi Putney is a criminal justice major at Midwestern State University and is currently working on her Master's Degree. She is from Wichita Falls, Texas and is currently attending the Vernon College Police Academy. She is planning a career in the federal law enforcement area.



Left to Right: Islam Sbeih, Brandi Putney and Sheriff David Duke.



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