



DPS Chaparral

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Driver License Reengineering is on the way

The new system is coming! The new system is coming!

The Driver License Division is preparing for implementation of the new Driver License System (DLS). The system will start a pilot program in Austin in January and then roll out to the rest of the state in February, March and April.

The new system is absolutely necessary because the technology in the old system is simply too old to be effective. Timely updates are virtually impossible, legislative mandates are difficult to implement; and both DPS employees and members of the law enforcement community have difficulty evaluating the driver histories. In addition, Driver License offices do not have reliable hardware such as computers, scanners and printers.

The new DLS addresses these frustrations by offering new equipment, real-time updates and ease in reading a customer's record. *All* DL employees will receive the training necessary to operate the new system.

Issuance

Driver license offices will be receiving much-needed new equipment. Only one computer will be used to collect applicant demographic information and signature, thumbprints and portrait. All new equipment has custom software that will allow users to move smoothly through the process while collecting quality image data.

The new camera includes "find-a-face" technology that will automatically locate and center the applicant's face. The new thumbprint device also includes quality checking software that shows when a quality print is collected. Each issuance technician will have a scanner that will scan images of identity documents.

Currently, all driver record data is updated through nightly batch processes which result in a delay in viewing accurate driver information/status. The new DLS will update most data in near real-time. This means that within seconds of entering information, it will be updated to the record, displayed accordingly, and will provide up-to-the-minute driver record data.

The future system will display *all* information related to a person's record. If a person has both a DL and ID, both numbers will be displayed under the person's name, which will eliminate the possibility of two history records, or

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Dear fellow employee,

As I have written in earlier issues of the Chaparral, this most recent session of the Texas Legislature was very positive for DPS. Our legislators showed great confidence in DPS and its employees by approving many of the things we requested.

We had requested funding for new regional headquarters buildings and crime labs in Hidalgo County and Lubbock and a new district office in the Rio Grande Valley, as well as an emergency vehicle operations course. The Legislature placed approximately \$200 million in general obligation bonds on the November ballot to fund these requests. The bonds, located in Proposition 4 of the ballot, must be approved by voters in order for these projects to proceed.

The deadline to register and be eligible to vote in the November 6, 2007 General Election is October 9, 2007. If you are not already registered to vote, I would urge you to register—and to take advantage of this most precious piece of U.S. citizenship. (Voting is one of the DPS's 10 General Orders.)



Awards

Jaime Arenivar, Raymond Veitenheimer and Steve Walker received Director's Awards for saving a man from a burning vehicle. A man apparently fell asleep while driving in Archer County on U.S. 281 and crashed his car.

The three men entered the back seat of the burning vehicle and were able to free the victim, who was pinned in because of the force of the impact. The man was safely extracted before the car was completely engulfed in flames. The three rescuers were nominated by **Pablo Garcia**, HP Wichita Falls.

Two men received Director's Awards for risking their lives to pull another man from a burning vehicle. Matthew Hicks and Drew Patterson drove up on a wreck in Parker County. The victim's SUV had crashed into an embankment and rolled several times. Despite the growing fire and smoke, the two men were able to free the man from his SUV. The victim suffered massive head trauma and died several days later. The two good Samaritans were nominated by Tr. **Jeffrey Shinn**, HP Weatherford.

A wild shoot-out that left a DPS trooper and another officer injured led to multiple awards for those involved. **Alfredo Barrera**, who was with the Highway Patrol at the time and is now a Criminal Intelligence investigator in Brownsville, made first contact with the subject vehicle in October 2004. He attempted to arrest the suspect after a traffic stop in Hidalgo County, but the suspect broke free and led multiple units on a

pursuit, firing with an assault rifle at officers.

One of the bullet fragments hit Barrera in the face. He was awarded a Purple Heart and a Director's Citation for his bravery in the line of fire. The suspect would drive a short distance and then open fire on officers. Eventually, risking his own life, Tr. **Leopoldo Sanchez**, HP McAllen, left cover and fired rounds from his handgun and shotgun at the suspect, while other officers opened fire as well. The suspect was reported down and deceased. Investigation revealed he had shot and killed his girlfriend a few days earlier.

Sanchez was awarded the prestigious Medal of Valor for his courageous actions that day. Tr. **Elias Escalon**, HP Weslaco, received a Director's Citation for his role in the incident. Ernesto Solis with the Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office suffered a gunshot wound to the shoulder and was one of several officers to receive Director's Awards.

The others receiving Director's Awards for their bravery include several members of the Weslaco Police Department: Sgt. Juan Meza; and officers Jaime Onderdonk, Marc Salinas, Raul Guajardo, Juan Ramirez and Chris Ramirez. They were nominated by Sgt. **Felipe Escobedo**, HP Weslaco.

Briefs

Basic Critical Incident Response Team training scheduled

The DPS Critical Incident Response Team (CIRT) is an employee-based peer support program designed to provide support and assistance to DPS employees and their families

who are experiencing work related or personal stress or trauma. The DPS team is also available to respond to other law enforcement agencies upon request.

The Basic CIRT Training, scheduled for December 4-6, prepares employees to understand the nature of critical incident stress and to give specialized social support and assistance to their colleagues and families specific to the law enforcement profession.

Employees who are interested in applying for the CIRT and attending the December Basic Training should contact **Terry Hibbs** in the Psychological Services Bureau at 512-424-2211 or terry.hibbs@txdps.state.tx.us. The application and chain of command approval must be received in the Psychological Services Bureau office prior to scheduling interviews. Interviews will be held the first three weeks of November.

Additional information is available from **Frances Douglas**, DPS Staff Psychologist, at 512-424-5251 or frances.douglas@txdps.state.tx.us.

SWAT tryouts

The DPS SWAT Team is seeking applicants. Tryouts will be held in October. Any commissioned officer who resides or is stationed within four contiguous counties of Travis or Williamson counties may apply. Interested candidates should submit a memo, via Department e-mail, to Lt. **Mike Tacquard** or Lt. **David Franklin**.

Dive team looking for you

The DPS Dive Recovery Team is seeking applicants. Any commissioned THP trooper wishing to apply

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drivers having a driver license with a clear status and a suspended identification card.

At the time of DL/ID application, the last photograph of the applicant will be displayed to assist with identification fraud detection and prevention. DL technicians will be able to confirm that the person standing in front of them is the same person who obtained the DL/ID previously.

Instruction Permits will be replaced by Learner's Licenses. Also, Occupational and Interlock Licenses will be issued in the driver license office. All issuances will contain a photograph. No more paper licenses! Temporary receipts will contain a photo, as well.

The new cards will have a different design and contain innovative security features that will make counterfeiting and tampering of Texas cards virtually impossible.

Image Verification System

Another new component of the DLS is the Image Verification System (IVS). This system is an exciting new tool that will assist with fraud

detection and criminal investigations. Using facial recognition and thumbprint comparison technology, this system will automatically compare existing photographs and thumbprints to the most recent images on file to locate multiple fraudulent issues and unknown individuals.

Already a comparison of our existing 21 million photographs has resulted in locating numerous individuals with multiple DL and ID cards.

IVS is capable of receiving scanned photographic images from cameras or video as well as images of sketches for comparison against photographs in the system. Even though the system is currently in limited use, law enforcement officers with no other leads to identify or locate individuals have found this tool to be invaluable.

Driver license employees will use the one-to-one comparison feature at the time of issuance to compare the newly collected photograph to the previous photo on file. All original applicants for a DL and ID will be compared each night against the entire file of 21 million photographs. Sus-

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for consideration should submit a memo through their chain of command, forwarding the original directly to Lt. **Mike Tacquard**. Dive certification is not required. For further information, call 512-424-2339.

Region VI retirees meeting

The Region VI Retirees association meeting will be held on Saturday, Sept. 15 in Knox Hall at the Texas Ranger Museum and Hall of Fame on I-35 in Waco. Gathering and visit-

ing will begin at 10 a.m. Lunch will be served at noon. The cost of the meal is \$10 per person. All DPS retirees are invited to attend. For more information or to make reservations, contact **Charlie J. Morgan** at 254-867-6732 or **Judy Falkner** at 254-799-8963.

FBI grad

Lt. **Mario Flores**, MVT El Paso, graduated in June from the FBI National Academy in Virginia.

picious issuance activity will be reported the next day to headquarters personnel for review.

Administrative

Automation will significantly reduce our many manual processes. The new system will generate enforcement actions based on conviction entries. The reinstatement fee, SR-22, and no insurance suspension processes will be streamlined to significantly reduce labor-intensive data entry and editing functions.

To assist with customer contacts, the new DLS will have a display screen that will provide a synopsis of outstanding enforcement actions and the related compliance documents or fees necessary to reinstate a license to a valid status.



On the mend...

Best wishes for a speedy recovery from line-of-duty injuries go to:

Tr. **Darrin Bridges**, HP Borger, injured while arresting a fleeing suspect;

Tr. **Richard Cook**, HP Anderson, injured while arresting a fleeing suspect;

Tr. **Brian Kemp**, HP Beaumont, injured arresting suspect;

Tr. **Erasmo Balderas**, CVE McAllen, injured while arresting a fleeing suspect;

Sgt. **Donald Clendennen**, CLE Austin, injured while arresting a fleeing suspect;

Sgt. **Oscar Rivera**, Rangers Co D Sinton, injured during a manhunt;

Tr. **Paul Middleton**, CVE Sherman, injured while making an arrest.

Good news! Tr. **Juan Sandoval**, CVE Laredo, has returned to work.

Mile Markers

Promotions

DL

Johnny Joseph Hirst, Sen. Tr., HP San Angelo to Sgt., DL San Antonio; **Rebecca Salazar Linton**, Tr. II, DL Bryan to Sgt., DL Houston; **Desiree Dolores Lyles**, Tr. III, DL Lake Worth to Sgt., DL Rosenberg;

Marcus Adam Sauer, Tr. II, HP San Marcos to Sgt., DL Beaumont; **Joyce Kimberly Lacaze**, Tr. IV, HP Lubbock to Sgt., DL Laredo.

HP

Kim Overby Drummond, Sen. Cpl., CVE Canton to Sgt., CVE Laredo World Trade; **Frank Tejada Lopez**, Tr. IV, CVE Laredo to Sgt., CVE Brownsville POE.

CLE

Robert Wayne Matthews, Tr. II, HP Bellville to Sgt., Narcotics Svc. Laredo; **John Lewis Harrell**, Sgt., HP Uvalde to Sgt., Narcotics Svc. Alpine; **Eric Peter Walter**, Tr. II, HP

Waco to Sgt., Narcotics Svc. McAllen; **James Dewey Hicks**, Tr. II, HP Nacogdoches to Sgt., Narcotics Svc. Laredo-DIG;

James Rodger Johnson, Jr., Tr. II, CVE Victoria to Sgt., Narcotics Svc. Laredo-DIG; **Jeffrey Scott Wolf**, Tr. II, HP The Woodlands to Sgt., Narcotics Svc. Laredo; **Dale Arne Tanem**, Tr. II, HP Cleburne to Sgt., Narcotics Svc. El Paso;

Aaron Adam Arizmendi, Cpl. II, HP Freeport to Sgt., Narcotics Svc. Laredo; **Margarito Lopez, Jr.**, Tr. II, HP McKinney to Narcotics Svc. El Paso; **James William Burson, Jr.**, Tr. II, HP Waco to Sgt., Narcotics Svc. El Paso;

Jimmy Ray Burkett, Tr. II, HP Tyler to Sgt., Narcotics Svc. Laredo; **Larry Owen Lidner**, Tr. II, HP Nacogdoches to Sgt., Narcotics Svc. Alpine.

Retirements

Denise Charlene Olson, Admin. Asst. III, HP Lubbock, 31 yrs., 2 mos.; **Kevin Richard**

Vreeland, Sen. Tr., HP Austin, 27 yrs., 6 mos., 22 days; **Diana Christina Garza**, Sen. Tr., CVE Refugio, 22 yrs., 6 mos., 22 days; **Ricardo Javier Palacios**, Sgt., HP Alice, 21 yrs., 1 mo., 20 days;

Mark Robertson Spillers, Sgt., HP Bryan, 20 yrs., 6 mos., 11 days; **Rena Lovell Johnson**, Tech. II, Accounting Austin, 6 yrs., 9 mos., 29 days; **Patricia Clay Hollis**, Sen. Tr., DL Irving, 25 yrs., 5 mos., 17 days.

Deaths

Judy Kay Nantz, ret. Admin. Asst., II, DL Sherman (Oct. 1993 – Feb. 2006) died July 24, 2007; **Arvid Bennie Sundbeck**, ret. Chief Mechanic, Building Programs (June 1974 – Sept. 1989) died July 23, 2007; **Billy J. Barton**, ret. Patrolman II, DL Henderson (Nov. 1948 – Dec. 1982) died July 7, 2007; and **Glen B. Warner**, ret. Major, HP Dallas (Aug. 1937 – Feb. 1977) died August 8, 2007.

The competitive examinations for the following positions will be conducted at the Texas Department of Public Safety **Criminal Law Enforcement Division Auditorium** as follows:

Tuesday, September 25, at 8 a.m.:

Sergeant, Aircraft Section

Tuesday, October 2, at 10 a.m.:

Captain, Texas Ranger Division

Lieutenant, Texas Ranger Division

The competitive examinations for the following positions will be conducted at the DPS **Regional Headquarters Offices** unless otherwise noted. The following regions will be conducted at off site locations: **Region 1** examinations will be conducted at the Garland Police Department, 1891 Forest Lane, Garland, 75042. Candidates need to enter door marked "Garland Police Department" and check in with Desk Officer. **Region 6** ex-

aminations will be conducted at TSTC, 401 Avenue D, Waco (Food Services/Culinary Arts Building Ballroom). **Region 7** examinations will be conducted in the Legislative Conference Center in the Capitol Extension (Room E2.002), 1701 N. Congress, Austin. Parking will be on the top level of Garage A, 1401 San Jacinto. **Region 8** examinations will be conducted at the Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office, 715 East El Cibolo Road, Edinburg.

Tuesday, October 9, at 8 a.m.:

Captain, Highway Patrol Service
Lieutenant, Highway Patrol Service
Lieutenant, Narcotics Service
Sergeant, Highway Patrol Service
Sergeant, Texas Ranger Division

Tuesday, October 9, at 1:30 p.m.:

Sergeant, Driver License Division
Sergeant, Criminal Intelligence Service
Sergeant, Regulatory Licensing Service

Wednesday, October 10, at 8 a.m.:

Sergeant, Motor Vehicle Theft Service
Sergeant, Commercial Vehicle Enforcement

Sergeant, Narcotics Service

For more information on testing locations and oral board locations and times, please see Outlook at Public Folders/All Public Folders/Law Enforcement Promotions.

Applications should be addressed to the Human Resources Bureau, MSC 0251, Texas Department of Public Safety, Box 4087, Austin, Texas 78773, faxed to 512-424-5627, or emailed through DPS email system to "**Terry Preston**" and **should be received no later than 5 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 21, for Sergeant, Aircraft Section, and Friday, Sept. 28, 2007, for all other examinations.**