

THE TEXAS JAIL ASSOCIATION KEY ISSUES

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Winter 2020 Edition

Past President's Passage



I will start off a little different than my usual opening, with a question; Why should I? I have heard this phrase in my lifetime, heck I myself have used it before! The “Why should I?” that I am referring to today is the ability and ever so important act of volunteering. Throughout the year, organizations are seeking volunteers, most importantly non-profit organizations.

When asked to volunteer, most able bodied people will ask, “Why should I?” I will gladly share my story because I like y’all. When I joined the Texas Jail Association in 2013, I was newly appointed by Sheriff David Soward in Atascosa County as his Jail Administrator. I did not have my feet planted in that role but I decided to run for a TJA Board of Directors position. I was not elected in 2013, but I must have impressed TJA President Steve Fisher in some way because he afforded me the privilege to a one year appointed position on the TJA Board. I was the only Board Member from South Texas, so naturally I felt a little out of place. Not that anyone was unfriendly to me, I just was not familiar with too many folks yet and it was starting a new chapter in my career. Little did I know what a ride I was in for.

I always had a fire and passion for this business, so I saw opportunities to improve our profession and to assist others who were going through a situation I had been in before. People in our business were very open to new ideas and ways to improve. With so much positive happening, I realized that pacing yourself was key to keep consistently moving forward.

While having coffee in Montgomery, Texas with a small group of TJA members, we were fortunate to have heard possibly the best advice as it relates to volunteering. TJA Past President (at the time, he was TJA 2nd Vice President) Brent Phillips told us that what we do within TJA is crucial to our existence. He continued, what we do is volunteer work and unlike anything else we do, this work requires 100% effort. If we were planning on anything less, we were serving for the wrong reason.

For me, this turned on a light within me and made me realize that he was right. I never thought of it that way, but Brent knew how to put it in words. I will be forever grateful for knowing Brent Phillips. Matter of fact, I am now in my 7th year on the TJA Board and let me say that I have met the wisest jail professionals in Texas. You can say they are also my family. When they succeed, I rejoice and during sad times, I sympathize. These people will forever be my family and I hope that you all feel the same. This is it, for now. I pray for your safety, prosperity and success. Until next time.



Captain Martin Gonzales
Atascosa County Jail Administrator
TJA Past President

Message from the President



Texas Jail Association Members,

I hope everyone had a great holiday season. We are already getting geared up for the 34th Annual Conference, May 11th-15th in Austin. I am looking forward to seeing you all again.

We had a great time teaching Current Trends with the Texas Commission on Jail Standards this fall. I always learn a lot discussing the latest issues with our members. I know you and your staff learned a lot as well. These classes will continue to be taught around the state and a list of locations can be found on the TJA website. Continuing to learn and improve your skills is a characteristic of a great leader in all professions that strive for excellence. The Texas Jail Association continues to set the standard for great training, and I am proud to be a part of this family.

On that note, please be on the lookout for our regional trainings being held throughout the state. Texas jails are held to very high standards and continued training for your staff will continue to benefit your agency. Every opportunity we have to learn from each other and take those lessons back to our agencies is a win for you and a win for our profession. It doesn't matter what role you play at your agency, your contribution is invaluable.

We all get caught up in the day to day routine of our job. Just remember that there are not many careers that offer us such a direct opportunity to impact our community. Each day you go to work, and each task you complete with professionalism, makes a difference in your community and is such an important service to all people. Keep striving to do good, to improve yourself, and to improve others. You are leaving your mark on this profession and this world. I will say it again, I am so proud to be connected to each of you.

I can't wait to see you in Austin! May God bless each and every one of you.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kevin Stuart".

Lieutenant Kevin Stuart,
Brazos County Sheriff's Office
TJA President



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Membership Report

I hope everyone is doing well. I am looking forward to what the new year has to offer. I would again like to thank all of our members for supporting TJA. I would also like to ask all of the Sheriff's and Jail Administrators to encourage their staff to join TJA. If you have not attended one of the TJA trainings, please get signed up, along with the training you also will become a member. I would like to thank Jason Davis, and Levi Vance for their help on the membership committee and the member spotlight. If you have any questions or we can be of any help please contact one of us.

MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS

PROFESSIONAL – 1,247

ASSOCIATE – 43

BUSINESS – 28

Becky Caffey, 3rd Vice President

becky.caffey@browncountytexas.org / 325-646-5510

Jason Davis, Director

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LEADERSHIP

IN TURBULENT TIMES



Leadership in Turbulent Times, by Doris Kearns Goodwin. New York: Simon and Schuster, 2018. Pp. 496, \$30.00 (hardcover), and \$49.99 (audiobook). ISBN:1476795924 ISBN13:9781476795928

Dan Richard Beto

“Turnaround Leadership: Franklin Roosevelt and the Hundred Days” is the title of Chapter 11, which provides a detailed description of how the 32nd President of the United States, coming into office at the depth of



the Great Depression, took decisive action to turn the country around. Of the four chapters on presidential leadership, I found this one to be the most interesting, because it reminded me of times when I was called upon to take on troubled probation departments and what I had to do on those occasions. Found in Appendix C is a list of leadership behaviors employed by this president as identified by Dr. Goodwin.

In Chapter 12 – “Visionary Leadership: Lyndon Johnson and Civil Rights” – the author examines the leadership style of her former employer, the 36th President of the United States. Like Theodore Roosevelt, Lyndon Johnson came to office as the result of an assassination. In terms of service, he was one of the best prepared persons to assume the presidency, and he was successful in promoting a far reaching domestic agenda – the Great Society – and passing civil rights legislation; unfortunately, the successes he achieved were unfavorably overshadowed by America’s involvement in the highly contentious Vietnam War and the ensuing conflicts it caused at home. Notwithstanding his faults, Johnson possessed a number of leadership skills, and they are listed in Appendix D.

The final pages of the book – well over 100 – are devoted to an epilogue – “On Death and Remembrance” – followed by a bibliography, an informative list of business books on the subject of leadership, abbreviations and notes, credits, and an index.

In reading this book I did something I’ve only done on a couple of occasions, I absorbed it in two different ways; I listened to an audiobook version while driving my vehicle and then read those portions to which I had previously listened. This gave me a greater appreciation and understanding of the book’s contents. While I’m not recommending that someone take this approach, I will acknowledge that I found it useful to me. The hardcover of *Leadership in Turbulent Times* sells for \$30.00; it is available from Amazon.com for \$20.40. And the price of the audiobook is \$49.99; it may be purchased from Amazon.com for \$30.34.

In *Leadership in Turbulent Times*, Doris Kearns Goodwin has produced an excellent book that should be in the library of every person who is interested in American history and presidential leadership. Too, persons wishing to assume leadership positions or advance in a given profession – including the criminal justice system – would find this book instructive.

Appendix A

Abraham Lincoln’s Leadership Qualities

- Acknowledge when failed policies demand a change in direction.
- Gather firsthand information, ask questions.
- Find time and space in which to think.
- Exhaust all possibility of compromise before imposing unilateral executive power.
- Anticipate contending viewpoints.
- Assume full responsibility for a pivotal decision.
- Understand the emotional needs of each member of the team.
- Refuse to let past resentments fester; transcend personal vendettas.
- Set a standard of mutual respect and dignity; control anger.
- Shield colleagues from blame.
- Maintain perspective in the face of both accolades and abuse.
- Find ways to cope with pressure, maintain balance, and replenish energy.
- Keep your word.
- Know when to hold back, when to move forward.
- Combine transactional and transformational leadership.
- Be assessable, easy to approach.
- Put ambition for the collective interest above self-interest.

Appendix B

Theodore Roosevelt’s Leadership Qualities

- Calculate risks of getting involved.
- Secure a reliable understanding of the facts, causes, and conditions of the situation.

- Remain uncommitted in the early stages.
- Use history to provide perspective.
- Be ready to grapple with reversals, abrupt intrusions that can unravel all plans.
- Reevaluate options; be ready to adapt as a situation escalates.
- Be visible. Cultivate public support among those most directly affected by the crisis.
- Clear the deck to focus with single-mindedness on the crisis.
- Assemble a crisis management team.
- Frame the narrative.
- Keep temper in check.
- Document proceedings each step of the way.
- Control the message in the press.
- Find ways to relieve stress.
- Be ready with multiple strategies; prepare contingent moves.
- Don't hit unless you have to, but when you hit, hit hard.
- Find ways to save face.
- Share credit for the successful resolution.
- Leave a record behind for the future.

Appendix C

Franklin Roosevelt's Leadership Qualities

- Draw an immediate sharp line of demarcation between what has gone before and what is about to begin.
- Restore confidence to the spirit and morale of the people; strike the right balance of realism and optimism.
- Infuse a sense of shared purpose and direction.
- Tell people what they can expect and what is expected of them.
- Lead by example.
- Forge a team aligned with action and change.
- Create a gathering pause, a window of time.
- Bring all stakeholders aboard.
- Set a deadline and drive full-bore to meet it.
- Set forth and maintain clear-cut ground rules with the press.
- Tell the story simply, directly to the people.

- Address systemic problems; launch lasting reforms.
- Be open to experiment; design flexible agencies to deal with new problems.
- Stimulate competition and debate; encourage creativity.
- Open channels of unfiltered information to supplement and challenge official sources.
- Adapt; be ready to change course quickly when necessary.

Appendix D

Lyndon Johnson's Leadership Qualities

- Make a dramatic start.
- Lead with your strengths.
- Simplify the agenda.
- Established the most effective order of battle.
- Honor commitments.
- Drive, drive, drive.
- Master the power of narrative.
- Know for what and when to risk it all.
- Rally support around a strategic target.
- Draw a clear line of battle.
- Impose discipline in the ranks.
- Identify the key to success; put ego aside.
- Take the measure of the man.
- Set forth a compelling picture of the future.
- The readiness is all.
- Give stakeholders a chance to shape measures from the start.
- Know when to hold back, when to move forward.
- Let celebrations honor the past and provide momentum for the future.

Dan Richard Beto, who served as Chief Probation Officer in two Texas jurisdictions, was the founding Executive Director of the Correctional Management Institute of Texas at Sam Houston State University. A past President of the Texas Probation Association and the National Association of Probation Executives, he is a life member of the Texas Jail Association.

The Texas Jail Association is accepting nominations for Detention Officer of the Year (Professional Service and Valor), the Hall of Fame, and the Jerry Baggs Leadership Award. The purpose of these awards is to recognize exceptional service provided by an individual in the field of county jail operations. How often have you been told that you're doing a good job? Positive reinforcement and recognition of a job well done encourages staff to continue this exemplary behavior. TJA encourages you to evaluate your agency and find the individual that is excelling and is deserving of recognition. Whether it is a peer, a subordinate, or a supervisor, there is someone who has positively impacted your agency. Their level of professionalism, esprit de corps, dedication, loyalty and/or actions has made a difference in the field of county corrections. Now is the time for you to recognize them.

The nomination process is simple. **Please complete the nomination form and submit to the Awards Committee by March 1, 2020.** A person does not have to be a member of TJA; however they must be eligible for membership. These awards will be presented at the 34th Annual TJA Conference, May 11-15, 2020, in Austin, Texas. Recipients will receive complimentary conference registration and hotel accommodations at the Annual Training Conference. The recipients will also be presented with a commemorative plaque and will be recognized in the TJA newsletter. Any nomination must have the written endorsement of the agency head.

Nominations will be accepted for the following awards:

Detention Officer of the Year - Professional Service

This award is given to an individual working in county corrections who has demonstrated a commitment to professional service at his/her agency by making outstanding contributions to county corrections that exceed basic ability and expected performance.

Detention Officer of the Year - Valor

This award is given to an individual working in county corrections who demonstrated courage or valor in the face of danger while in the performance of his/her official duties.

Hall of Fame Award

This award is a tribute to the service of an individual career of outstanding contributions to county corrections and the criminal justice system. The recipient of this award has demonstrated a dedication to the advancement of the field of county corrections.

Jerry Baggs Leadership Award

This award is presented to an individual employed in the field of county corrections who has demonstrated outstanding leadership in and appreciation of the field of county corrections. He or she has exhibited a sincere commitment to the professional advancement of county corrections personnel.

Please complete this form and any supporting documents by March 1, 2020.

Please describe in specific detail how this nominee meets the criteria for the award. Attach additional pages if needed. Also attach supporting documentation such as offense reports, sworn statements, newspaper accounts, and letters of recommendation.

Person Nominated: _____

Department/Agency: _____

Position or Title: _____

Address: _____

Phone Numbers: _____

Nominated by: _____

Position or Title: _____

Endorsement by Agency Head: _____

Mail Form to: Texas Jail Association, Attn: Awards Committee, Correctional Management Institute Of Texas, George J. Beto Criminal Justice Center, Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, Texas 77341-2296

ELECTION TIME IS COMING! We need good people from around the state to continue the tradition of dedication and commitment set by current and past officers and board members. Become involved and submit a nomination now. The TJA Nomination Committee will be selecting a slate of candidates for the following positions:

THIRD VICE PRESIDENT

The person elected will serve progressively through the vice presidential chairs to become your president. Only voting members of the Association who are in good standing shall be eligible to hold office. The member must have completed at least one full year of service on the Board of Directors to be eligible for this position. The member elected to the position serves as the Membership Chairman and is responsible for the recruiting and retention of our membership along with other executive duties.

TREASURER

The Treasurer is responsible for keeping accurate records of all financial dealings of the TJA. This position requires not only Board meeting attendance but to otherwise be available for audit, tax, and routine payment purposes. This person should possess financial acumen and have a thorough working knowledge of the Association. They serve on the Executive Committee in addition to the Finance Committee. The member must have completed at least one full year of service on the Board of Directors to be eligible for this position. Members elected to this position shall serve a three-year term in office.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS – Two positions are open

The Board of Directors shall be the governing body of the Association. The President shall be the presiding officer at all Board meetings. The Board shall be empowered to authorize expenditures for the general business of the Association, authorize additional expenditures, and set appropriate charges. The Board may enter into any agreement or contract with other personnel or organizations for the advancement of the Association. Members elected to this position shall serve a three-year term in office.

NOMINATION PROCESS

Nominations with an attached resume, picture, and letter of endorsement from the agency head are to be returned to: **TJA Headquarters, Attn: Sharese Hurst, Box 2296, Huntsville, Texas 77341-2296.**

NOMINATION GUIDELINES

1. Individuals must be professional members in good standing as specified in the by-laws at the time of nomination.
2. Nominating Committee members shall not be considered for office.
3. Only hard copies of nominations will be considered. Self-nominations are acceptable.
4. Office being sought shall be identified in the nomination.
5. Endorsement of the affected agency head must accompany the nomination. Nominations lacking the agency head's endorsement will not be considered for office.*
6. Elections shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of Article VI of the by-laws. **Nominations must be received by March 2, 2020.**

All nominations shall contain the following for consideration: Full Name, Current Occupation, Official Title, Business Address and Phone Number, a brief biographical sketch (not to exceed 150 words), letter of endorsement from the agency head, and a picture to be included on the ballot. Nominations received after the deadline cannot be considered.

*Successful nominees should have the support of their Sheriff because the positions require significant time and travel away from the office. The duties may include teaching throughout the State, conference preparation, speaker introduction, class moderation, registration, reconciliation of monies, and inventory. If you possess the skillset, knowledge, dedication and commitment to service, TJA is looking for you. Be an integral part of an Association whose mission is advancing the professional career of corrections.

All packets will be sent to the Nomination Committee Chair for verification of eligibility and distribution to committee members.

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

Dan Corbin, 1st Vice President & Chairman
Lubbock County Sheriff's Office

Ricky Armstrong, 2nd Vice President
McLennan County Sheriff's Office

AJ Bonner, Member at Large
Hale County Sheriff's Office

IT IS WITH GREAT SADNESS WE ANNOUNCE THE PASSING OF

Retired Chief Deputy Mike Henson



Michael Eugene Henson 72, of League City, TX passed away on October 27, 2019 in Webster, TX. He was born October 28, 1946 in Orange, TX to Oscar and Edna Henson. Michael retired as a Chief Deputy for 32 years with the Galveston County Sheriff Department. He also served in the U.S. Navy during the Vietnam War.

He was preceded in death by his parents and brother Patrick G. Henson. Survivors include his wife, Penny G. Henson; daughter Lynne A. Quoyeser & husband, Raymond; son Michael E. Henson, Jr. & wife, Lynette; sister Sharon L. Ratisseau and brother Gary Henson. Also surviving are six grandchildren, Courtney &

Colton Holder, Michaela Henson, Camden Quoyeser, Trey Henson and Shelby Quoyeser.

Funeral services were held on Thursday, October 31, 2019 in the Chapel of Crowder Funeral Home in League City, TX. A visitation was held on Wednesday, November 1, 2019 at the Crowder Funeral Home. Internment followed at Greenlawn-Davis Cemetery in Rosenberg, TX. The family requests in lieu of flowers that donations be made to a charity of your choice.

MEMBER HIGHLIGHT: Ashley Lozano

Ashley Lozano began her employment with the Tom Green County Sheriff's Office \ Jail Division in June of 2014. Ashley worked as an officer for 3 years before being promoted to the rank of Corporal. Ashley excelled as a frontline supervisor and soon proved to be a supervisor that officers could turn to for guidance. She quickly developed the reputation of someone her supervisors could count on. In



August of 2018 Ashley was promoted to the rank of Sergeant.

Ashley is currently enrolled in Criminal Justice courses and is working towards obtaining her Bachelor's degree. She is an Intermediate Jail Officer and will soon obtain her Advance Jail license. Ashley balances a promising career and college courses while being a single mom.



Texas Jail Association's Key Issues

Call for Articles!

Key Issues invites **ALL MEMBERS** to send articles, photographs, presentations, papers, announcements, challenges, creative solutions or any submission that may be of interest to the TJA membership.

**LAST DATE FOR SUBMISSION IN THE SPRING ISSUE
MARCH 1ST, 2020**

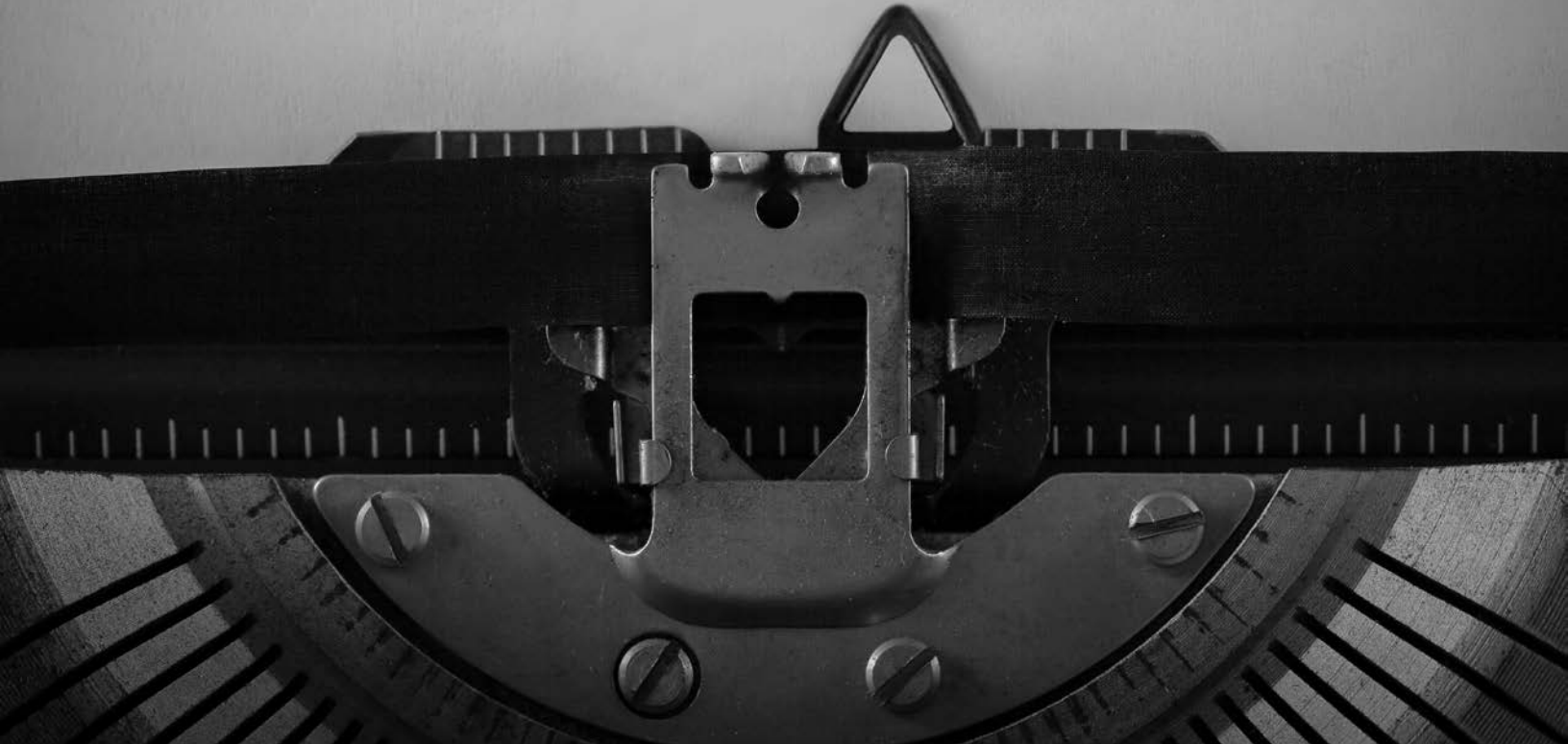
**LAST DATE FOR SUBMISSION IN THE SUMMER ISSUE
JUNE 1ST, 2020**

**SEND SUBMISSIONS OR QUESTIONS TO:
SHARESE@SHSU.EDU**

ALL SUBMISSIONS ARE WELCOME FOR CONSIDERATION!

In Reversal, Counties And States Help Inmates Keep Medicaid

by Max Blau



This article initially appeared in Stateline, a news publication of The Pew Charitable Trusts. Since its founding in 1998, Stateline has maintained a commitment to the highest standards of nonpartisanship, objectivity, and integrity. Its team of veteran journalists combines original reporting with a roundup of the latest news from sources around the country. This article is reprinted with permission from The Pew Charitable Trusts.

Max Blau is an Atlanta-based journalist who writes narrative and investigative stories for newspapers, magazines, and digital media outlets; his areas of interest include health care and the criminal justice system.

More local and state officials are working to ensure that low-income residents stay on Medicaid when they go to jail.

Federal law bars Medicaid recipients from accessing their full federal health benefits while incarcerated. But officials from both parties have pushed for two key changes to ensure little or no disruption of health benefits for pretrial detainees who have not been convicted of a crime and make up most of the 612,000 people held in America's county jails.

In recent years, officials have increasingly implemented a stopgap measure to help inmates more seamlessly reactivate their Medicaid coverage upon release from jail or prison.

And a bipartisan coalition of county sheriffs, commissioners and judges are now lobbying federal lawmakers to change a long-standing policy and let pretrial detainees retain coverage while in custody.

The National Association of Counties and the National Sheriffs' Association, which are supporting the effort,

estimate that it would cost the federal government in excess of \$3 billion a year.

“Just because you’ve been in jail for a short period of time, that shouldn’t automatically knock you off the [Medicaid] rolls,” David Davis, the Democratic sheriff of Bibb County, Georgia, told Stateline. “You then have to go through enrollment all over again.”

Some county officials say the policy is discriminatory, allowing people who can post bond to retain their benefits, but denying coverage to indigent individuals. They also say the policy collectively burdens local and state governments with billions of dollars in additional health care costs.

Beyond that, some officials say the denial of federal health benefits to pretrial detainees disrupts inmate medical care, a key factor that can increase their chances of landing behind bars again.

“Jail is not a hotel stay, nor is it vacation,” said Brett Clark, Republican sheriff of Hendricks County, Indiana. “But this issue is a hurdle and a barrier for folks who need to get into treatment programs.”

Concern regarding what’s known as the Medicaid Inmate Exclusion Policy — which dates to 1965 — has grown as sheriffs, jailers and wardens have seen limited budget increases for a jail population that’s one of the sickest and most vulnerable in the nation.

Once someone is booked in jail, city and county governments are required to pay for the costs of their health care until that person is released. If convicted, federal or state officials typically pick up the tab for medical treatment through the remainder of the sentence. But the disruption to medical care is linked to high risks of mortality, medication lapses and recidivism.

The only time inmates can use their Medicaid benefits is when a practitioner orders a hospital admission that lasts longer than 24 hours.

In a statement, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services told Stateline it encourages states to shift from

terminating Medicaid enrollment for pretrial detainees — which forces people to reapply after their release — toward suspending enrollment.

The number of states that suspend enrollment, making it easier for inmates to reactivate their Medicaid benefits, has more than tripled, from 12 to more than 40, during the past six years.

In Washington, sheriffs and police chiefs now provide booking data to the state’s health authority, which allows it to reinstate Medicaid coverage to returning residents automatically.

In New York, the state health department has applied for a federal waiver to reactivate inmate Medicaid benefits 30 days before their release.

However, 1 in 6 states — including Missouri and Wisconsin — still terminate Medicaid enrollment, according to the Kaiser Family Foundation. And reapplying can take weeks or months.

Officials in those states lack the technology to make similar changes, or, in some cases, misunderstand the exclusion policy, according to the Council of State Governments Justice Center.

But officials in some of those states, including Utah and Idaho, say they’re now transitioning to suspending enrollment instead of terminating and reactivating it.

“Medicaid has never been a popular program with our state policymakers,” said Karen Crompton, director of Utah’s Salt Lake County Human Services. “Now, some local officials are pushing Congress to make changes to the Medicaid Inmate Exclusion Policy.”

The issue of jail health care, aside from addiction treatment, was largely left out of the recent federal criminal justice changes — including the First Step Act, which broadly seeks to reduce recidivism, in part by increasing access to addiction treatment.

Last fall, four Democratic senators introduced legislation to prevent pretrial detainees from losing their fed-

eral health benefits. (A companion House bill is expected in the near future.)

U. S. Sen. Sherrod Brown of Ohio, one of the sponsors, told Stateline that the measure would help counties and states further combat the opioid and mental health epidemics, while also keeping law enforcement officers safer.

At least two Republicans — U. S. Rep. Earl “Buddy” Carter of Georgia and U. S. Sen. Bill Cassidy of Louisiana — have expressed concerns about the price tag potentially attached to the bill.

But some county officials from both sides of the aisle say such financial concerns are misguided, and, in some cases, are fueled by stigma against inmates.

“The federal government is getting a break here,” said Nancy Sharpe, a Republican county commissioner in Arapahoe County, Colorado. “These people are entitled and already on the rolls. Counties are instead picking up the cost for something the federal government should be paying for.”

'Unfair Burden on Jails'

Since the late 1970s, America’s 3,160 local jails have been required to provide “adequate” medical treatment to inmates, according to standards that emerged from the landmark ruling in *Estelle v. Gamble* and subsequent cases. But the federal government doesn’t cover local jail or state prison health costs.

Greg Champagne, the Republican sheriff of Louisiana’s St. Charles Parish, said the federal policy denying pretrial detainees’ access to their health benefits violates their constitutional rights under the Fifth and 14th Amendments.

To understand why, the sheriff offered an example of two inmates arrested on charges of drunken driving. The one who has the money to make bail retains federal health benefits, but the second, who can’t make bail, loses those benefits.

“We shouldn’t treat someone differently because they don’t have the money for bail,” Champagne said.

A report from the National Association of Counties, which represents over 2,400 U.S. counties, notes that the Social Security Act prohibits Medicaid spending for “inmates of a public institution.”

But Blaire Bryant, an associate legislative director for the association, said the 55-year-old federal policy never distinguished between detainees who are still considered innocent and people who are convicted and sentenced to state or federal prison.

“Pretrial detainees, but for their housing status, would be still on their medical benefits,” said Bryant, who has led the group’s efforts to lobby to end the Medicaid exclusion for pretrial detainees. “And it places an unfair burden on jails.”

In a 2017 policy brief, University of Michigan researchers argued states and counties could apply for matching funds for Medicaid-covered services if the federal exclusion policy were repealed.

For decades, most states instead kicked anyone booked in jail who couldn’t post bond off their Medicaid rolls. Not only does this force pretrial detainees to use county-funded health care, which is typically more limited than their Medicaid coverage, it also disrupts care after release, Bryant said.

Local and state officials, recognizing this issue, have sought to reduce disruption upon release by suspending inmate participation in the federal health program. This bureaucratic tweak allows jails to help inmates approaching their release date to get their Medicaid reinstated faster.

Democratic Sheriff Jerry Clayton, who oversees the Washtenaw County jail in Ann Arbor, Michigan, devotes staff to help with the paperwork needed to re-enroll inmates near release.

Clark, the Hendricks County sheriff, said his staff’s effort to suspend Medicaid enrollment — and later reac-

tivate it — can reduce the risk of recidivism and save taxpayer dollars.

Sharpe, the Arapahoe County commissioner, said current policy requires the county to spend nearly a quarter of its annual jail health care budget — \$1.2 million — on pretrial detainees who lose access to Medicaid benefits.

Because Arapahoe, and not the federal government, covers this expense, inmates receive fewer services such as counseling and workforce training, Sharpe said.

Clayton in Washtenaw County budgets roughly \$1 million for inmate health care each year. Of that, one-tenth is spent on pretrial detainees. But the sheriff says a single inmate booked with a serious medical condition — like someone in need of dialysis or HIV care — could potentially gobble up the full budget.

“If someone needs significant surgery, the hospital bill can be in the hundreds of thousands of dollars,” Clayton said. “We’re always one or two inmates away from blowing our budget. It’s an untenable position.”

Counties, States Urge Federal Action

Faced with growing awareness of the problem, Republican and Democratic local officials have turned to lawmakers in Washington, D.C., to change the Social Security Act to allow pretrial detainees to keep their federal health benefits.

The costs are “a burden to bear for rural and less affluent counties — areas that are predominately Republican,” U. S. Sen. Jeff Merkley of Oregon told Stateline. “The cost is a big issue, and the complexity of the administrative burden. I think both things will lead to Republican support.”

Despite the support for the bill from the county and sheriff associations, Clayton fears the lobbying effort over a potential \$3.3 billion annual price tag will be a hurdle in getting the bill passed.

Helen Stone, a Republican commissioner in Chatham County, Georgia, said that she’s repeatedly lobbied the office of her U.S. congressman, Carter, the Republican who has expressed concerns about the potential price tag, but has so far been met with “reluctance.”

Carter told Stateline that county officials must collect more data to provide him and other lawmakers with a fuller understanding of the issue’s national scope.

Cole Avery, a spokesman for Cassidy, the Louisiana Republican who expressed similar concerns, told Stateline that the senator is interested in a form of the policy that could make it to the president’s desk.

For that to happen, he believes a bill with a “narrowed scope” that focuses solely on mental health and addiction would have a better chance of advancing through the Senate.

Clark, for his part, said that stigma toward inmates, and the broader indifference toward investing in jail conditions, may dampen widespread support for the federal bill. Some Americans think that a “tough on crime” attitude requires a more punitive approach to inmates, he said.

“No sheriff sees this as weak on crime,” Clark said. “We see this as smart on crime. It’s always a challenge to see the big picture.”

Without changes at the federal level, Miami-Dade County Judge Steve Leifman said, counties will find little-to-no relief for rising jail costs, which will limit their ability to improve hospitals, roads and schools.

But several local officials told Stateline that legislation is only the first phase of the fight to change this policy. If the bill hits roadblocks in Congress, the county and sheriff associations may potentially file a lawsuit to challenge the policy’s constitutionality.

“What we’re doing now doesn’t make sense,” said Michael Adkinson, Republican sheriff of Walton County, Florida, which suspends Medicaid benefits. “It’s not saving money. It’s cost-shifting.”

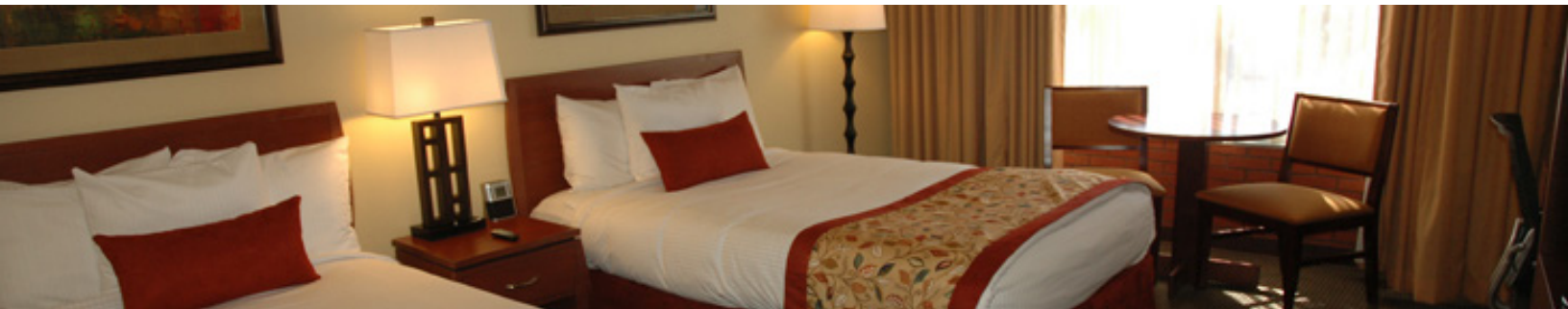
Rosa Bass, San Jacinto County
Sarah Bigham, Grayson County
Kyle Cox, Hill County
James Eiselstein, Orange County
Justin Galliton, Archer County
Bryan Gordy, Johnson County
Dana Lewis, Waller County
Terry McCraw, Collin County
Samantha Pedroza, Stephens County
Rene Ramirez, Willacy County
Luis Angel Rodriguez, Jim Hogg County
Jacob Shelly, Hood County
Mashell Thompson, Hamilton County
Brandon Vasquez, Yoakum County

Michelle Beauchamp, Shackelford County
Darrell Coslin, Smith County
Scott Delacerda, Hardin County
Nathan Ervin, Cooke County
Michael Garrett, McLennan County
Charles Lawson, Brown County
Angelica Martinez, La Salle County
Edd Nehring, Falls County
Daniel Quam, Fort Bend County
Gary Robinson, Gregg County
Steven Salas, Karnes County
Coleman Spinhirne, Oldham County
Matthew Torres, Terry County
Martha Ward, Garza County





JUNE 14 – 19, 2020
HUNTSVILLE, TEXAS



University Hotel / 1610 Bobby K. Marks Drive Huntsville, TX 77340 / 936-291-2151 / www.shsuhotel.org

CURRICULUM TOPICS INCLUDE

- ★ The Basics of County Government
- ★ Understanding Me & Supervising Them - DISC
- ★ The Responsibilities of a Jail Administrator
- ★ Avoiding the Landmines of Employment Issues
- ★ Legal and Liability Issues for Jailers
- ★ Staff Training
- ★ Fiscal Issues
- ★ Texas Commission on Jail Standards
- ★ Leadership Motivation and Development
- ★ Professionalism and Ethical Decisions
- ★ Lessons in Leadership: Maximizing Performance

PROGRAM INFORMATION

- ★ The Correctional Management Institute of Texas will provide meals, lodging, and training materials to all participants.
- ★ The Correctional Management Institute of Texas will make reservations for participants at the University Hotel.
- ★ Jurisdictions are responsible for transportation to and from the training site.

TRAINING HOURS

40 Credit Hours Available for Program Completion

To participate in this program, the individual will preferably have been in the position of Jail Administrator or Assistant Jail Administrator for less than 2 years. He or she must also be nominated by the sheriff with a letter of recommendation. **Only 36 participants can be selected for this program.**

Applications must be submitted with a recommendation letter from the Sheriff to attend this program.
Applications are available at www.cmitonline.org



CORRECTIONAL
MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE OF TEXAS

Questions? Contact Sharese Hurst at sharese@shsu.edu or 936.294.1687



TJA Members Part Of Delegation Visiting Poland At Invitation Of The Polish National Police

On September 15-22, 2019, Brazos County Jail Administrator Wayne Dicky, a past President of the Texas Jail Association and the American Jail Association, TJA Life Member Dan Richard Beto, Chair of the International Committee of the National Association of Probation Executives and a former President, and Jurg Gerber, Professor of Criminal Justice and Director of International Initiatives for the College of Criminal Justice at Sam Houston State University, visited Poland at the invitation of the Polish National Police.

On Sunday, September 15, their first day in Poland, Beto and Dicky met in Warsaw with Colonel Rafał Wasiak, Advisor for the Bureau of International Police Cooperation for the Polish National Police, during which they discussed cooperation, exchanges, and issues facing the criminal justice system. Wasiak was kind enough to spend some time with them and arranged a special tour of the Soviet-built Palace of Culture and Science.

During the morning of Monday, September 16, Beto and Dicky did some sightseeing in beautiful Warsaw before being met by Major Jolanta Szymulewska-Ozioro of the Social Communication Department of the Regional Police Headquarters in Olsztyn, the capital of the Warmia-Masuria Province in northeastern Poland, where the delegation would spend the week. Prior to traveling to Olsztyn, the third member of the delegation – Gerber – was collected at the Warsaw airport.

The Warmia-Masuria Province has an area of 9,341 square miles and a population exceeding 1,500,000 people. Among the most visited attractions is the Masurian Lake District, which contains more than 2,000 lakes. Other recognizable landmarks are the Warmian castles – Lid-

zbark Warmiński Castle, Pieniężno Castle, and Olsztyn Castle – and the Cathedral Hill in Frombork, where Polish astronomer Nicolaus Copernicus lived and worked. The Grunwald battlefield in Masuria is site of the annual reenactment of one of the largest battles of Medieval Europe. Święta Lipka in Masuria and Gietrzwałd in Warmia are popular pilgrimage sites.

Upon arriving in Olsztyn, the delegation met and had din-



Inspector Arkadiusz Sylwestrzak, Jurg Gerber, Wayne Dicky, General Tomasz Klimek, and Dan Richard Beto.

ner with their host, General Tomasz Klimek, the Commander-in-Chief of Police for the Warmia-Masuria Province.

On Tuesday morning, September 16, members of the delegation were taken to police headquarters for a meeting with General Klimek and members of his command staff, during which they received an informative briefing about

police activities in the Warmia-Masuria Province. During the briefing, the issue of public confidence was discussed, with research showing that the police in the region enjoyed a high level, much higher than many other institutions, organizations, and governmental agencies.

After the briefing, the delegation was driven to the prison at Barczewo, where Lt. Colonel Marek Kulwicki, Superintendent of the institution, who provided an overview of the facility and its programs, met them. The prison, located in a 210-year-old former Catholic monastery with many additional modern buildings, has a mixed population of 762 pretrial and sentenced prisoners. The correctional institution offers a number of therapeutic programs, including music and art. Found within the grounds of the prison is an old church that was part of the original monastery. "Polish prisons are frequently hundreds of years old, but the Prison Service has adopted modern management philosophies," said Dicky. "They have implemented several educational and therapeutic programs in support of successful reentry into the community."

During the tour of the facility, which was quite thorough, the delegation observed a demonstration on cell extraction of a violent prisoner. As in the case of a number of other Polish prisons Beto had visited, he noted, "this one was well managed and appeared to meet the late criminologist John Conrad's qualities of a good prison – 'lawful, safe, industrious, and hopeful.'"

In the evening, Major Szymulewska-Ozioro and a colleague provided members of the delegation a tour of the Old Town Olsztyn.

Wednesday, September 18, proved to be the longest day, with most of the program organized around seeing parts of this beautiful province. The first stop was Święta Lipka, a village known for its pilgrimage church – Our Dear Lady of Święta Lipka – a masterpiece of Baroque architecture. While at the church, the delegation was privileged to hear an organ concert consisting of both religious and classical music. Nearby the church, the delegation visited the Reszel Castle, a fortress built between 1350 and 1401 by the Teutonic Order. Currently the castle houses the branch of the Museum of the Warmian-Masurian Voivodeship in Olsztyn, a hotel, and a restaurant.

The next stop for the delegation was a new police station in Korsze. The commander of the police station, Superintendent Adam Sternik, provided a tour of the new facility and gave an overview of the operation. There are 15 persons assigned to this police station, with four involved in criminal investigations, seven on patrol, and two involved in community policing.

From Korsze the delegation was driven to the Wolf's Lair, Adolf Hitler's first Eastern Front military headquarters in World War II. The complex, which became one of several Führer Headquarters in various parts of Eastern Europe, was built for the start of Operation Barbarossa – the invasion of the Soviet Union – in 1941. The top secret, high security site was in the Masurian woods about five miles east of the small East Prussian town of Rastenburg, now in Gierłoż. Three security zones surrounded the central complex where Hitler's bunker was located. Personnel from the Reich Security Service guarded these and the Wehrmacht's armored brigade. Despite the security, the most notable assassination attempt against Hitler was made at the Wolf's Lair on July 20, 1944.

Through the efforts of the police, an English-speaking guide – Czesław Puciato – was secured for the delegation; he did an exceptional job of communicating the significance of this military fortress and providing details surrounding the assassination attempt on Hitler's life. The time and resources it took to build this fortress campus, and others, is unfathomable.

The next stop was Mikołajki, a town dating back to the 1400s located near the Śniardwy, the largest lake of the Masurian Lake District. In Mikołajki the delegation met with the commander of police operations – Andrzej Jaźwiński – as well as General Klimek. They provided an overview of this section of the Warmia-Masuria Province, which contains many lakes. Following the briefing, members of the delegation and several police officials got on two police boats and went through nine beautiful lakes of varying sizes, connected by channels, to Giżycko, where a special dinner was scheduled. Giżycko, dating back to Roman times, is a popular summer tourist destination due to its location within the Masurian Lake District and possesses numerous historical monuments, including a 14th century Teutonic castle.

On Thursday, September 19, the delegation first visited the border crossing at Grzechotki, a village close to the border with the Kaliningrad Oblast of Russia. Beto, Gerber, and Dicky met with the Deputy Commander of the Border Guard and two members of his administrative staff. They provided a thorough briefing of their duties and challenges they face. With a primary purpose of protecting the citizens of Poland and the European Union, the Border Guard and Customs Service focus on keeping unwanted individuals out of Poland and preventing contraband from entering the country. Much like in the United States, human trafficking is a problem the Border Guard is increasingly working to combat. In addition, there is a great market in Russia for automobiles produced in the European Union, and it is the Border Guard's responsibility to keep stolen vehicles from leaving Poland. The mission is accomplished by developing highly trained employees who embrace the vision of a safe Poland.

The delegation was provided a tour of every facet of the operation. In addition to highly competent and committed employees, the Border Guard and the Customs Service

three tractor-trailers and an e-ray system capable of providing detailed images of each vehicle. In protecting the border, dogs, helicopters, and patrols are also used. On any given day – with Fridays and Saturdays being heavier – approximately 3,000 vehicles pass through this particular checkpoint; an estimated 70% are Russians visiting Poland, most of whom are tourists who come to do some shopping or spend a brief holiday.

Dicky said, “It was very exciting as we stepped within a few feet of the international boundary between Poland and Russia. I could see the Russian border facility and personnel in the distance when the sense that we were too close washed over me. Our Border Guard host explained we were in fact in a sensitive area and under close scrutiny by his Russian counterparts before he led us back to the Polish facility.”

“I have traveled to Poland a number of times,” noted Gerber. “While I have not kept track, I would estimate that I have been to Poland 10 to 15 times. As was the case with each previous trip, and as discussed herein, the current

journey was characterized by lectures on criminal justice topics, visits to historical, cultural, social, and architectural sites, punctuated by culinary highlights, and organized by our hosts with unparalleled hospitality. Yet, this trip will stand out for me for a particular reason – the visit to the border area between Russia and Poland.

“Almost 20 years ago, my family and I spent an academic year at Kaliningrad State University, Kaliningrad, Russia. I was able to obtain a Fulbright grant to teach at a Russian university for one year and I was assigned to Kaliningrad State University. Whereas we enjoyed our stay in Russia (it was fascinating because we knew it would be limited to one year; if we would have had to stay indefinitely it would have been much less enjoyable), we felt a need for western comfort every once in a while. We would take bus

trips to either Poland, or through Poland to Germany. In either case, we would have to cross over from Kaliningrad Oblast, Russia, into Poland. At that time, in the years 2000 to 2001, Poland was not yet a member of the European



Members of the delegation at Border Guard Headquarters in Grzechotki with Polish hosts.

rely on technology such as motion detectors, cameras, sophisticated x-ray equipment, and multiple databases, to successfully perform their duties. One example of the use of technology is a building long enough to accommodate

Union (EU), and thus the border crossing involved two non-EU nations, but the EU was beginning to invest heavily in Poland because it would become a member soon.

“We would normally take a bus or minibus of a recognizable company and it would take 2-4 hours to cross the border, with more time spent waiting to be processed by the Polish border guards and less by the Russian guards. The reason was simple, although not apparent to us at first: the bus company was able to bribe Russian border guards more easily than the Polish ones. Without bribing the guards, we were told the border crossing could take up to 24 hours.

“Twenty years ago the border check points between the Kaliningrad region and northern Poland were located in geo-political backwaters, although a considerable amount of smuggling and trafficking occurred along this border: trafficking of women and children for sexual exploitation from East to West (the so-called Natasha Trade), smuggling of vodka from East to West, and stolen cars from West to East, to name only a few. My impressions from this visit (although we did not cross the border), was fundamentally different. I did not sense that smuggling was likely to be as rampant as it had apparently been in earlier years. Two interrelated reasons account for this: (1) the use of sophisticated technology to detect hidden compartments in cars and trucks, and (2) the fact that Poland is now part of the EU and the Russian/Polish border is now part of the Eastern border of the EU. This border has now become a concern for an entire continent and is treated accordingly.”

Upon leaving the border crossing at Grzechotki, the next stop was Braniewo, the second largest city in Warmia after Olsztyn and one of the historical centers of the region, where the delegation met with Major Anna Kos, the second-in-command of the local police, who provided a tour of the local museum featuring exhibits about the history of this area of Poland.

From Braniewo, the delegation was driven to Frombork, first mentioned in the 13th century. In the early 16th cen-

tury, it was the residence of the polymath Nicolaus Copernicus, who used it as a site for several of his observations. Upon arriving in this town, the delegation met with Warrant Officer N. Piotrowski, who is in charge of police operations in Frombork, just outside the Archcathedral Basilica of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary and Saint Andrew, a Roman Catholic Church located at Cathedral Hill. The police had arranged for a local English-speaking guide to take the delegation through the church and part of the fortification.

Friday, September 20, proved to be a combination of business and pleasure. The delegation was driven to the Police School in Szczytno, which is equivalent to a university in that it offers undergraduate, graduate, and doctorate degrees in police-related subjects. The delegation was introduced to Dr. Anna Świerczewska-Gąsiorowska,



Members of delegation with Major Jolanta Szymulewska-Oziaro at Gietrzwałd.

a Lt. Colonel and the second-in-command of the school, and members of her staff, including Dr. Hab. Jarosław Radosław Truchan, a Major, who had been to Sam Houston State University as a participant of a small police delegation. We were provided a briefing about the school; in addition to college courses, training is offered in specific areas. The school also has a research division; based on

conversations, it appeared that the research is relevant and that it is designed to inform practice. Following the briefing, Beto, Gerber, and Dicky were shown around the campus, with particular emphasis on the library, a police memorial, and what may be described as a simulator–critical incident command-training center. During the visit, Beto and Gerber discussed the subject of police-probation partnerships with Major Truchan.

After leaving the Police School, the delegation was driven to Gietrzwałd, a village that is a popular Roman Catholic pilgrimage destination. The most important religious monument in Gietrzwałd is the Shrine of the Virgin Mary and the Stations of the Cross located near the forest. There is also a rosary alley leading to the associated spring, the Chapel of the apparitions and the picture of Virgin Mary.

The next stop, just a short distance away, was Sielanka, a Polish restaurant, where the delegation had its final meeting and dinner with General Klimek, during which he asked questions about the delegation's thoughts on the program and on this area of Poland. The responses were extremely favorable.

On the morning of Saturday, September 21, the delegation's final day in Olsztyn, Major Szymulewska-Ozioro and her daughter provided a tour of Old Town. Around

noon, members of the delegation were driven back to Warsaw, where they had an early return flight on Sunday morning. While in Warsaw Beto, had a conversation with Col. Wasiak and provided a glowing report on the week's activities in the Warmia-Masuria Province.

According to Beto, who has visited Poland 15 times since the turn of the century, "This proved to be one of the more enjoyable trips to this beautiful country. The Polish National Police, and particularly those in the Warmia-Masuria Province, showed us great hospitality and crafted a meaningful program for us. Visiting several police operations, a historic prison, a police school, the border checkpoint between Poland and Russia, the Wolf's Lair, and beautiful churches and castles, and being exposed to this country's culture, natural beauty, and great hospitality, made this a very special trip, and one that I will not forget."

Contributors to this travel synopsis are: Dan Richard Beto, Chair of the International Committee of the National Association of Probation Executives and a past President; Jurg Gerber, Professor of Criminal Justice and Director of International Initiatives for the College of Criminal Justice at Sam Houston State University; and Wayne Dicky, Brazos County Jail Administrator and a former President of the Texas Jail Association and the American Jail Association.

Training Report

Greetings to all our members, your training committee has been working hard on the 34th annual conference and has lined up a great list of topics and instructors for your education. The 34th Annual Training Conference will be held in Austin Texas at the Renaissance Austin Hotel Located at 721 Arboretum Blvd Austin, Tx 78759 on May 11-15,2020.

Back by popular demand is our regional training Leadership for Jailers. We have put together various locations to host this year's training so that each member may have access to the free training. The Regional training locations are posted on the website at www.cmitonline.org/cal.

Our training committee will now start focusing on the Jail Management Issues conference that will be held in Galveston, Texas in September. We look forward to serving our association and bringing you the best training available in the corrections field. Thanks for your support and we will see you down the road.

Ricky Armstrong, 2nd Vice-President / ricky.armstrong@co.mclennan.tx.us / 254-757-2555



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MY JOURNEY

BY ABBY BELANGERI

SERGEANT, BRAZOS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE / CHAIR, TJA TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

LAST YEAR, I embarked on a journey to become more involved in supporting the progression of corrections in this great state of Texas. The vehicle by which I hoped to become more involved and make a difference beyond my current work assignment was the Texas Jail Association. I chose to run for a board of director's position with no prior political or election experience and a knowledge that I would have to push myself beyond my limits of comfortability in order to accomplish this goal.

To give you some background on what led me to make this move, I will share some of my history.

I began my career with the Brazos County Sheriff's Office in 2007.


I worked as a floor officer for 4 years while serving in various capacities (field training officer, medical officer, and transition

team member). In 2011 I transferred to intake/release where I learned the complexities of admitting and releasing people in the jail. In 2015, I promoted to Sergeant in the Intake/Release division and continued to acquire knowledge in jail operations and management. I currently serve as the custodian of records Sergeant at the Brazos County Detention Center which has promoted further knowledge development in some of the more mundane, yet critical aspects of jail operations.

Throughout my career, I have enjoyed working in the corrections environment. I appreciate the opportunity to serve and influence a population that is generally hidden from society or perceived to be of less value by many in society. I have come to understand that the people in our care and custody are just that, people. They cannot be defined

solely by the choices they make, who they associate with or the circumstances they face which may have landed them in jail. They are so much more than that. I have learned that the people we serve today, were members of our community yesterday, and will be members of our community again in the future. The role we as detention officers play in the lives of the community members coming into our care and custody can have a significant impact on how they choose to respond to life circumstances in the future, whether positively or negatively, ultimately impacting our community as a whole.

As a result of the influence we have as detention officers, jail service providers, jail administrators and Sheriff's, the policies that we enact and enforce in the operation of our duties is essential to supporting



our community members to be the best they choose to be. The level of professionalism that we exude as detention officers will be reflected in the interactions we have with the custodial population in most interactions. We have an opportunity to set an example, instill hope and support success in the lives of those we manage through the job we do, the policies we support, and the programs/services we offer in our jails. Liability for every detail becomes more and more critical as the world of corrections becomes more transparent through increased media accessibility. We are governed by rules and laws that don't always support the mission, vision and values of our agency, yet we must figure out a way to maintain compliance with those rules and laws while ensuring we are meeting the mission, vision and values we represent. All of these factors are supported by the mission of the Texas Jail Association.

As a member of the Texas Jail Association, I sought advice via the TJA list serve on how to

accomplish certain goals and recommendations for vendors that might be a good fit to provide services we needed. I attended trainings and conferences which enhanced my knowledge of jail operations and supported my growth as a detention officer. Participation in the current jail trends and regional trainings kept me up to date with new legislation and jail standards rules so that I could better perform at my agency and contribute to policy and procedure modifications to ensure those rules and laws were being adhered to. TJA trainings also supported my leadership development and allowed me to meet several other correctional staff from other agencies. The knowledge and experience I have gained through networking via TJA has been the most valuable aspect of my membership over the years.

As I have developed in my career, I realized that I wanted to be a part of something bigger. I wanted the opportunity to apply the knowledge and experience I have gained to influence the

greater corrections community and I couldn't think of a better way to do that than serving with the Texas Jail Association. Last May, I was blessed to be appointed to an unfulfilled term as a director on the TJA board. Serving with the board has opened my eyes to the level of dedication and support that is available to every Texas jail through the association in supporting best practices in the corrections field. The TJA board members have numerous years of experience in the field and have a passion for leadership development, professionalization of the corrections field, and providing technical assistance for the largest and smallest jails in the state to help them be the best that they can be with their available resources. I would encourage any of you in our membership that have interest in serving the corrections field beyond your job assignment, to get involved and serve with us. If you have questions on how to get involved, feel free to reach out to any of your TJA board members.



**JERRY BAGGS SCHOLARSHIP
THE 100 CLUB OF CENTRAL TEXAS**



TEXAS JAIL ASSOCIATION GOLF TOURNAMENT

MON 2020
May 11

HOST GOLF COURSE
BALCONES COUNTRY CLUB
8600 Balcones Club Drive
Austin, TX 78750 512-258-1621

SIGN-IN 7:30AM – 9:45AM

TEE OFF 10:00AM

FORMAT FOUR MAN SCRAMBLE

\$75*
per player

team fee
\$260*



BREAKFAST TACOS & COFFEE
HOLE-IN-ONE CHALLENGE

PLAYER REGISTRATION FORM

Team Name: _____

Team Contact: _____

Player 1: _____ Email: _____

Player 2: _____ Email: _____

Player 3: _____ Email: _____

Player 4: _____ Email: _____

DATE Monday May 11, 2020

LOCATION Balcones Country Club

8600 Balcones Club Drive Austin, TX 78750 | 512-258-1621

ADVANCE FEE \$75.00 per player

TOURNAMENT DAY FEE \$80.00 per player

FORMAT Four man Scramble

SIGN-IN 7:30 – 9:45 a.m.

TEE OFF 10:00 a.m

ADVANCE TEAM FEE \$260.00

TOURNAMENT DAY TEAM FEE \$265.00

Breakfast tacos and coffee provided!

Win \$10,000 on our Hole-In-One Challenge, along with closest to the pin and longest drive contests!

Prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place and door prizes too!

Please make checks payable to the TJA and mail to:

Texas Jail Association

Attn: Carla Stone, Treasurer

12053 FM 1391

Kemp, TX 75143

For credit card payments, contact

Edwardo Jackson or Frances Dembowski

(512) 294-0878 / (512) 924-6384

edwardo.jackson@traviscountytexas.gov

frances.dembowski@traviscountytexas.gov

Sponsorships and tournament proceeds go towards The 100 Club of Central Texas and the TJA Jerry Baggs scholarship fund. The 100 Club contributes to first responder members and their families throughout Central Texas in their time of need. The TJA Jerry Baggs Scholarship sponsors the attendance of selected TJA members to the TJA Annual Conference in furtherance of the professional education and growth. **The 100 Club and TJA are both 501(3)(c) organizations, so your fee is a tax deductible donation! Tax ID available upon request.**



QUESTIONS?

Edwardo Jackson (512) 294-0878 edwardo.jackson@traviscountytexas.gov

Frances Dembowski (512) 924-6384 frances.dembowski@traviscountytexas.gov

SPONSORSHIP REGISTRATION FORM 1 of 2

Name: _____

Company Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

SPONSORSHIP LEVEL (please choose one)

☐ PLATINUM PLUS SPONSOR — \$2500

*Includes two team entry fees, 2 mulligans per player, and one free door prize ticket per player. Corporate or individual name recognition at #1 tee box, hole sign, and golf shirts for four (4) players. **Plus table setup on golf hole.***

Shirt Sizes: #1 _____ #2 _____ #3 _____ #4 _____

☐ PLATINUM SPONSOR — \$2000

Includes two team entry fees, 2 mulligans per player, and one free door prize ticket per player. Corporate or individual name recognition at #1 tee box, hole sign, and golf shirts for four (4) players.

Shirt Sizes: #1 _____ #2 _____ #3 _____ #4 _____

☐ GOLD SPONSOR — \$1500

Includes one team entry fee, 2 mulligans per player, and one free door prize ticket per player. Corporate or individual name recognition on #1 tee box, hole sign, and golf shirts for four (4) players.

Shirt Sizes: #1 _____ #2 _____ #3 _____ #4 _____

☐ SILVER SPONSOR — \$1000

Includes two player entry fees, 2 mulligans per player, and one free door prize ticket per player. Corporate or individual name recognition on #1 tee box, hole sign, and golf shirts for two (2) players.

Shirt Sizes: #1 _____ #2 _____

☐ BRONZE SPONSOR — \$600

Includes two player entry fees, 2 mulligans per player, one free door prize ticket per player, and corporate or individual name recognition hole sign.

☐ LUNCH SPONSOR — \$500

Includes one player entry fee, 2 mulligans, corporate or individual name recognition sign and one free door prize ticket.

☐ HOLE SPONSOR (NON-PLAYING) — \$300

Includes corporate or individual name recognition sign.

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SPONSORSHIP REGISTRATION FORM 2 of 2

Company/Individual Name: _____

Team Captain/Contact Name: _____

Contact Phone: _____ Email: _____

Player 1: _____

Player 2: _____

Player 3: _____

Player 4: _____

DATE Monday May 11, 2020

FORMAT Four man Scramble

LOCATION Balcones Country Club

SIGN-IN 7:30 – 9:45 a.m.

8600 Balcones Club Drive Austin, TX 78750 | 512-258-1621

TEE OFF 10:00 a.m

****Please Note****

Shirt sizes and payment for Platinum and Gold Sponsors MUST be received by April 1st, 2020 to get shirts in time.

Please make checks payable to the TJA and mail to:

Texas Jail Association
Attn: Carla Stone, Treasurer
12053 FM 1391
Kemp, TX 75143

For credit card payments, contact

Edwardo Jackson or Frances Dembowski
(512) 294-0878 / (512) 924-6384
edwardo.jackson@traviscountytexas.gov
frances.dembowski@traviscountytexas.gov

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Frances Dembowski (512) 924-6384 frances.dembowski@traviscountytexas.gov

Overcoming Challenges Together

by Kimberly Dunn

It's amazing how, as our lives twist and turn, forking down unexpected paths we never intended to travel, God can lead us to a better destination than we never even imagined. That's where I find myself at 50 years old, working a job that is so far removed from anything I ever pictured myself doing that it makes me smile. But I love working in the Jail and, although it isn't special in any way, I hope my story will encourage others to utilize the resources the Texas Jail Association has to offer and embrace this community of jailers, tapping into the wisdom and knowledge derived from common experience.

My name is Kimberly Dunn. I'm no one special, just an ordinary person, wife and mother. Born in Northern Louisiana, I moved to Texas at the age of 5 when my father got a job with the Kansas City Southern Railroad in the East Texas town of Greenville. I grew up not far away, in the very small, country town of Emory. After graduation in 1987, I went to college at East Texas State University, (now Texas A&M – Commerce), where I majored in Agriculture and English Education, mainly because I didn't know what I wanted to do with my life and teaching is what everyone else thought I should do. At 18, during my Freshman year in college, I developed a strong desire to become a police officer. But any time I would mention it people would laugh and tell me law enforcement wasn't the career for me because I was too "sweet" to be a police officer. Regrettably, I allowed their criticism to discourage me from pursuing a career in law enforcement. I married my high school sweetheart in 1989, dropped out of college to work so I could help pay the bills, and was divorced 4 years later. Shortly thereafter, when I wasn't even interested or looking, God sent a goofy young man, David, into my life. David brought laughter back into my world. We married in June of 1995. David finished college and became a high school teach-

er. I became a dispatcher at the University Police Department, where I worked for 5 years. After our 3 children were born, David became a Youth Pastor. Due to his ministry career we moved to Brazoria County near the coast for a couple of years, then back to East Texas for four years. In January of 2012, David became the pastor at a small church in the little West Texas town of Ballinger, the county seat of Runnels County. This is where the story of my jail career begins.

Other than those few years in dispatch, and a couple of years as a pipe drafter, the majority of my adult life up to that point had been spent working in office management and secretarial-type jobs. The same was true when we moved to Ballinger. I worked a couple of temporary jobs, then was hired at the elementary school as a Special Education Aide in the fall of 2012, and promoted to Elementary Secretary in 2014. Although the Elementary Secretary job itself was extremely busy and very stressful, working at the elementary school was a fun, very energetic atmosphere and I loved all the smiles and hugs from the little ones every day. But our little church began to struggle financially which caused a major cut in David's salary. Plus, our children were getting older and college tuition was looming on the horizon. So, knowing his pay cut would soon take effect, David and I both began praying and looking for higher paying jobs in December of 2015.

A couple of our church members, Tito Mata, a jailer at the Runnels County Jail, and Pam King, the Commissary Coordinator at the jail, kept encouraging me to apply as a dispatcher, telling me I'd be perfect to work out at the jail. To be honest, I was scared to apply. The dispatchers were dual certified as jailers and their office was inside the jail interior. Years earlier, when I had worked in dispatch at the University, we didn't even have any holding cells at our department. So, the only time I was even around an inmate was a couple of times when there were no female officers on duty and I had to pat down a female that had been arrested before the officers took her to jail. Due to my fear of the unknown, I kept putting off applying for a job at the jail. Meanwhile, David and I had both applied for numerous jobs and even gone on interviews, but God wasn't opening any doors. Finally, with only two weeks left until David's pay cut was to take effect, I told God, "Either I trust you or I don't, and I choose to trust you," so I turned in my application to be a dispatcher.

A couple of days later I was sitting in front of Sheriff Bill Baird in an interview. But what he was saying to me wasn't lining up with being a dispatcher. I finally interrupted him and asked if he was interviewing me to be a dispatcher or a jailer. "A jailer!" he responded bewildered, then looked down at my application. "Well I see here that you applied for a dispatcher," he said. Then in his booming voice added, "But I don't have any dispatch positions open. I need a jailer! Is that a problem?" I told him, "No Sir." And two weeks later, on February 15, 2016 after giving notice to the school, I reported to the jail for my first day on the job as a jailer.

The first two weeks on the job I was afraid of the inmates because I had no idea what to expect. I tried not to let my fear show but I know it must have. Gradually, I realized that although there was a definite need for safety and caution, the inmates were just people, with all the same people issues everyone else has. Having worked in the ministry alongside my husband for so many years as a Youth Leader, Sunday School Teacher, Worship Leader, Counselor, etc. I had plenty of experience dealing with people and their issues. My fear subsided and I began to embrace my new job.

I was blessed to be on the shift of Sgt. Clay Bullock, a veteran of almost 20 years. I can still hear his mantra, "Just tell them no." Clay was a wealth of knowledge and had an awesome sense of humor. He taught me many valuable lessons about working in the jail and being a good jailer. My first partner, David Brem promoted to Shift Sgt. shortly after I was hired. My second partner, Esteban Gallegos, had been a jailer for a few months longer than I. He was a very intelligent young man, had a good sense of humor, and was also an excellent jailer. We called our little three man crew the "Dream Team." We developed a strong friendship, worked hard, did a good job, and spent a lot of time laughing along the way. I learned quickly and enjoyed my job.

Once I became confident in my abilities, I took pride in my job, feeling like I was providing a valuable service to my community while, hopefully, making a positive impact on the inmates as well. The desire I once felt to become a police officer returned and I began looking into options. I decided I wanted to become a DPS trooper. I was extremely out of shape so I began eating right, working out and praying for God's guidance and assistance. I trained for over a year, dropped 60 lbs. and got into better physical condition than

I had been in years. I passed the physical fitness, English, and mathematics tests with very high scores, then passed the polygraph as well. But in May of 2018, I received a rejection letter. I had worked incredibly hard for over a year and spent lots of time talking to God about my desire to be a Trooper, so I was very disappointed. But God always knows what he's doing and works all things for our good, even when we don't initially recognize it.

A few weeks later my Jail Administrator, Jason Jouett, called me into his office and explained that he had applied for a new job with the Texas Commission on Jail Standards to become a Jail Inspector. He asked if I would be interested in taking over as administrator of the jail if he got hired. I was floored. I had only been working in the jail for a little over 2 years. There was so much I still didn't know and needed to learn. I voiced my doubts about my abilities. Jason said he wouldn't have even brought it up if he didn't think I could handle the job. Jason is a wonderful man and I respect him tremendously, so I felt honored that he had that kind of confidence in me. He told me to go home and discuss it with my husband, pray about it, and let him know what I decided because he wanted to be able to give the Sheriff a recommendation if he got the new job. I did just that and then told Jason I wanted the job.

Then one day not long after, Jason and my new Sheriff, Carl Squyers called me into Jason's office. Carl told me that Jason had gotten the job as a Jail Inspector. He said, "Jason tells me that he thinks you would make a good jail administrator. Would you be interested in taking his place?" I told him I would and explained my reasons. After some more conversation, to my surprise and great joy, Carl said, "Well, Jason thinks you can handle the job and I agree. So, the job's yours if you want it." And just like that, I became the new administrator of the Runnels County Jail. Jason trained me for two weeks and then on July 31, 2018, I officially took over as the Runnels County Jail Administrator, having been a jailer for less than 2 and a half years (which speaks volumes about the turnover rate all jails across our state are experiencing and the difficulty of the Jail Administration job that none of my veteran co-workers wanted it).

The Runnels County Jail is a small, 87 bed facility. We had a staff of 14, including an administrator, kitchen manager, 4 shift Sergeants and 8 jailers when I first became the Adminis-

trator. My 10th day as administrator an 18-year veteran Night Sgt. was seriously injured in an altercation with an inmate which resulted in him being off work for the following 9 months. Not long after, one of the day Sergeants got a job with the City and quit. Then my 20-year veteran day Sergeant retired. At that point 3 of my 4 Sergeants were brand new to their position, with the 4th being out on medical leave. I was left with an entire floor staff who had been working at the jail for less time than myself (only 2 and a half years), and all but 2 of them had been there only a few months.

I found myself drowning in a situation where I was still trying to learn how to do my new job, while being solely responsible for training all of the other staff members. Most days I felt like I could barely stay afloat, with work coming in way faster than I could process it. Those first few months I was spending so much time on the floor training new staff members and working shifts when we were short-handed, that I would have to put in tons of overtime just to get the bare essentials of my own work done. It was extremely overwhelming and many days I went home so exhausted and stressed that I was tempted to resign. I couldn't have made it through that first year if it hadn't been for all the help I got from others. But the Texas Jail Association came to my rescue and helped me avoid sinking into total discouragement which would have probably resulted in total burn out and ultimately, my resignation.

I am so incredibly grateful that my Sheriff, Carl Squyers, understands the importance of education. He and his wife, Cherie, took me to the TJA Conference in Galveston in Sept. 2018. IT WAS AMAZING!!! Not only was it a lot of fun, but I learned extremely valuable information that would help me throughout my entire first year as Admin. The most enjoyable benefit I gained from my attendance was the friendships I made. The first day of the conference I met the Brooks County crew. Sheriff Benny Martinez had brought his Chief Deputy, Jorge Esparza, his Jail Administrator, Marivette Garcia and his Jail Lieutenant, Elda Schultz to the conference. They are all wonderful people who smile a lot and are fun to be around. We hit it off right away. They took me under their wing and we spent a lot of time together laughing and enjoying each other's company. Marivette and Elda have both worked in the jail much longer than myself. They were a wealth of information. We exchanged phone numbers and e-mail addresses and continue

to stay in touch to this day. I know they must have tired of my constant questions, especially during the first few months after the conference, but if they did, they didn't show it. Shortly after arriving home from the conference I got a package in the mail from the Brooks County crew. They had sent me a patch, lapel pin, and a pretty pink badge as a congratulatory gift for my new job. I was so excited!

I went back to that same TJA conference in 2019 and took one of my Sergeants, Adrah Peltier. She left just as excited and energized as I had the first time I went. We made even more contacts. Our training budget is small, but I plan to take staff members to as many TJA conferences as possible in the future because they are so incredibly beneficial.

**IF IT DOESN'T
CHALLENGE YOU
IT DOESN'T
CHANGE YOU**

Before he quit, Jason had told Carl and I that I should attend JAMO (a class for new administrators). Then at the conference we heard more about the class and Carl decided to nominate me to attend. Again, I am so blessed to have Carl as my Sheriff! If I could pinpoint a single event that was the most beneficial to completing my first year as admin successfully, JAMO would be it. They presented so much information in one week that it was almost information overload, but in a good way. The instructors taught us about numerous topics pertaining to almost every aspect of jail administration. There was no way I could have retained all of the information, but they sent me home with a notebook filled with handouts and notes that I referred to frequently during the months that followed. I left JAMO feeling totally empowered by the information I had learned and most of my insecurities had dissipated. I highly value the education I gained at JAMO and encourage every new administrator to attend. And again, the friendships I made at JAMO were tremendously beneficial. Joyce Hamby, Admin of Collingsworth County Jail was new to Jail Admin-

istration like myself. Both eager to learn, she and I never gave poor Larry Shiver, who is vastly experienced in law enforcement and the jail setting, a chance to breath due to our non-stop questions. Joyce and I continue to stay in touch and help each other with jail issues as they arise. I am now sending my 18-year veteran Sergeant to TJA's Mid-Management class in February. I hope it will be as enjoyable and beneficial to him as JAMO was to me.

After returning from JAMO, Gary Henderson from the Texas Association of Counties came to see me. Someone from JAMO had told him that I could use some help. We visited for a long time about many of the issues I was facing. He gave me valuable guidance and set up some free training classes for my staff so that we could get everyone where they needed to be educationally. It was awesome!

Another useful benefit of being a member of TJA is the ability to use the list serve. Several times when I've had questions and want input from other jails, I have used the TJA list serve to send out an e-mail to everyone associated with TJA. It's been a wonderful tool to get feedback from others to help me resolve the issues our jail is experiencing.

I am so grateful to the numerous people that helped me during that first year as Jail Administrator. At first Jason would contact me almost daily. I can still hear him saying, "Hey kiddo, I thought of something that we didn't have time to go over before I left that I want to make sure you know because it's important." It's very rare that you find someone so passionate about what they do that they would take the time to call the person who replaced them at a job they left behind and moved on from months prior. But that's the type of man Jason Jouett is. He's a man of good character and integrity, a man who cares about others and is willing to do all he can to help others succeed. He's an excellent role model and I'm honored to call him my friend. As time went by the frequency of Jason's contacts became much less frequent, but it was only a couple months ago that he called late one night, waking me up, because he had heard about a situation at our jail and wanted to make sure I had thought to take certain precautionary measures. I hadn't, so immediately after Jason and I hung up I called the jail to get them underway.

Former TJA President, Todd Allen of Tom Green County has also given me lots of advice. He's answered countless

e-mails filled with questions. I've even run over to his jail to borrow equipment when an unusual situation arose.

Now that my 18-year veteran Sgt., Steven Scrivener, has returned to work from his injury in May, he too, has been a source of valuable knowledge, assistance, and encouragement. It was such a huge relief when he returned and alleviated some of the burden of training and staff oversight.

Many of those new employees I trained have encouraged and stuck with me during that difficult period of adjustment. One in particular, Sergeant Shelly Basart, was a huge source of encouragement. She was constantly saying, "Hang in there. It's gonna get better." And it did! Progress was slow, but we all worked and learned together. The new staffers have transformed into power houses of hard work and efficiency who are fully capable of contributing ideas, running their own shifts, and training our new staff members so that I can now focus on more of my own duties.

My Kitchen Manager, Al Strube has been a source of emotional support and dependability. When I'm feeling discouraged or don't know which direction to take, Al might not be able to solve the problem, but he always knows the right thing to say to get me headed down the right path. And early on especially, when I was drowning in the overwhelming work load, I could just mention something that I needed to find time to get done, and next thing I knew, even though it wasn't part of his job description, Al would have completed the task for me. Al's wife, Ann Strube, is the County Treasurer and when it comes to understanding the inner workings of county government and how to get things accomplished on that side of things, she has helped me immensely. I've sent her innumerable e-mails with the subject line, "Quick Question Please," where I tap into her knowledge and seek her advice. Al and Ann are some of the most wonderful, caring people I know and I'm so blessed to work with them and have their friendship.

There's no way I can possibly mention everyone who has helped me during the past year and a half because there have been many and I am truly grateful. But I have to take a moment to thank my Sheriff, Carl Squyers. I don't know how Jail Administrators manage to do their job if they don't have the support of their Sheriff. I'm so incredibly blessed in this aspect. Not only does Carl care about our community, but he truly cares about his staff... all of them. It doesn't

matter if we are an Administrative Assistant, Dispatcher, Jailer, or Deputy, he's going to do everything he can to make sure we are equipped with what we need to stay safe, that we're getting adequately compensated, and that we know we are a valued member of his team. In March of 2019, with the help of one of our commissioners, Juan Ornelas, Carl put me on the agenda to speak at Commissioners court. I went before my commissioners, with Carl's full support, and convinced them that the jail was unsafe due to lack of staffing and, together with Carl, convinced them to add a fourth jailer position to every shift, bringing our staff count up to 18. I could have never accomplished this without Carl's help. The Sheriff's office is across town from the Jail, but Carl still manages to find time in his crazy, busy day to come out regularly and check on us to make sure everything's going okay or see if there's anything he can help with. He doesn't interfere, mainly leaving me alone to make decisions and run the jail on my own unless I ask for his guidance. Even if he doesn't agree with me, he will let me vent my opinions and frustrations, listening to what I have to say without any negative response. He seldom complains and offers constant support, encouragement, and guidance. He shows kindness by being discreet when dealing with staffing issues. There's no way I can adequately put into words what a truly wonderful man Carl Squyers is to work for. I respect and love Carl dearly. It's an honor to be his employee and friend.

I guess if there were a point to my previous ramblings that I'd like for you to take away, it's that you don't have to do this job alone. Being a Jail Administrator is an incredibly stressful, demanding job. We have the politics of feeling powerless to effect change in areas where we know change must occur because the Commissioners who are in control of that power often know nothing about the jail, how it works, or why we need what we need. Many times, they won't even listen to reason. We have to deal with the politics of legislators passing unrealistic laws and mandates because they don't understand what our actual work load capabilities and financial restrictions are within the jail setting. I wish all commissioners and legislators were required to dress like a new staff member and spend 2 weeks actually working the floor inside the jail so that they could better understand the challenges we face on a daily basis. Jail Administrators face the daunting task of constant new hires and never-ending training due to the negativities associated with working in the jail that quickly burn out our staff, causing them to quit, or the constant staffing issues be-

cause it's so hard to find employees with good character, work ethics, and integrity. We struggle with maintaining enough staffing when shorthanded to cover all shifts, while still granting employees their earned vacation, sick time, and other time off. Everyone comes to us, so we are pulled in a whirlwind of directions in an effort to resolve the constantly surfacing issues within the jail. Because the jail never sleeps, the work continues to arrive on our desk even after we leave for the day and every time we take off, so there's an ever-growing pile awaiting our return, burying us under a mountain of never-ending paperwork, logs and reports. Because no one can truly understand what another person is going through unless they've walked in their shoes, our staff and even our Sheriffs usually have no idea the true magnitude of our work load and how much we actually do on a daily basis. Luckily, none of us have to travel this difficult path alone.

I didn't even know what the Texas Jail Association was when Jason signed me up for a class that came with a free membership 2 years ago. But once I became a jail administrator, I very quickly learned the benefits of being part of the Texas Jail Association. The membership fee is very inexpensive and often free if you sign up for a course. The education is invaluable and many of their classes are free to members. The contacts made at the classes and conferences are incredibly beneficial. Everyone who works within the jail experiences the stress and negativities of this challenging career. Don't continue on this exhausting journey alone. Don't be afraid to ask for or accept help. It doesn't matter if your jail is tiny or huge, we all have the common ground of facing the same types of issues, just on a different scale. There is a wealth of wisdom, knowledge and information to be gained by sharing your experiences with others who are walking in the same type of shoes you are. We are all working toward the same goals, so let's work together and help each other do better. I encourage you to take advantage of the resources TJA has to offer and utilize the guidance found in the experience and wisdom of other TJA members. Seek out the people in your own organization as well, who will support and encourage you. Identify those who can bring their own special talents and skills to the table to assist you. There's no way I could have made it through my first year as a Jail Administrator so successfully without everyone's help.

Thank you!

Technology Report

I hope that everyone has had a wonderful holiday season! As we all move forward through this New Year, I would once again like to solicit input from the membership on how your technology committee can better serve the needs of the membership. Currently we have our conference app and Facebook page as technology tools and information resources for the membership.

We would like to petition the membership for ideas on what you would like to see available through the website, Facebook page or our app, even beyond our conference needs. Ultimately, we would like the app to be your resource for everything TJA affording accessibility year round to information and ease of use for our members. Taking advantage of technology available through the app and online will allow you to get the most from your membership. We would like to invite your input on features and functionality that you would like to see available through our app or online and what you believe would enhance your membership experience. Some ideas may be a training calendar with links to the training registration website, ability to access your TJA account portal, TJA facebook news feed and updates to TJA by-laws, legislative updates and TCJS updates.

Please feel free to contact me with any suggestions you have that would improve your TJA membership experience. I also welcome any other technology related comments or suggestions on improvements that will benefit the TJA membership. The time and effort you put into your suggestions is very much appreciated and will help us provide you with the most relevant services in an effort to meet the needs of our membership.

Abigail Belangeri, TJA Technology Chairperson | 979-361-4871 / abelangeri@brazoscountytexas.gov

JERRY BAGGS SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISER GAME

TEXAS *Wildflowers*

Take advantage of this guaranteed chance to interact with TJA's conference participants. Each sponsoring vendor will receive stickers necessary for each participant to fill out his or her game card. This guarantees the attendee will make contact with participating vendors.

There will be cash prizes for the winner's drawing. The prizes will be funded out of the sponsorship money, and all remaining proceeds will go to the Jerry Baggs Scholarship Fund.

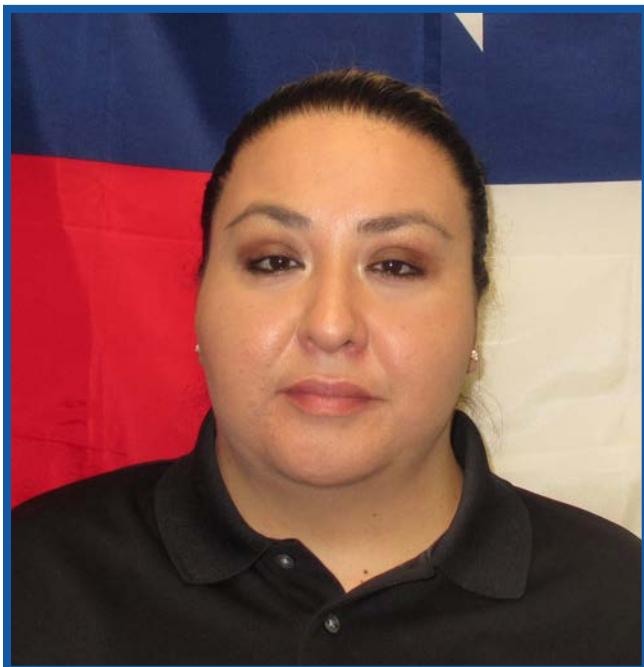
SPONSORSHIP IS ONLY \$200 PER BOOTH

For more information: Sharese Hurst | sharese@shsu.edu | 936.294.1687

What's Happening Around the State?

Atascosa County

Lisa Caballero was promoted to the rank of Corporal In November, 2019. Corporal Caballero has been employed with Atascosa County since December 2017. This is her first promotion.



On November 15, 2019, Sheriff **David Soward** welcomed the public to tour the new part of the jail along with the renovation in office space. This expansion increases the jail capacity from 138 to 252. The original jail was built on this site in 1982, expanded in 1989 and now in 2019, it has expanded one more time.



Brazos County



As the first law enforcement agency in the state of Texas to adopt FirstNet, Sheriff Chris Kirk and the Brazos County Sheriff's Office were the focus of a case study conducted by the Police Executive Research Forum (PERF), an independent research organization that focuses on critical issues in policing. This case study was released nationally by PERF and was sent to 3,000 law enforcement Executives

In their study, PERF referred to several innovative capabilities of FirstNet that the sheriff's office is currently using. Among these capabilities are allowing deputies to type and upload reports from their vehicle, conduct virtual roll calls, and live streaming significant events from patrol cars to command staff so resources can be dispatched more effectively.

These capabilities have significantly made daily operations more efficient, allowing deputies to stay in the field to ensure adequate staffing to serve the citizens of Brazos County.

For more information about the case study, please refer to the attached report from the Police Executive Research Forum or go to PERF's website at www.policeforum.org/assets/FirstNetBrazosCounty.pdf.

What's Happening Around the State?

Brazos County

Sheriff Chris Kirk announced the appointment of Deputies **Tucker Ellsworth** and **Rickey Nance**.



Lubbock County

When tragedy struck in the Midland/Odessa area, **Ms. Brockman** provided support and de-escalation tactics to our neighboring first responders. Without Hesitation, sacrificing personal matters, she took it upon herself to help. As we all know these types of events take their toll on the public, as well as those responding to the incident. Ms. Brockman is a licensed professional counselor, Mental Health First Aid Instructor, licensed TCOLE Instructor and a Certified First Responder counselor. We are thankful for all she does.



On September 07, 2019, Sheriff's Office Honor Guard took part in a multi-agency Presentation of Colors during the Texas Tech vs UTEP football game, in honor of all First responders.



Houston County

Houston County Sheriff Darrel Bobbitt is proud to announce the promotion of Jailer **Dustin Lawson** to Jail Sergeant during the month of October 2019.



What's Happening Around the State?

Lubbock County

Sheriff **Kelly Rowe**, Mayor **Dan Pope**, Judge **Mark Hocker**, Interim Chief of Police **Jerry Brewer**, **Dr. Jumper**, along with many representatives from the community, met on Friday September 20, 2019 to discuss mental illness. The Lubbock County Detention Center, under the authority of the Lubbock county Sheriff's Office, received a Category 1 Justice Mental Health Collaboration Program (JMHCP) grant in October 2017. The purpose of the grant is to reduce the number of individuals with serious mental illness in the jail setting.



Lubbock County

On November 1, 2019, Lubbock County Sheriff Kelly Rowe announced 16 graduates from Lubbock County, 1-Lamb County, 2-Bailey County and 2-Dawson County from the Basic County Corrections Course. **Andrew Aguilera, Avere Deluna, Courtney Dieken, Titus Galicia, Joseph Garland, Jeremiah Garza, Emily Guerrero, Nicholas Lara, Rogelio Lara, Erica Madrigal, Annette Picon, Raul Ramirez, Elinor Robinson, Luis Rodriguez, Amy Scobey-Couch, Kelsey Torres, Dayton Saenz** (Lamb Co.), **Adriana Gonzales** (Bailey Co.), **Alfredo Guzman** (Bailey Co.), **Jocelyn Alcantar** (Dawson Co.) and **Juan Diaz** (Dawson Co.).



What's Happening Around the State?

McLennan County

Congratulations to the McLennan County jailer's school class 2019H on their passing and graduation of the Basic County Corrections class. You have not only graduated but you have taken the first step to your new career. Walk with pride and remember your performance will only rise and high as your training.



McLennan County

Congratulations to Deputies Ethan Sanders, Reginald Crawford, Frank Barron, and Shauna Abbott who graduated from the McLennan Community College Law Enforcement Academy in December. Deputy Reginald Crawford graduated as the Salutatorian and Top Gun, while Deputy Barron was elected as the Vice President. All four Deputies scored in the Top Five of the class. Congratulations on your well deserved success.



Tarrant County

The Tarrant County Sheriff's Office celebrated the promotion of Amy Blaustein to Captain and Maria Olmos to Lieutenant.

Captain **A. Blaustein** joined the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office in 2003 and, prior to her promotion to Captain, held the rank of Lieutenant since 2007. During her tenure with Tarrant County she has served in assignments as the Classification Lieutenant, Gang Intelligence, Dispatch, and Support Services. Captain Blaustein also serves as an adjunct instructor at the Caruth Police Institute where she provides mentoring and support for newly promoted law enforcement leaders and instructs on health and wellness issues. Captain Blaustein is a Certified Corrections Manager through the American Correctional Association and holds advanced licenses as a jailer and telecommunicator through the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (TCOLE).

Lieutenant **M. Olmos** joined the Sheriff's Office in 2006. Coming from the dental field, the job as a corrections

What's Happening Around the State?

Tarrant County - continued

officer was something new and exciting to her. She quickly fell in love with the job and has been fortunate enough to have held a host of assignments in the department that she believes have prepared her to serve as a lieutenant. Olmos has been a member of the agency's response team, field training officer, and life safety officer. Olmos is a Certified Corrections Supervisor through the American Correctional Association and notes that one of her proudest moments thus far is being selected as part of the team to open the Lon Evans maximum security facility. Immediately prior to her new assignment, Olmos was an instructor at the training academy where she encouraged cadets to strive for excellence and never stop growing.

Captain Blaustein and Lieutenant Olmos join the team of five other female commanders in the agency's Detention Division. The Tarrant County Sheriff's Office has been embracing diversity by encouraging leaders in the agency to take the next step in their leadership journey and take advantage of available training, such as the agency's hosted Women's Empowerment series.

Tarrant County Sheriff Bill E. Waybourn and his command staff are excited to welcome Captain Blaustein and Lieutenant Olmos to the team of dedicated commanders at the agency!



Wichita County

Lieutenant **Kayla Stagg** began her employment with the Wichita County Sheriff's Office on June 30, 2006 as a Detention Officer. She was promoted to the rank of Corporal on April 17, 2009. She was promoted to the rank of Sergeant on September 13, 2010. She was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant on June 15, 2012. Her last day with the Sheriff's Office was September 22, 2019.



Detention Officer **Jack Lehman** began his employment with the Wichita County Sheriff's Office on March 2, 2012. His last day with the Sheriff's Office was September 17, 2019.

Sheriff **David Duke** promoted Sergeant Garland Prince to Lieutenant, Corporal Kelsey Deford to Sergeant, Detention Officer Cody Pugliesi to Corporal, and Detention Deputy Dakota Brown to Corporal.



What's Happening Around the State?

Wichita County

Cassie Ahearn, Executive Director of Christmas in Action, is presenting an award to Detention Officer **Jason Sheppard** for his service to their organization.



On September 2, at approximately 12:39 am, Detention Officer John Sheppard was off duty when he observed a subject discharging a firearm in the parking lot of a business located in the 1500 block of Southwest Parkway. Detention Officer John Sheppard disarmed and detained the subject until officers arrived on the scene. The male subject was placed under arrest and charged with Unlawful Carrying Weapon and Discharging Firearm in Certain Municipalities.



Wichita County

Swearing in of new Deputies

Detention Deputy **Colby Alston**

Detention Deputy **Anthony Carrizales**

Detention Deputy **Jorge Ramirez**



Have a story or updates
about your county?

LET US KNOW!

Submission Deadlines

Spring Issue
March 1st, 2020

Summer Issue
June 1st, 2020

Send submissions to
Sharese Hurst
sharese@shsu.edu

Upcoming Training Opportunities

Leadership for Jailers

February 12, 2020
New Braunfels, Texas

February 19, 2020
San Antonio, Texas

February 26, 2020
Corpus Christi, Texas

March 4, 2020
Monahans, Texas

March 17, 2020
Lubbock, Texas

March 18, 2020
Kaufman, Texas

March 25, 2020
Fort Worth, Texas

April 1, 2020
Brownwood, Texas

April 8, 2020
Houston, Texas

July 8, 2020
El Paso, Texas

July 9, 2020
El Paso, Texas

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#4900 - Mental Health Training for Jailers

February 10, 2020
Cotulla, Texas

February 11, 2020
Karnes City, Texas

February 12, 2020
Cotulla, Texas

February 13, 2020
Karnes City, Texas

March 10, 2020
Falfurrias, Texas

March 11, 2020
Falfurrias, Texas

March 12, 2020
Beeville, Texas

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National Jail Leadership Academy

Class #34 - FULL
February 23–28, 2020

Class #35 - FULL
June 7–12, 2020

Class #36 - OPEN
November 1–6, 2020

Class #37 - UPCOMING
Feb 28–March 5, 2021

Upcoming Conferences

Women in Criminal Justice
March 23–26, 2020 / San Marcos, Texas

2020 Leadership for Support Staff
June 7–10, 2020 / Galveston, Texas

2020 Drug Impact Conference
July 20–23, 2020 / Austin, TX

7th Annual Mental Health Conference
October 13–16, 2020 / Allen, TX

visit www.texasjailassociation.com for more information or to register

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Scholarship Applications are Open!

Visit the TJA Website for more info.

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Past President's Scholarship

The Texas Jail Association offers scholarships to eligible students pursuing an academic degree at a college or university. These scholarships are provided in honor of all Past Presidents of the Texas Jail Association. The scholarships are awarded for the Spring semester and Fall semester of each year.

Deadlines

Fall Semester - July 1, 2020

Spring Semester - December 1, 2020

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Jerry Baggs Memorial Scholarship

The Jerry Baggs Memorial Scholarship will be awarded to an active member of the association that is serving his or her county in a mid-management position up to Assistant Jail Administrator. The scholarship is for tuition to a class of the National Jail Leadership Command Academy (NJLCA). Tuition includes all class materials, lodging, and all meals/snacks). The sending agency will be required to provide transportation for the selected participant to Huntsville.

JOIN TJA AGAIN IN SEPTEMBER 2020!

2020 JAIL MANAGEMENT ISSUES

September 14-17, 2020 | Galveston, TX



MARK YOUR CALENDARS EARLY!

INFORMATION ONLINE AT TEXASJAILASSOCIATION.COM