

THE BRIEFING

Official newsletter of the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement | March 2024

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The mission of the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement, as a regulatory State agency, is to establish and enforce standards to ensure that the people of Texas are served by highly trained and ethical law enforcement, corrections, and telecommunications personnel.

Governor Abbott Appoints Four To Texas Commission On Law Enforcement



Governor Greg Abbott has appointed Conor Harvey and Justin West and reappointed Janna Atkins to the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (TCOLE) for terms set to expire on August 30, 2029. Additionally, Governor Abbott appointed Justin Berry to the Commission for a term set to expire on August 30, 2027. The Commission establishes and enforces standards to ensure that the people of Texas are served by highly trained and ethical law enforcement, corrections, and telecommunications personnel.



Conor Harvey of Houston is an attorney at Murphy Ball Stratton LLP, where his practice includes civil and white collar litigation and appeals. He is a member of the State Bar of Texas, The Federalist Society, and the bars of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit and the U.S. District Courts for the Northern, Southern, and Eastern Districts of Texas. Previously, he clerked for Justice Jimmy Blacklock of the Supreme Court of Texas and served as Chief Law Clerk to Judge Matthew Kacsmarky of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas. Harvey received a Bachelor of Public Administration from The University of Texas at San Antonio and a Juris Doctor from the University of Chicago Law School.



Justin West of League City is the constable of Precinct 4 in Galveston County. He is a member of the Combined Law Enforcement Associations of Texas (CLEAT), National Constables and Marshals Association, and the Justices of the Peace and Constables Association of Texas. Additionally, he is a member of the League City Lions Club and a Zone Chair for the Lions Club District. He is a former board member for the Bay Area Council on Drugs & Alcohol and the Refuge for Women Texas Gulf Coast. West received a degree in Information Technology and Security from Western Governors University.



Janna Atkins of Abilene is the criminal justice manager and training coordinator for the West Central Texas Regional Law Enforcement Academy / West Central Texas Council of Governments. She has 38 years of experience as a Texas peace officer working for the Abilene Police Department and the Taylor County Sheriff's Office, 26 of those years has been in the field of law enforcement training. She is a member of the International Association of Chiefs of Police, instructor for the National Safety Council, a Sexual Assault Family Violence Investigators Course instructor for the Texas Municipal Police Association, committee co-chair for Champion for Children, and a former member of the Abilene Police Officers Association. Additionally, she has served as a board member for the Lutheran Women's Missionary League and Vice President of Fundraisers for the Aggie Moms' Club - Abilene Chapter.



Justin Berry of Austin is a senior police officer for the Austin Police Department, with over 16 years of experience. He currently holds a Texas Master Peace Officer License, CIT certification, and Instructor Proficiency certification with TCOLE. He has earned numerous awards, medals, and commendations including the Austin Police Department Honorable Conduct Medal, the Austin Police Department Meritorious Service Medal, CLEAT's Distinguished Spirit of Leadership Award, Austin Cops for Charities Distinguished Civic Leadership Award, a U.S. Senate Certificate of Commendation, a Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition, The 100 Club of Central Texas Outstanding Team of the Year award, and The 100 Club of Central Texas Outstanding Officer of the Year award. Berry received a Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice and a Master of Science in Criminal Justice Leadership and Management from Sam Houston State University.

THANK YOU, COMMISSIONERS!



The Texas Commission on Law Enforcements extends our gratitude to exiting Commission Members, Constable Ron Hood and Commissioner Martina Lemond Dixon for their service on the Commission.



September 26, 2011 -
January 31, 2024



August 5, 2022 -
January 31, 2024

COMMISSION MEETINGS

Subscribe to the TCOLE YouTube Channel today by clicking the button below.



Thank you to the Lubbock Police Department Honor Guard for presenting the colors at the February Commission Meeting. TCOLE Commission Meetings are broadcasted live, recorded, and published on the TCOLE YouTube Channel.

SUMMARY OF PROPOSED MODEL POLICIES

Pursuant to Texas Occupations Code §§1701.167, 1701.4522, and 1701.4535 as added by Senate Bill 1445 (88R), the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (Commission) is proposing model policies regarding Misconduct Allegations, Hiring Procedures, Personnel Files, and the Medical and Psychological Examination of a Licensee. These proposed model policies were developed with input from advisory committees.

The Misconduct Investigation, Hiring Procedures, and Personnel Files Advisory Committee was charged under Texas Occupations Code §§1701.4522 and 1701.4535 with developing model policies establishing procedures applicable to a law enforcement agency investigating alleged misconduct by a license holder employed by the agency, hiring a license holder, and maintaining personnel files with respect to a license holder.

The Examination of a Licensee Advisory Committee was charged under Texas Occupations Code §1701.167 with developing a model policy prescribing standards and procedures for the medical and psychological examination of new licensees, existing licensees, and licensees whose employing agency has reason to believe that a new examination is necessary (fitness-for-duty examination) to ensure the individuals are able to perform the duties for which the license is required.

Each law enforcement agency in Texas will be required to adopt and submit to the Commission these proposed model policies, or a substantively similar policy.

These proposed model policies can be accessed through the Commission's website at <https://www.tcole.texas.gov/>, selecting About Us, then selecting The TCOLE Commission and its Members, and navigating down the page to the Public Comment section, or by clicking the button below.



Model Policies and Proposed Rules are open for public comment. Public comments may be submitted electronically to public.comment@tcole.texas.gov or in writing to Mr. John Beauchamp, General Counsel, Texas Commission on Law Enforcement, 6330 East Hwy 290, Suite 200, Austin, TX 78723-1035.

SUMMARY OF PROPOSED TCOLE RULES

37 Tex. Admin. Code § 211.1. Definitions. This proposed amendment would add four definitions and add language to one definition for terms used in the proposed amendment to 37 Tex. Admin. Code § 211.16.

37 Tex. Admin. Code § 211.16. Establishment or Continued Operation of an Appointing Entity. This proposed amendment was developed with input from an advisory committee and would outline the minimum standards for the creation or continued operation of a law enforcement agency.

37 Tex. Admin. Code § 217.9. Refusal by Licensee to Submit to Medical or Psychological Examination. This proposed new rule would outline the process for determining whether a licensee had good cause to refuse to submit to a requested medical or psychological examination following submission of a refusal report from a law enforcement agency to TCOLE.

37 Tex. Admin. Code § 227.1. Appointing Entity Responsibilities. This proposed amendment would clarify reporting requirements for school marshal appointing entities by requiring reports to be submitted by an appointing entity to the Commission that a school marshal may no longer be psychologically fit to carry out the duties of a school marshal.

37 Tex. Admin. Code § 227.4. Demonstration of Psychological Fitness. This proposed new rule would outline the requirements and processes for the psychological examination of school marshals.

37 Tex. Admin. Code § 227.6. Fit for Duty Review. This proposed new rule would outline the requirements and processes for the fit for duty review of school marshals.

These proposed rules can be accessed through the Commission's website at <https://www.tcole.texas.gov/>, selecting About Us, then selecting The TCOLE Commission and its Members, and navigating down the page to the Public Comment section, or by clicking the button below.



Model Policies and Proposed Rules are open for public comment. Public comments may be submitted electronically to public.comment@tcole.texas.gov or in writing to Mr. John Beauchamp, General Counsel, Texas Commission on Law Enforcement, 6330 East Hwy 290, Suite 200, Austin, TX 78723-1035.

CHANGES TO THE F5 IN TCLEDDS



In response to Senate Bill 1445 passed by the 88th Texas Legislature, "separation reasons", including "honorable, general, dishonorable", will no longer be collected for separations of a license holder that occur on or after March 1, 2024.

Senate Bill 1445 repealed sections (b) and (c) of Occupations Code §1701.452 (per section 22 of SB 1445), for separations that occur on or after March 1, 2024 (per section 26 of SB 1445).

This means if the separation date is before March 1st, the "separation reason" (honorable, general, dishonorable) will remain on the page, and the process will continue to work as it had previously. The printable version of the F5 will display the "separation reason" selected.

If the separation date is on or after March 1st, the "separation reason" will gray out/prevent a selection and a message will appear that says "TCOLE no longer records separation reasons after 3/1/2024". The printable version of the F5 will also change (see figures below)

The change is dependent on the separation date the agency enters on the F5, not the date the F5 is created.

TCOLE staff is available to assist with any questions.

CHANGES TO THE F5 IN TCLEDDS

Figure 1 displays the F5 entry form in TCLEDDS with a separation date entered after 3/1/2024 with the "F5 Reason" field grayed out, with the message "TCOLE no longer records separation reasons after 3/1/2024"

Figure 2 displays the printable version of the F5 Form with a separation date after March 1st. The section for honorable, general, and dishonorable has been removed.

TCOLE TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

Legislatively Mandated Training PEACE OFFICERS

Training Cycle: 09/01/2021 – 08/31/2025

The 1st Training Unit: 09/01/2021 – 08/31/2023 **COMPLETED**

The 2nd Training Unit: 09/01/2023 – 08/31/2025

Licensed Peace Officer:

4-year Training Cycle: (9/1/21-8/31/25):

If you do not have an Intermediate Proficiency Certificate or higher, the following will be required for completion:

- Crisis Intervention Training (#3843 or #1850)
- Cultural Diversity (#3939 or #394)
- De-escalation Techniques (#1849)
- Special Investigative Topics (#3232)

Second 2-year Training Unit: (9/1/23-8/31/25):

A minimum of 40 hours of training to include:

- Legislative Update course (#3188)
- 16 hours of ALERRT training (*see next page*)
- Finding Wellness – Building a Healthier Life (course #4202) in-person or on MyTCOLE 3.0.
- Trauma-Informed Approach to Sexual Assault Investigations (MyTCOLE 3.0 online course #470 or in-person training course #4070), if not completed in the 9/1/21-8/31/23 unit. An equivalent to this course will be #3264 – Special Investigator Certification.

Deputy Constables:

In addition to the aforementioned “Licensed Peace Officer” requirements, Civil Process (#3131) must be completed in the 4-year training cycle.

For more information, visit: www.tcole.texas.gov/content/training-requirements

The passage of Senate Bill 1852 requires **all peace officers to attend ALERRT Level 1 training at least once prior to 8/31/2027**. Courses which will satisfy this requirement include #3311, #3313, and train-the-trainer #3315. This new law also requires that every peace officer attain 16 hours of ALERRT training every two years going forward.

Peace officers who have previously completed course #3311, #3313, or #3315 and have at least one of these courses documented on their TCOLE training record do not need to repeat ALERRT Level 1 training; however, they must take at least 16 hours of ALERRT training during this 2-year training unit before 8/31/2025. Courses which will satisfy the 16-hour requirement are included in the approved list below.

Peace officers who do NOT have course #3311, #3313, or #3315 documented on their TCOLE training record are encouraged to complete course #3311 during this current training unit prior to 8/31/2025 as their 16-hour continuing education requirement if at all possible. If not completed during this training unit, they **MUST** have completed #3311 prior to 8/31/2027 in accordance with Senate Bill 1852.

The following ALERRT course numbers count towards the training mandate:

3381	ALERRT AAIR
3380	ALERRT AAIR Train the Trainer
3376	ALERRT Breaching for 1st Responders Train the Trainer
3377	ALERRT ERASE Train the Trainer
3394	ALERRT Exterior Response to Active Shooter Events
3393	ALERRT First Responder Medical Train the Trainer
3317	ALERRT First Responder Breaching
3318	ALERRT First Responders Operating in Low - Light
3311	ALERRT Level 1
3382	ALERRT SORD
3392	ALERRT SORD Train the Trainer
3312	ALERRT Update
3315	ALERRT- Level 1 Train the Trainer
3606	ALERRT Medical Advanced Skills Class
3607	ALERRT Active Shooter Response Incident Management
3355	ALERRT Level 1 Instructor Recertification Online (in development)
3357	ALERRT First Responder Medical
78052	Active Attack Emergency Communications
667371	Active Attack Event Response Leadership
3356	ALERRT Fire As a Weapon Online



EDUCATION SERVICES



Course Updates

Education Services is currently developing the online version of Trauma-Informed Approach to Sexual Assault Investigations. Look for it on MyTCOLE 3.0 later this year.

Education Services was tasked with creating a Basic and Advanced Missing and Exploited Persons class. These courses will be available September 2024.

Education Services is currently reviewing the Basic County Corrections licensing course. If you would like to assist in this process, email education@tcole.texas.gov.

Education Services has been tasked with creating two new courses and need subject matter experts! If you would like to volunteer your time and expertise, please email a letter of interest to education@tcole.texas.gov.

- Elementary educational outreach training class to advance best practices of engagement of youth involving peace officers.
- Intellectual or developmental disability de-escalation, detection, and engagement course.

Exam Update

The Electronic Exam Manual is currently being revised and will be renamed. Look for the new Exam Proctor Manual later this Spring!

2023 RACIAL PROFILING



2023 Racial Profiling Report Data

The 2023 Racial Profiling Reporting period came to an end on March 1, 2024. TCOLE successfully collected data from **100%** of agencies required to report their 2023 motor vehicle stop information. To view the data collected from 2,740 Texas law enforcement agencies in 2023, as well as data going back to 2016, click on the button below, or visit: <https://www.tcole.texas.gov/content/racial-profiling-reports>.

VIEW REPORTS >

TCOLE STAFF UPDATES



Mark Duncan has joined the Legal Division as Assistant General Counsel. He grew up in Houston before attending the University of Texas for his undergraduate and law degrees. Mark comes to TCOLE from the general counsel's office at Austin ISD. Prior to that, he spent his time with the state working for the Texas Education Agency, Office of the Attorney General, and the Department of Public Safety. Mark is married with a son and enjoys fantasy football.



David Delgado has joined the Information & Technology Division as a Programmer III. David is a Graduate of the University of Texas at Austin and has always lived in the Austin area. Prior to joining TCOLE, he worked in software for over 3 years employed at Sonos, Pinwheel Phones, and UT Systems. Before that, he worked as a messenger for the Texas Senate. David lives with his two cats, one dog, and some of his favorite pastimes include hiking, wood working, and reading.

TCOLE has several current employment opportunities, with many more expected in the coming months. Check our employment page for additional information.



[Click here to view statewide peace officer vacancies.](#)

2024 TEXAS COMMISSION ON LAW ENFORCEMENT CALENDAR OF EVENTS

COMMISSION MEETINGS:

TCOLE Commission Meeting

April 29th, 2024 @ 9:30 am
Austin, TX

TCOLE Commission Meeting

June 20th, 2024 @ 9:30 am
Austin, TX

TCOLE Commissioner Workshop

August 7th, 2024 @ 1:00 pm
El Paso, TX

TCOLE Commission Meeting

August 8th, 2024 @ 9:30 am
El Paso, TX

TCOLE EVENTS:

Texas Peace Officers' Memorial Ceremony

Sunday, April 28th, 2024
State Capitol - Austin, TX

State of Texas Law Enforcement Achievement Awards Ceremony

Friday, June 21st, 2024
Austin, TX

2024 TCOLE Training Conference

October 28-30, 2024
McAllen, TX

[CLICK HERE TO VIEW UPCOMING TCOLE COMMISSION MEETING DATES, LOCATIONS,
AGENDAS AND RECORDED MEETINGS.](#)

SAVE THE DATE

2024 TCOLE TRAINING CONFERENCE



JOIN US IN MCALEN, TEXAS FOR THE ANNUAL
TCOLE TRAINING CONFERENCE

THIS YEAR'S *3-DAY CONFERENCE* WILL BE HELD
MONDAY, OCTOBER 28TH -
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30TH

DISCOUNTED HOTEL ROOMS MAY BE BOOKED VIA LINKS
PROVIDED ON THE TCOLE WEBSITE'S CONFERENCE PAGE
ON A FIRST COME FIRST SERVE BASIS.



REGISTRATION OPENS JULY 2024

2024 TCOLE TRAINING CONFERENCE

SAVE THE DATE!

October 28th - October 30th, 2024

JOIN US IN MCALLEN FOR THE 2024 TCOLE TRAINING CONFERENCE

McAllen Convention Center

700 Convention Center Blvd, McAllen, TX 78501

Attendee Registration Fee: \$275

I know a place!

Click the button below to browse discounted hotel rooms.
Discounted hotel rooms are available on a first come first serve basis.

Book Your Hotel Now



Please be advised that booking your hotel room does not secure your conference registration. An announcement will be sent out closer to July regarding conference attendee registration.

Attendee registration will open in July.

For questions regarding conference registration,
please contact conference.registration@tcole.texas.gov.

Exhibitor registration will open in May.

For questions regarding conference exhibitor and sponsorship opportunities,
please contact vendor.support@tcole.texas.gov.



IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE
OF TEXAS' FALLEN LAW ENFORCEMENT,
THE TEXAS PEACE OFFICERS' MEMORIAL COMMITTEE
CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO ATTEND THE

*2024 Texas Peace
Officers' Memorial Ceremony*

SUNDAY • APRIL 28TH • 6:30 P.M.

TEXAS PEACE OFFICERS'
MEMORIAL MONUMENT



For more information, visit:
<https://www.texaspeaceofficersmemorial.org/>

AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

Peace Officers' Memorial Nominations



If your agency has lost an officer or jailer in the line of duty, please be sure to send in nominations for the 2025 Peace Officers' Memorial Monument. We want to honor any fallen officers and make sure they receive the recognition they deserve. Please be aware that inclusions on the Peace Officers' Memorial Monument for medical deaths, including those related to COVID-19-related, are based on determination for benefits eligibility by the Employees' Retirement System of Texas. The nomination form can be found on the TCOLE website at <http://www.tcole.texas.gov/content/texas-peace-officers-memorial>.

Law Enforcement Achievement Award Nominations

Each year TCOLE hosts an annual achievement award ceremony to recognize peace officers, jailers, and telecommunicators that have gone above and beyond in their service to their community. We know there are many worthy candidates out there.

The awards are issued in the categories of valor, public service, and professional achievement. For the award nomination form, and additional information, please visit: <http://www.tcole.texas.gov/content/state-texas-achievement-awards>

Nominations may be submitted at any time throughout the year. Nominations received after January 15th will be submitted for the following year.



INSPIRING WOMEN LEADERS (IWL) CONFERENCE



The Texas Department of Public Safety is thrilled to announce an opportunity for law enforcement professionals to attend the Inspiring Women Leaders (IWL) Conference in Grapevine, TX, April 23-25, 2024.

The IWL Conference is designed to motivate and enrich women leaders in law enforcement by focusing on the values each unique individual contributes to the law enforcement community. We believe in the power of knowledge sharing and collaboration to drive growth and change. Join us in shaping the future of female leaders in law enforcement at the 2024 Inspiring Women Leaders Conference.

Information on the conference registration and hotel are available at:
<https://web.cvent.com/event/696cb11e-e790-441b-ac54-89fcb70bf622>

We look forward to seeing you in April!
If you have any questions, please email us at dps@iemshows.com.

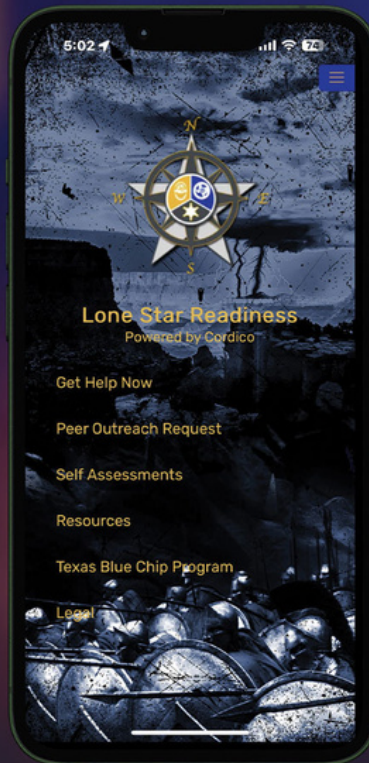
Important Registration Information

March 1, 2024- April 23, 2024: \$410

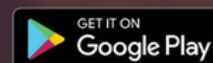
Vendor opportunities available on the website

THE NEW TEXAS LAW ENFORCEMENT PEER NETWORK (TLEPN) MOBILE APP HAS OFFICIALLY LAUNCHED!!

Your 24/7 Peer Network App Download Now!



TEXAS LAW ENFORCEMENT
PEER NETWORK

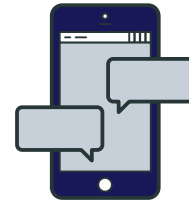
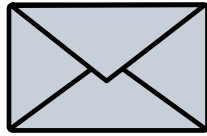


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CURRENT TCOLE STATISTICS



(CLICK OR SCAN QR CODE)



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Chief Kim Lemaux
Presiding Officer

Assistant Chief Jason D. Hester
Assistant Presiding Officer

Constable Justin West
Secretary

Janna Atkins
Justin Berry
Patricia Burruss
Sheriff Mike Griffis
Connor Harvey
Mario Lizcano, Jr.

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In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the publications of the Commission are available by request in alternative formats. To request an accessible format, please contact our ADA Compliance Officer, Brian Roth, at the address or phone number listed above, or through RELAY Texas at (800) 735-2989.

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