Annual Report 2005
Mission Statement
The broad objective of this Department is “to maintain public safety in the state of Texas.”

The Department works toward this goal within existing regulations and in cooperation with other agencies with mutual or related responsibilities.

The DPS seeks to preserve order by protecting lives, rights, property and privileges of the residents of this state.

The Department continues to uphold its motto, “Courtesy, Service, Protection.”

Message from the Director

Honorable Rick Perry, Governor of Texas and Members of the Texas Legislature:

We are pleased to present the Texas Department of Public Safety’s 2005 Annual Report. During 2005, the Department participated in two unprecedented events: the evacuation of hundreds of thousands of Louisiana residents after Hurricane Katrina devastated parts of that state and Mississippi in late August and the evacuation of more than two million people along the Texas Gulf Coast before Hurricane Rita hit the Beaumont/Port Arthur area in late September.

Both of those events showcased what the agency is capable of accomplishing. We very much appreciate your support and interest in the DPS.

We welcome your questions concerning our activities.

Respectfully submitted,

The Texas Public Safety Commission

By:

Thomas A. Davis Jr., Director

(courtesy photo courtesy of the Austin American-Statesman)
Public Safety Commission

The Texas Public Safety Commission oversees Department operations. The Commission is made up of three Texas citizens appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Texas Senate. Members serve staggered six-year terms without compensation.

Commissioners are appointed based on qualifications, including knowledge of laws; experience with law enforcement; executive ability; honesty and integrity; and education and training.

Members of the Commission in 2005 were Chairperson M. Colleen McHugh of Corpus Christi, Carlos H. Casco of Brownsville and Robert B. Holt of Midland. After Commissioner McHugh left the commission in October, Holt left the Public Safety Commission in January. Ernest Angelo Jr. of Midland joined the commission. He was named chairman when Commissioner McHugh left the commission in October.

Director and Assistant Director

The Department is led by a director and an assistant director who oversee the agency's day-to-day operations.

The director is appointed by the Public Safety Commission and must have at least five years experience in law enforcement or public administration. The director serves the Public Safety Commission in an advisory capacity.

The assistant director is appointed by the director.

The director carries the rank of colonel, and the assistant director carries the rank of lieutenant colonel.

In 2005, Col. Thomas A. Davis Jr. was the director of DPS, and Lt. Col. David McEathron was assistant director.

Col. Thomas A. Davis Jr.  Lt. Col. David McEathron
The 79th Legislature approved a number of exceptional items requested by DPS, and the Department has implemented those items to fight crime, including terrorism and identity theft. DPS has also increased crime lab personnel to keep pace with the increasing demand for the completion of case work. The following is a list of exceptional items and how the Department is acting on them:

Pay raises for non-commissioned and commissioned employees were approved. The raise includes a salary increase and a law enforcement stipend for commissioned personnel, plus a 7 percent across the board salary increase for non-commissioned employees (4 percent in the 2006 biennium and an additional 3 percent in the 2007 biennium). The raise and stipend will improve Department recruiting and retention of employees. (For information on recruit schools, please see page 28.)

Thirty-one additional Criminal Intelligence Service (CIS) investigators and 20 additional staff members for counter-terrorism and homeland security—The CIS works to provide effective accrual and dissemination of intelligence information to law enforcement to combat terrorism and to address the ongoing criminal activity related to the Texas/Mexico border. Recent terrorism investigations around the U.S. have revealed that to successfully defeat terrorism, a multi-agency, information sharing technique is most effective. The Service is also using the additional 31 commissioned and 20 analytical personnel, provided as an exceptional item, to serve on the 15 active FBI Joint Terrorism Task Forces around the state and the four FBI Field Intelligence Groups.

In response to the amount of criminal activity along the Texas/Mexico border, the Service has also increased its staffing of intelligence covering that area. With the additional personnel, the CIS has created two new lieutenant areas in Laredo and Del Rio and a one-man duty station in Van Horn. The Service now has Intelligence personnel stationed in Harlingen, Brownsville, McAllen, Uvalde, Del Rio, Van Horn and El Paso.

The additional analytical personnel have also allowed the full staffing of two analytical programs, including the Texas Fusion Center and the Criminal Law Enforcement Combined Analyst Group (CAG). The Service formed the Fusion Center, which functions as a 24/7 statewide tactical intelligence center and a call center for suspicious activities from the public.

The CAG, housed within the CIS headquarters, consists of analytical personnel from CIS, the DPS Motor Vehicle Theft Service and DPS Narcotics. It is tasked with the accrual and evaluation of actionable intelligence regarding criminal activity and the dissemination of that intelligence to appropriate DPS personnel in the field for further investigation.

Also, the Border Security Operations Center (BSOC), which is a part of the Emergency Management Division, is housed in the Fusion Center and works with the Fusion Center to produce an assessment report to identify an effective approach to better securing the border against crime and terrorism. (For more information on CLE, please see pages 15-20.)

Continued funding for the DL Reengineering project, the Driver Responsibility Program and the Fraud Unit—The Driver License Reengineering Project is designed to update the Department's legacy driver license system and provide a more secure driver license and identification card for Texas. Completion for the entire project is targeted for November 2007.

The Driver License Reengineering contract was awarded on April 1, and the first phase of the project will be completed by December 2007. The project staff has completed the process to secure phase one of the project. The project has now moved to the requirements phase, which focuses on requirements gathering.

### DRP Cases Generated and Revenue Billed

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- Points
- Intoxication
- No Insur/DWLI
- No DL

Dr. F. Allen, 567,889

No Insur/DWLI, $144,135,475

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Driver license fraud and identity theft is a problem that has been around for many years. Technological advances, software and computer equipment now available to the public have allowed the manufacture of high-quality false identification to become widespread. Drug traffickers, scam artists, and wanted persons all utilize counterfeit or stolen identities. Most recently, the use of fraudulent documents, in conjunction with terrorist activities, has become a national security issue for the United States.

The Fraud Investigation Unit troopers are members of Secret Service Task forces throughout the state and the North Texas Fraud Task Force in Dallas County. In 2005 the FIU investigated 768 cases, initiated 277 felony warrants and arrested 245 suspects. In addition the FIU has assisted other agencies in more than 2,500 cases. (For more information on the Fraud Investigation Unit, please see pages 13-24.)

Additional Crime Lab personnel and expenditures to keep up with the ever-increasing demand for case work—The DPS Crime Laboratory Service was authorized thirty-eight additional personnel in the FY 2006 budget, to help with analyzing ever-increasing amounts of evidence in criminal cases. Thirty-six of these personnel, most of whom are Forensic Scientists, have been hired and are undergoing intensive forensics training in either drug analysis, DNA analysis or firearms examination. They will complete their training during 2006, and many are already working some cases and contributing toward reducing backlogs.

Additional microscopes and other laboratory equipment have been ordered for the new scientists to be able to work efficiently. The total number of laboratory cases that will be completed and reported out during 2006 is projected to greatly exceed the 63,000 cases reported out by the Department’s thirteen crime laboratories during 2005. (For more information on the Crime Laboratory, please see pages 18-20.)

Additional personnel and funding for the Private Security Bureau, including restoring funds lost when Private Security was integrated into the Department last session—The Legislature approved the addition of 39 full-time employees—22 commissioned officers and 17 noncommissioned—to the Private Security Bureau to better administer the Private Security Act. The additional commissioned officers who were brought on in September 2005 have allowed Private Security to take on a much more active role in investigating unlicensed activity and violations of the act by license holders. (For more information on the Private Security Bureau, please see page 27.)

Image Verification Technology (facial recognition) to enhance the driver license system to combat identity theft and DL fraud—The Legislature authorized funding for inclusion of image verification technology into the driver license system. Image verification technology will give DPS another tool to combat identity theft and DL fraud. Using the technology, the Department can compare images collected at the time of license issuance to the most recent images on the individual on file. This comparison will assist in the location of multiple records on file belonging to the same individual.

This initiative is integral to the agency’s commitment to combat identity theft and driver license fraud. Funding for this initiative is dedicated to hardware, software, installation and maintenance costs. Also

necessary for the development and coding of the New Driver License System (NDLS). Our vendor partners and the DPS project team will collaborate throughout the project to ensure the NDLS meets the needs of our users and customers.

To implement the Driver Responsibility Program (DRP), the Department contracted with a third-party vendor to process surcharge notices and payment collections. The DRP has generated 906,882 surcharge cases, including initial notices and second year notices. As of December, a total of 544,059 individuals were in the program, with 525,110 of those individuals having a driver license or identification card.

The DRP has generated a total of $281,726,666 in billed assessments, of which $59,595,513 has been collected. Individuals are eligible to enter into an installment agreement for a surcharge with payments ranging from four to 36 months, and revenue from these agreements are not realized until the completion of the agreement. The majority of assessments were for alcohol and no insurance convictions. The initial program notices were mailed in September 2004, and the chart on page 4 provides a program overview as of December 2005. (For more information on the DRP, please see pages 24-25.)

The Driver License Division Fraud Investigation Unit (FIU) consists of nine commissioned troopers and six analysts. The FIU became fully operational May 1, 2004. In 2005 the FIU saw the addition of two troopers, one in McAllen and one in Houston.

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included is enrollment of 20 million existing driver license and identification card images into the verification database. The Department has incorporated image verification into the DL Reengineering project and is actively working with the vendor on system development.

**Funding for new buildings in Bryan, Snyder and Waxahachie and a new crime lab facility in Garland—** The Bryan office will house Texas Highway Patrol (HP), including Commercial Vehicle Enforcement (CVE), Vehicle Inspection and Communications, the regional Division of Emergency Management, Texas Rangers, Criminal Law Enforcement, including Criminal Intelligence, Motor Vehicle Theft and Narcotics and Driver License.

The Waxahachie office will house Texas Highway Patrol, including CVE and Motor Vehicle Inspection, and Driver License. Planned future services for the Waxahachie office include Criminal Law Enforcement, including Criminal Intelligence, Motor Vehicle Theft and Narcotics, and a Texas Ranger. An increase in the number of HP and CVE troopers in the area after the facility is completed is also planned.

The Snyder office will hold Highway Patrol, including CVE and Motor Vehicle Inspection, Texas Rangers and Driver License. The Garland facility will house the growing Crime Laboratory Service. (For more information on Building Program, please see page 28.)

**Although a state-of-the-art driver training facility near the firing range on the Florence prop-**

erty in Williamson County was not approved, legislators approved a feasibility study for the proposed project—The Legislature authorized the Department to develop a feasibility study and implementation plan for constructing an emergency vehicle operations course. Both the study and plan must include an assessment of the need for such a peace officer driver training facility and a detailed analysis of the cost. The results from this study—which are being compiled by the Office of Audit and Inspection and Legislative Liaison Office—are due to the Governor and Legislative Budget Board no later than January 1, 2007.

Legislators requested this study in response to the Department’s request to construct a peace officer driver training facility adjacent to the DPS shooting range near Florence, in Williamson County. The goal for such a facility is to train peace officers how to safely drive in various conditions while preventing accidents that could harm both themselves and the general driving public. Currently, the Department—like most other police agencies in Texas—uses only parking lots, abandoned runways and shared public roadways to train its personnel to drive emergency vehicles.

Current plans for the DPS Emergency Vehicle Operation Course Complex include various types of roads, an administration building with two classrooms, an automotive shop, a fleet storage area and driving simulation devices. This multipurpose facility would enhance the Department’s training efforts and also be available to other state, county and municipal law enforcement and emergency response agencies to train their personnel. (For more information on the Firing Range, please see pages 27-28.)

A computer equipment replacement schedule was partially funded, as well as a new helicopter in San Antonio. The Legislature authorized the Department to purchase a new helicopter for the San Antonio Region. This new American Eurocopter AS 350B2 has a 30 million candle power “Night Sun,” FLIR thermal imagery, Global Positioning System, a patient litter for medical transports, police radios and water rescue gear.

DPS uses the helicopter for search and rescue operations, manhunts, domestic marijuana eradication programs, medical emergencies, searches for stolen property and transportation and deployment of criminal assault teams. (For more information on the aircraft section, please see pages 32-33.)
Hurricane Katrina

In late August, Hurricane Katrina devastated cities and towns in the Gulf Coast states of Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama. Hundreds of thousands of evacuees came to Texas in search of shelter.

DPS became intimately involved in the state’s response to the tragedy. The State Operations Center, DPS District emergency operations centers and local government emergency facilities were activated to support the response. The SOC and Disaster Districts coordinated an enormous mobilization of state, local and volunteer group resources to assist in evacuations from Louisiana and to provide shelter, mass care, transportation and medical care for more than 400,000 Katrina evacuees in reception areas throughout the state, from Beaumont/Port Arthur all the way to Brownsville, Amarillo and El Paso. The largest shelter operations were conducted in Houston, San Antonio, Dallas and Austin. Major metropolitan areas in the state took the lead in sheltering Katrina evacuees. State and local response efforts were coordinated with federal efforts through FEMA. (At the end of December, an estimated 400,000 evacuees remained in Texas.)

The state also responded to requests from Louisiana for on-scene assistance. Pursuant to the interstate Emergency Management Assistance Compact, a large force of state and local emergency responders and a massive amount of equipment were deployed to Louisiana.

Many Katrina evacuees needed identification documents to receive vital services. The Driver License Division (DLD) established a process to provide evacuees with identity documentation, while safeguarding the integrity of the Department’s records and reducing the possibility of identity theft. The DLD assisted each evacuee.

For the first time in more than 150 years, the Mexican Army entered the United States. On September 8, a Mexican military convoy crossed from Mexico into the United States to bring aid to the victims of Hurricane Katrina. The 45-vehicle convoy, escorted by the U.S. Army and DPS, carried water treatment plants and mobile kitchens capable of feeding 7,000 people daily. The convoy traveled from the Columbia Solidarity Bridge to Kelly Air Force Base in San Antonio.
Nurricane Response

Trooper Mike Cantu, HPD, Seguin, spent time with some of the young evacuees at Kelly AFB in San Antonio.

who held a driver license or identification card issued by the states of Louisiana, Mississippi or Alabama by coordinating with the respective home state to issue a Texas driver license, Texas ID card or temporary Texas identification card. Commissioned and analytical personnel of the Criminal Law Enforcement Division gathered intelligence at shelters located throughout the state regarding organizations and groups displaced by the storm who may have been involved in ongoing criminal activity. This information was forwarded to analysts at the Texas Fusion Center, where research was conducted to identify criminal links or centers of activity.

In addition, the Missing Persons Clearinghouse assisted other law enforcement agencies and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children with efforts to locate displaced Katrina victims and identify children who were separated from their families. The Critical Incident Response Team sent six peers, three chaplains and a victim services counselor to provide critical incident stress management to police and other emergency responders in Louisiana.

Hurricane Rita

When Hurricane Rita roared ashore at Port Arthur on Sept. 24, DPS employees had already been hard at work for five days. The SOC coordinated a massive mobilization and deployment of state, local and volunteer group resources to support the evacuation, shelter and mass care operations. It then coordinated redeployment of many of the same resources to carry out emergency response operations in Southeast Texas in the aftermath of the storm. Governor Rick Perry used the SOC as his base during Hurricane Rita.

An unprecedented evacuation—more than 3.2 million people from along the Texas coast—tied up roadways across East, South and Central Texas and filled thousands of shelters. When local officials recommended evacuation of potential risk areas as Rita approached the coast, the largest evacuation in Texas history was initiated. The evacuation was highlighted by the first use of contraflow on major Houston metropolitan area freeways, as well as use of a substantial number of transport aircraft. For the first time in state history, traffic lanes on several major highways were reversed, allow.
Hurricane Response

ing travel in one direction on all lanes of the interstate.

DPS troopers worked closely with the Texas Department of Transportation and local law enforcement agencies to try to help traffic flow smoothly. Both agencies learned from the experience, and the process should work much more efficiently in the future.

Coastal residents evacuated to reception areas in virtually all urban areas in the state. Many evacuees were also sheltered in small towns and rural areas. More than 1,000 Highway Patrol troopers, as well as officers from the Driver License, Criminal Law Enforcement and Texas Ranger divisions, were involved in the Department’s response. After Rita made landfall, troopers responded to a number of issues related to the state’s re-entry plan into the stricken areas.

DPS officers coordinated and provided law enforcement support and resource management to local and county entities in the 17 counties severely affected by the storm. They provided police patrols, secured restricted and limited access areas, provided security for supply distribution points, shelters and public facilities, provided escorts for emergency response vehicles and supplies and assisted returning evacuees.

The DPS Aircraft section monitored roadways during the evacuations before the storm and when residents were returning home afterwards. Helicopters and airplanes also were used for some emergency evacuations and rescues.

Support staff, including mechanics, electricians and radio technicians, traveled to the affected areas to provide ground support to law enforcement personnel and to get DPS offices operational as soon as possible.

Before the storm hit, Information Management staffs traveled to 16 driver license offices and retrieved vital computer equipment, taking it inland where it would be safe. This equipment, circa 1992, is so antiquated by computing standards that it is literally irreplaceable. If an office were flooded and the equipment ruined, the office could conceivably be down until the new driver license system is implemented in 2007.

Most driver license offices were not damaged. The next challenge was to get undamaged offices back online as soon as possible. The STS teams went back in the field, worked long hours through the weekend, and most offices were able to open on time Monday morning.

Hundreds of DPS vehicles lined up at the Houston Regional Office to gas-up one last time before heading to East Texas to assist with response to the hurricane.

Extreme Makeover: Office Edition

The Pasadena Driver License office made it through the storm but could not survive a fire that raged through the shopping center. Employees were moved to other offices in the area while waiting for the office to be reopened.
The Office of Audit and Inspection (OAI) provides the Public Safety Commission and Department management with independent, objective assessments of the accountability, integrity, effectiveness and efficiency of the Department’s programs and operations. Based on audit and inspection findings, OAI also makes recommendations to management for improving the programs and operations reviewed.

**Internal Audit**

In fiscal year 2005 Internal Audit completed seven risk-based audits, 16 follow-up audits, three special reports, nine Criminal Law Enforcement Division—Narcotics Service Imprison Fund and Seized Assets audits, 30 Driver License Office audits and one Petty Cash Fund audit. Based on the findings of the audits, numerous recommendations were made to improve Department operations.

**Inspection**

OAI inspectors conducted inspections of law enforcement operations in two of the Department’s eight regions and inspected nine headquarters operations. They also audited seven petty cash funds in 2005. As a result, 98 recommendations for improvement were developed. In addition to their inspection duties, inspectors served the Department in a number of other areas.

During the 79th Legislative Regular Session convened in 2005, OAI Inspectors completed 1,423 bill analyses and 377 fiscal analyses. In addition, they routinely answer numerous requests for information from DPS personnel, other state and local police agencies, the public, other government agencies and the Legislature.

As in previous years, one of the inspectors chaired the Accident Review Board. In 2005, the review board processed more than 628 fleet collision reports and 294 fleet incident reports.

The Chief Inspector chaired the Awards Committee which is responsible for reviewing and processing all Department performance awards. In 2005, the Purple Heart Award was approved and presented to 17 officers who had been seriously injured while on duty. The Awards Committee approved five Director’s Citations for presentation to Department employees and 23 Director’s Awards that were given to private citizens or personnel of other agencies.

Inspectors taught numerous law enforcement training classes in 2005 at the DPS Training Academy as well as at other police agency training academies. Inspectors also provided leadership in developing the Department’s business continuity plan and in implementing the statewide radio interoperability initiative.
The Texas Highway Patrol (THP) division is primarily responsible for enforcing the state's traffic laws. The division is divided into eight regional commands headquartered in Austin (Cayote), Corpus Christi, Garland, Houston, Lubbock, McAllen, Midland and Waco. The THP Division has 3,607 employees, 2,487 commissioned officers and 1,120 civilian support personnel.

The Highway Patrol Division is comprised of the Highway Patrol Service, the Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Service, the Vehicle Inspection Service and the Communications Service.

The Highway Patrol secures and maintains order on Texas highways to ensure the safety of the motoring public. The Highway Patrol Service is responsible for public safety education and police and security functions for the State Capitol and the Capitol complex.

The Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Service weighs and checks commercial vehicle traffic operating on Texas roadways to ensure compliance with statutes related to weight, motor carrier safety, registration and the transportation of persons, hazardous material and other property.

The Vehicle Inspection Service supervises all official inspection stations throughout Texas to help keep roadways safe and the environment clean by requiring vehicles to be inspected annually for conditions or defects that might cause traffic collisions and contribute to pollution. Vehicle Inspection employees are authorized to detect and take appropriate enforcement action against anyone in violation of Texas laws.

The Communications Service operates a statewide network designed to serve the communications requirements of all criminal justice agencies. The system utilizes radio, telephone and landline telecommunication systems to connect with the Texas Crime Information Center, National Crime Information Center and other law enforcement databases. The Department has 33 communications facilities that operate 24 hours a day.

The division also includes several units that handle a variety of specialized functions: the Governor's Protective Detail, the Dive Recovery Team, the State Accident Reconstruction Team, the Drug Detector Canine Program, the Explosive Detector Canine Program and 16 Civil Disturbance Management teams.

MS-13 gang leader captured

In February, Tr. Victor Arevalo, HP Falfurrias, initiated a routine traffic stop on the driver of a 1999 Dodge Intrepid for speeding on US 77 in Brooks.
Above: Illegal immigrants waiting to be processed after the trailer, in which they were transported, was stopped by the Highway Patrol.

Smuggling trend: people

In 2005, Highway Patrol and Commercial Vehicle Enforcement troopers stopped increasing numbers of 18-wheelers hauling human cargo on Texas interstates.

In April, CVE Tr. Martin Hernandez pulled over an 18-wheeler near Abilene. The driver had no logbook, and after further questioning, he admitted that he and an intoxicated passenger were transporting 48 people in his trailer.

Each year for the past several years, DPS troopers have pulled over at least one 18-wheeler transporting people as cargo.

Burglary ring busted

Also in February, Tr. Royce Korenek, IHP Columbar, stopped the driver of a 1991 Honda for speeding on eastbound SH 77. The driver was arrested for no driver license. He then presented a “Gobierno Del Estado De Mexico” license he said had been purchased at a flea market in Houston. His passenger did not have identification documents. During inventory of the vehicle, two large bags were found containing over-the-counter drugs. The case was referred to Criminal Intelligence, Narcotics and the Department of Health for further investigation. After their identities were determined, both subjects were shown to have outstanding warrants. In addition, an Immigration and Customs Enforcement officer placed detainers on both of them for immigration violations. Subsequent

County. The driver fled, initiating a pursuit that quickly terminated when the driver ran off the roadway, struck a fence and ran into a brushy field. Tr. Arevalo approached and secured the vehicle and driver, along with 10 undocumented aliens, who were turned over to the Border Patrol for processing and detention. Sgt. Jose Segundo, Criminal Intelligence McAllen, working with agents from U.S. Customs and the FBI, determined that one of the occupants hiding in the trunk of the vehicle was Eber Anibal Rivera-Paz, the leader of the Central American criminal gang, MS-13. Federal authorities have reported that Rivera-Paz is affiliated with numerous international terrorist organizations.

Highway Patrol troopers in Region 6 assisted local and federal law enforcement agencies with security at President Bush’s ranch near Crawford. During the month of August, troopers helped deal with the influx of anti-war protest- ers and pre-president protesters to the area. At one point, both groups numbered approximately 4,000.

Many Highway Patrol employees volunteer for various events across the state. A favorite charity is Special Olympics. At left, Senior Tr. John “Chip” Leake, CVE Burnet, helps celebrate Samuel Knauth’s silver medals for the 100 meter dash and the softball throw at the Georgetown Special Olympics Track and Field Meet in April. Samuel is the son of Capt. Danny Knauth, YBE Austin, and Sgt. Caroline Knauth, Criminal Intelligence Austin.

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Emissions testing arrives in Central Texas

As areas of Central Texas came closer to violating federal clean air standards, local governments came together under an Early Action Compact to develop strategies to help improve air quality. A key component to their overall plan is the emissions testing of gasoline-powered vehicles.

As a result, vehicles two to 24 years old registered in Travis and Williamson counties were subject to emissions testing beginning September 1, 2005. Emissions testing of 1995 and older vehicles is accomplished through a two-speed idle test, while 1996 and newer vehicles are tested using onboard diagnostics. The emissions testing is conducted in conjunction with yearly vehicle safety inspections and adds $16 to the inspection fee.

Smugglers captured

During February and March of 2005, South Texas HP personnel were trained by federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms agents to recognize and interdict weapons couriers smuggling contraband into Mexico. In April, Tr. George Correa, HP Kingsville, stopped the driver of a 2000 Chevrolet Avalanche for no license plates on IH-35. The driver identified himself as a Mexican state police officer. Tr. Correa noted several indicators of criminal activity and obtained verbal consent to search the vehicle. He found 3,458 rounds of ammunition and two dismantled .300 Weatherby rifles concealed in black tape to disguise them in the interior side panels of the vehicle. The driver was taken into custody by ATF agents for federal firearms trafficking violations.

Kidnappers captured

Tr. Jamie Downs and Tr. Michael Franklin, HP Dumas, were off duty in March when their supervisor called about a kidnapping and asked them to set up a road block. The first vehicle that approached was a blue Jeep Cherokee with four passengers. Interviews resulted in admissions that they were selling items stolen from stores in the Austin area to a Middle Eastern fence in Houston.

Tr. Manuel Puebla opens up the door panel on an El Dorado after a Collin County narcotics dog indicated on the possibility of drugs inside it. The driver went to jail after taking Tr. Puebla on a chase across Grayson and Collin counties. Also shown is Tr. Sammy Bryant who helped with the search.

Castroville bank robbers captured

In July, Tr. Glenn Scales, HP Bandera, was working routine patrol when DPS San Antonio put out a broadcast on a bank robbery in Castroville. The suspect vehicle was identified as a black Honda Civic occupied by three males. Tr. Scales traveled south on SH 173 toward the Medina County line and spotted the...
National Stockpile exercise

DPS participated in a full-scale Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) exercise on August 8 and 9. The SNS, formerly named the National Pharmaceutical Stockpile, was developed to assist states and communities in responding to public health emergencies, including those resulting from terrorist attacks and natural disasters. The SNS ensures the availability of medicines, antidotes, medical supplies and medical equipment to counter the effects of biological pathogens and chemical and nerve agents.

The exercise, focused primarily in Region 1, included the opening and operating of a receiving, staging and storing facility in Arlington. The exercise also opened points of distribution in Hopkins, Van Zandt, Hill, Collin, Dallas, Denton and Tarrant counties.
The Criminal Law Enforcement Division (CLE) Division investigates multi-jurisdictional violations, such as terrorism, narcotics, motor vehicle theft, gambling, public corruption, fraud, theft and counterfeit documents. The division provides specialized assistance to local law enforcement agencies and works with federal law enforcement agencies. CLE consists of 1,057 members, including 554 commissioned officers and 503 civilian support personnel. The four services that make up the Division are: Criminal Intelligence (formerly Special Crimes), Narcotics, Motor Vehicle Theft and the Crime Laboratory.

Criminal Intelligence Service (CIS)

Corpus murder suspect arrested

CIS Sgts. Clifford Duncan and Jeffrey Ricket assisted Bee County officials with a capital murder investigation. The victim, a Corpus Christi nurse, had been murdered and her body dumped on a rural road in Bee County. Sgt. Duncan developed a relationship with a cooperating individual who provided information that led to the identification of a suspect.

Two days later, the suspect was located in Eagle Pass driving the victim’s vehicle. He was arrested after a vehicle pursuit.

Officers interviewed the suspect at the Maverick County Jail and he provided a detailed confession regarding his involvement in the murder. The suspect is a member of the Mexican Mafia and has claimed that the murder was a gang-ordered hit. Other law enforcement officers involved in the investigation were the Texas Rangers and the Bee County Sheriff’s Office.

Banditos president captured

The president of the Bandidos Outlaw Motorcycle Gang chapter in Missouri, Mont., was arrested in Lubbock by CIS Sgts. Jim Warren, the ATF and the U.S. Marshal’s Service. The arrest was part of a joint nationwide law enforcement round-up effort following a 19-count federal indictment against the gang.

The indictment—which includes allegations of racketeering, witness tampering, drug dealing and selling stolen motorcycles—named 22 gang members who allegedly engaged in threatening behavior to protect their territory and criminal enterprise.

Illegal Brazilian immigrants stopped

A search for two gang members wanted for murder led to the identification of an alien smuggling operation. While conducting surveillance at a residence in Laredo, CIS Sgt. Leo Perez and other CIS personnel followed a vehicle to a nearby location, where several individuals exited the car and entered a waiting tractor trailer. The U.S. Border Patrol subsequently stopped the truck tractor and located 10 undocumented Brazilian immigrants inside. About a week later, CIS assisted U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement with a consent-to-search at a suspect’s Laredo residence. As a result of the operation, officers detained six more undocumented Brazilians and arrested one suspect for conspiracy to smuggle and harboring undocumented aliens.

Alien smugglers caught in act

CIS Sgt. Damas Lopez came upon a pair of alien smugglers while driving along IH-10 near Fabens. Sgt. Lopez observed the two suspects driving a van erratically prior to coming to an abrupt stop on the shoulder of the highway, at which point a group of people were escorted into the van. The individuals were laying in the rear compartment so they could not be seen. The driver of the van then sped away.

Sgt. Lopez followed the van and contacted the U.S. Border Patrol agents who were escorting the van. The driver, however, attempted to elude officers through heavy traffic and eventually came to a stop at an intersection.

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two suspects abandoned the van and fled on foot. Officers secured the van, which contained 14 adult illegal aliens. The driver and his companion were subsequently located and arrested.

**Narcotics Service**

**Refrigerated cocaine seized**

Narcotics investigators seized 235 pounds of cocaine concealed in the refrigerator unit of a tractor-trailer. Investigators established surveillance on the vehicle after spotting it at a produce terminal. The vehicle was subsequently stopped and x-rayed, resulting in the discovery of the drugs. A controlled delivery was then conducted in Chicago, Illinois, where three additional suspects were arrested.

**Load of marijuana seized**

The Narcotics Service seized 7,525 pounds of marijuana. Sgt. Valentín Cenicientos received information that a drug trafficking organization was smuggling large quantities of marijuana into the U.S. from Mexico and storing it in Socorro. Surveillance confirmed the information, and marijuana was found at the residence. Three members of the organization were arrested.

**Brazos Valley meth suppliers arrested**

Thirty-five indictments are expected as the result of a year-long investigation of an organization responsible for importing methamphetamine into the U.S. from Mexico. This organization is believed to have been supplying meth to the Brazos Valley for at least five years. The investigation culminated with the execution of six search warrants in Harris, Burleson and Bastrop counties. As a result of the searches, officers arrested four suspects and seized two pounds of methamphetamine, $14,271 in U.S. currency and 40 firearms, including two fully automatic AR-15 assault rifles. The search warrants were executed by multiple DPS services, including Narcotics, Criminal Intelligence, Highway Patrol and Aircraft. The Methamphetamine Initiative Group, the ATM and numerous local agencies also participated.

**Investigation leads to 21 federal and 14 state indictments**

Narcotics personnel responded to a request for assistance from the Kermit Police Department to investigate drug trafficking. The request led to an 18-month undercover investigation by Narcotics personnel and the Trans Pecos Task Force. The investigation resulted in 21 federal indictments and 14 state indictments for charges ranging from possession of marijuana to delivery of cocaine. The Narcotics Service coordinated the efforts of numerous police agencies as these indictments were served. During the arrests of the indicted subjects, three weapons were seized, along with quantities of methamphetamine, crack cocaine and marijuana.

**El Paso marijuana stash house busted**

Narcotics Sgt. Eduardo Garza seized 3,931 pounds of marijuana at a "stash house" in El Paso. Sgt. Garza had developed information that the residence was used to store large quantities of marijuana. Assisted by a Highway Patrol K-9 trooper and the El Paso County Metro Task Force, Sgt. Garza approached the residence to conduct a knock and talk. The canine and the investigators could detect a very strong odor of marijuana coming from inside. After obtaining consent to search, officers discovered the marijuana hidden in various rooms. The suspect in charge of the residence was arrested.

**CIS arrests Top 10 fugitives**

**Fugitive arrest in Round Rock**

CIS Sgt. Caroline Knauth arrested Texas Top 10 Fugitive Dennis Earl Jackson after receiving a Crime Stoppers tip regarding his location. As the result of numerous interviews and hours of surveillance, Sgt. Knauth confirmed that Jackson was in Round Rock.

Officers executed a warrant at the apartment, arrested Jackson and seized drugs and paraphernalia. Four additional subjects at the residence were also arrested on narcotics charges. Texas Highway Patrol and the Round Rock Police Department assisted in executing the arrest warrant. Jackson had been wanted for parole violation (original offenses: possession of cocaine and aggravated assault), as well as for aggravated sexual assault of a child.

**Fugitive arrest in Carrollton**

CIS Sgt. Ross Kallenberg arrested Texas Top 10 Fugitive Kevin Lynn Schakosky. Sgt. Kallenberg interviewed several former associates, leading to the location of Schakosky’s current girlfriend. Officers conducted surveillance at her residence and observed the fugitive. He was arrested by CIS personnel inside the girlfriend’s apartment. Schakosky had been wanted for parole violation (robbery), evading arrest and sexual assault.
An Irvine house served as a drug "stash house," where DPS Narcotics seized 3,931 pounds of marijuana.

Motor Vehicle Theft Service

High-end vehicles recovered

Sgt. Anthony Banks, Leonard McFadden and Keith Kicifer conducted an investigation that resulted in the recovery of eight stolen vehicles, including a 2000 Mercedes ML 320, three 2002 Cadillac Escalades, two 2003 Cadillac Escalades and two 2004 Cadillac Escalades. Thieves had used out-of-state counterfeit certificates of title to register stolen vehicles with vehicle identification numbers (VINs) that had been switched. Estimated value of the vehicles is $430,000. One suspect was arrested and additional recoveries and arrests were anticipated.

Cloned VIN vehicles recovered

Investigators in three states have identified approximately 130 cloned and/or fictitious vehicle identification numbers (VINs) as the result of a joint investigation into altered Florida certificates of title. The DPS Motor Vehicle Theft Service and Florida and Georgia law enforcement agencies have arrested three suspects, recovered seven vehicles—valued at approximately $250,000—and continue to search for 25 other stolen vehicles that were registered in Texas with altered Florida titles.

Law enforcement in Georgia and Florida have also arrested numerous suspects and recovered about 60 VIN-switched stolen vehicles. Additional arrests and recoveries are anticipated.

Human smuggler stopped

Sgt. Jeffrey Bauck assisted local officials with an investigation of a suspicious tractor-trailer that was parked in an isolated area. The trailer was identified as stolen and showed signs of being used for human smuggling. As a result of the investigation, officers discovered 35 illegal aliens and arrested the driver for traffic offenses and possession of 1.9 pounds of meth.

$2 million-valued vehicles recovered

MVT Sgts. Keith Kicifer and Carla Cantu recovered more than 137 stolen vehicles as the result of a two-year investigation. After stealing vehicles, the suspects would remove the public VIN plate and replace it with one

Fort Bend County traffickers arrested

Narcotics Sgt. Noel Diaz arrested three suspects in Fort Bend County as they unloaded marijuana from diesel tanks. Sgt. Diaz had developed information that a drug trafficking organization was using diesel tanks to transport marijuana into Fort Bend County from the Rio Grande Valley. Diaz subsequently located one of the vehicles being used by the organization and followed it to a remote farm house in Fort Bend County.

The traffickers had a counter-surveillance vehicle circling the area as well as lookout posted on the property. Sgt. Diaz, assisted by the Highway Patrol, approached the house and observed suspects unloading marijuana from a diesel tank that had been removed from the suspect vehicle. Three suspects were arrested at the scene and 1,358 pounds of marijuana were seized.
from a wrecked or salvaged vehicle, disguising the vehicle’s true identity.

The thieves then sold the altered/stolen vehicles at a Houston flea market to unsuspecting buyers. The total monetary loss to innocent buyers is valued at more than $2 million. Twelve suspects were convicted with the main defendant receiving a 45-year sentence. Four additional defendants were charged with engaging in organized criminal activity but acquitted.

Houston auto dealerships involved in organized crime

MVT Sgt. Sam Trejo began a large fraud and identity theft investigation in May 2005, relating to the sale of vehicles by Houston-area automobile dealerships. To date, four suspects have been identified and charged with engaging in organized criminal activity, furnishing use or possession of identifying information and false statement to obtain property or by forgery. Officers recovered four vehicles. Financial losses are estimated at $514,500, but investigators expect the total amount of losses to be near $1,000,000.

Crime Laboratory
CODIS links vicious rapist to offender
A Combined DNA Indexing System (CODIS) hit linked a March 1994 aggravated sexual assault case to a convicted offender. The victim was working alone at a veterinarian clinic in Missouri City when she was confronted by a man wielding a knife. The man forced the victim to the back of the clinic, bound her with tape, assaulted her and then slit her throat. After the man left the clinic, the victim was able to crawl to a phone and call 911. She was taken to the hospital in critical condition but survived the attack.

Criminalist Donna Stanley performed the original DNA work on the case and eliminated several suspects. In 2001, Criminalists Gary Molina conducted short tandem repeat (STR) analysis (a new form of testing) on the sample and entered a DNA profile into CODIS. In August 2005, the profile was linked to a convicted offender who is currently incarcerated in Utah.

15-year-old murder case solved
A CODIS hit helped solve a 1990 capital murder in Georgetown. The 85-

Motor Vehicle Theft trends

High-performance choppers
In Houston, there has been an increase in thefts of high-performance racing motorcycles and custom-built choppers. Thieves alter and re-stamp the VIN with the VIN of a salvaged motorcycle, which they obtain via the Internet from salvage dealers.

Tailgate theft
The Houston area is also seeing an increase in tailgate thefts. Thieves target Chevrolet, Ford and Dodge pickups that are in parking lots. The thieves need only about 15 seconds to steal the tailgates, which are untraceable because they do not have VINs.

Acura and Honda engines
Acura and Honda cars with high-performance engines are popular with thieves. The engines and transmissions are stripped and placed into the thieves’ own street-racing cars or sold on eBay. In Travis County, two large chop shops dealing in these types of cars have been identified and arrested.

Illegal aliens moved in pickups and rental vehicles
MVT is seeing an increase in the use of late-model quad cab Dodge pickups, stolen from Houston-area apartment complexes, to transport illegal aliens from Mexico into the Houston area. Smugglers are also using new-model Dodge and Ford pickups and rental vehicles obtained using fictitious documents.

Counterfeit checks by Internet
MVT has also seen a new Internet service, www.qclex.com, that allows a person to create checks using whatever information they want and then ship the checks to a designated address. It costs 50 cents for a check and 39 cents for the stamp, and the only legitimate information that needs to be provided is a credit card number. Identity thieves could easily exploit this system by using a stolen credit card to create counterfeit checks.

Cloned Escalades arrive monthly
The recovery of at least one cloned Cadillac Escalade every month in the Rio Grande Valley area is now the norm. Thieves have stolen all of the recovered vehicles from northern states, cloned them using computer-generated VIN plates, and sold them to buyers willing to pay cash. MVT Sgt. Art Barrera is currently developing a database to capture information related to these vehicles.

Texas Department of Public Safety Annual Report 2005
year-old victim had been beaten, strangled and sexually assaulted. Criminalist Donna Stanley performed the original serology work on the case, while Criminalist Kathleen Corrado began the STR analysis in 1999, developing a DNA profile and entering the profile into CODIS. In October 2005, the profile hit a convicted offender sample that had recently been uploaded to CODIS. As of November 2005, the suspect was being held in the Williamson County jail in connection with the murder.

Human remains matched to TxAK for third time in U.S. using CODIS

The CODIS missing persons database linked skeletal remains found in Sugar Land to a 16-year-old girl missing since March 2003. She was last seen in Houston when her father dropped her off to catch a Metropolitan Transit bus to her school, but she never arrived. Her skeletal remains were discovered in August 2003, and a DNA sample was submitted in October of the same year to the DNA Identification Laboratory at the University of North Texas Health Science Center (UNTHSC) in Fort Worth. In April 2004, a family reference sample was also submitted to the UNTHSC on behalf of the missing juvenile.

On Feb. 8, 2005, the Missing Persons Clearinghouse received notification that the DNA database had matched the skeletal remains to the missing girl. The cause of death has been ruled a homicide. This case was the second cold match of a missing person to an unidentified body made through the CODIS database, and is only the third time any DNA lab in the country has matched DNA and human remains using the system.

CODIS database and successes grow

At the end of 2005, the state CODIS Unit had a backlog of approximately 4,618 samples with 16,641 in process. The database now has 226,029 DNA profiles. CODIS successes include:

- 3,028 offender matches (326 cold)
- 38 offender matches in the National DNA Index System (NDIS cold)
- 372 investigations aided

The cold hits in the Texas CODIS database have helped solve 136 sexual assaults, 140 burglaries, 19 homicides, 12 robberies; three auto thefts; two arsons and one count each of assault, cremation mishap, hit and run, kidnapping, possesson, shooting, threatening correspondence and one miscel- laneous offense. The oldest offenses were from 1985 (two homicides and a sexual assault). The oldest victim was an 85-year-old homicide victim, and the youngest was a seven-year-old sexual assault victim.

The cold hits in the National DNA Index System (NDIS) helped solve 16 sexual assaults, eight burglaries, three homicides, one robbery, two incidents of larceny, one threatening correspondence to a federal judge and five unknown offenses.

Homicide victim identified

The Missing Persons Clearinghouse website led to the identification of an unknown homicide victim in Alabama. In January 2005, Clearinghouse personnel were contacted by the Alabama Bureau of Investigation regarding the unknown victim who was believed to be from Texas.

The victim was described as a white female between the ages of 55 and 77. Photos of the victim and her jewelry were placed on the Clearinghouse’s website. Shortly thereafter, a person with the Doe Network noted the similarities between the case posted on the DPS website and...
The case involved a woman, missing from Melissa, whose burned body was found several days later in a field. Hilbig had identified DNA from the victim inside the suspect’s vehicle and on his clothing. He determined that the suspect had sexual intercourse with the victim.

Villarez also determined that a shoe print found inside the victim’s home had been made by the suspect’s left boot. Thanks to their involvement in the case and their testimony, the jury found the defendant guilty and sentenced him to death.

**Murderer in Wal-Mart abduction convicted with Crime Lab assistance**

Crime Lab personnel performed DNA analysis that linked a suspect to a murder and led to a conviction. In January 2005, a woman was abducted from a Wal-Mart parking lot in Tyler, and her body was found several days later near Midland. A suspect was arrested in Arizona after he was shot by a store clerk during an attempted robbery.

At the time of his arrest, the suspect was driving the victim’s truck. DNA analysis performed by Crime Lab personnel in Garland identified the victim’s DNA on items taken from the suspect’s residence. The suspect subsequently pled guilty to capital murder and received consecutive life sentences.

**Finger used to ID body**

The Latest Print Section of the DPS Crime Lab identified an unknown murder victim in Jacksonville. The victim’s body was found, in an advanced state of decomposition in a closet at an abandoned apartment complex. The medical examiner’s office unsuccessfully attempted to obtain fingerprints during the autopsy.

Thedegloved skin from the victim’s hand was subsequently sent to the DPS Crime Lab. Latent Print Examiner Kirk Wilcoxson detached the skin from one of the victim’s fingers, placed it over his own gloved hand and obtained an inked fingerprint. The recovered prints were of excellent quality and led to the victim’s identification.

**Fingerprint key to identity**

Latent Print Examiner Bryan Strong assumed the Missing Persons Clearinghouse in linking an unidentified body to a missing person. The unknown male victim had been strangled to death, wrapped in plastic trash bags and dumped on the side of the road in Atascosa County. His body was discovered in 1998.

In January 2005, a man visited the Clearinghouse’s website and read the description of the unidentified body. He contacted the Clearinghouse and informed them that he believed the unknown victim was his cousin. Examiner Strong obtained the inked fingerprints from the deceased victim and compared them to the fingerprints from the cousin’s Texas driver license. The prints matched, not only leading to the positive identification of the victim but also opening the door for new leads in the unsolved homicide investigation.
The Texas Rangers perform a variety of duties that consist primarily of conducting criminal and special investigations into felony crimes, such as murder, white-collar crime and public integrity cases. They also assist in apprehending wanted felons, suppressing major disturbances and rendering assistance to local law enforcement officials in suppressing crime and violence.

The Rangers also perform other duties, such as serving as officers of the court during judicial proceedings, providing protection for elected officials and assisting the Governor’s Protective Detail in providing security for the Texas Governor and other dignitaries.

The Texas Ranger Division is made up of 116 commissioned and 21 noncommissioned employees, including two crime analysts, one forensic artist, one fiscal analyst and 17 civilian support personnel.

Murder suspect caught and missing person found
Ranger Sgt. Jimmy Schroeder, in conjunction with Ranger Sgt. Frank Malnay, Company F, and the Brazos County Sheriff’s Office, executed a search warrant in Brazos County, for a missing male who was last seen on Sept. 6, 1985. Investigation revealed that the missing person was possibly buried in a barn. A search of the barn failed to locate the missing person but did uncover evidence that supported information earlier received about the suspect’s illegal activities.

On Nov. 29, 2004, a search warrant was executed on property near the location that had previously been searched without success. After digging for several hours, human remains were discovered. They were examined and found to be those of the missing person.

Murder suspect hit by train
On July 14, Ranger Sgt. Brian Taylor received information from the Austin County Sheriff’s Office regarding an individual killed by a train near Bellville. This individual was a suspect in a series of murders in the League City area in 1983.

Sgt. Taylor met with the murder suspect’s family members and a consent to search was obtained for the suspect’s residence and possible evidence was reviewed. Also, blood evidence was obtained from the vehicle the suspect occupied when he was killed. The evidence was released to Ranger Sgt. Joe Haralson and this file is now closed.

Prison riot quelled
On Aug. 27, Ranger Sgt. Russ Authier responded to a riot at the Corrections Corporation of America (CCA) prison in Mineral Wells. Fights had broken out among inmates, and several inmates were injured. Local law enforcement establishment security for the outside perimeter.

CCA’s Special Operations Response Team entered the prison yard and deployed chemical agents, quelling the disturbance. CCA authorities requested a law enforcement presence on the outside perimeter until daylight.

Ranger assists with manhunt
On June 23, Ranger Sgt. Aaron D. Williams assisted the Graham Police Department and the Young County Sheriff’s Office with the manhunt of two suspects driving a stolen vehicle.

They had attempted to pass forged checks at a motor bank in Graham. The DPS helicopter was used, authorities apprehended the suspects and took them to jail.

Man kills four and shoots self
On Aug. 28, Ranger Sgt. Tony Bennie assisted Sheriff’s investigators with several crime scenes. Investigation revealed that an armed male with previous mental problems had walked to a church in Sash, which is north of Honey Grove, and shot and killed the pastor and another man. The man then drove to a local intersection and shot and killed two women on the street. He then fled to his residence where he shot and killed himself.

Sgt. Bennie assisted at the standoff, collected evidence for the lab and took numerous witness statements to help complete the investigation.

Top 50 most wanted fugitive captured
On Sept. 19, Ranger Sgt. Matt Cawthon and members of the U.S. Marshal’s Fugitive Task force conducted an investigation targeting a fugitive parole violator from Colorado. It was learned from Colorado law enforcement that the fugitive was a suspect in a homicide that occurred on Nov. 6, 2004, and he was added to the top 50 most wanted in that state. The
Colorado murder suspect captured

On Oct. 25, an El Paso County Sheriff’s detective requested Ranger Sgt. Freeman Martin’s assistance in locating and arresting a male fugitive. The detective stated the suspect was wanted for murder in El Paso County, Colorado. Sgt. Martin, a DPS Narcotics sergeant, a Task Force officer and a U.S. Marshal’s agent established surveillance on a residence in Humble, until the suspect was taken into custody. The fugitive was arrested and extradited to Colorado.

Forced-entry shooting investigated

On June 13, 2005, Ranger Sgt. Kevin Pullen assisted the Montgomery County Sheriff’s Department with investigating a fatal shooting in Willis. The victim was identified as a male resident of Willis, who had broken through an entry door into a residence where his female companion had sought safety following a single-vehicle collision.

The residents of the home allowed the female companion into their home after she told them a man was trying to kill her. The man forcefully gained access into the residence. The homeowner allegedly gave the man several verbal commands not to advance further. When the man refused to comply, the homeowner fired a single shot from a pistol, striking him in the chest. The man was later pronounced dead. The homeowner appeared before a grand jury and was no-billed.

Anti-terrorist training attended

During the week of May 17, Company “B” Rangers and the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms sponsored a three-day Post-Blitz Investigation School. This training was organized to give Texas Rangers firsthand experience in recognizing, handling and investigating criminal acts where explosives are used. Thirty Rangers from around the state gathered at the Kilgore Police Academy in Kilgore for training. On the final day, they formed teams and blew up several vehicles using various explosives, triggering devices and other components. The teams worked at locating as many pieces of evidence as possible to determine what type explosive devices and detonators were used. This is essential in tracing the products back to the bomb makers and securing arrest of terrorist suspects. The training was new for some Rangers and very well received. Since 9/11, the Texas Rangers have been delegated by the Department of Public Safety to investigate any terrorist act occurring in the state. Texas Rangers will work side-by-side with federal authorities at the sites of explosive scenes and will conduct the resulting investigations.

Texas Ranger Division Criminal Statistics

Start Date: Jan. 1, 2005 — End Date: Dec. 31, 2005

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Investigations - Offenses/Cases</th>
<th>Developed</th>
<th>Murder</th>
<th>Robbery</th>
<th>Burglary</th>
<th>Theft</th>
<th>Other*</th>
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<tr>
<td>Offense - Activities*</td>
<td>5,488</td>
<td>731</td>
<td>168</td>
<td>263</td>
<td>1,440</td>
<td>3,286</td>
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<td>Charged Offenses</td>
<td>1,769</td>
<td>319</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>114</td>
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<tr>
<th>Completed</th>
<th>Closed Fails:</th>
<th>Criminal - Activity Disp*</th>
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<tr>
<td>3,094</td>
<td>434</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>151</td>
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<tr>
<td>2,080</td>
<td>284</td>
<td>143</td>
<td>116</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Arrests - Conviction results</th>
<th>Number of arrests</th>
<th>2,345</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of convictions</td>
<td>1,828</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
The Driver License Division (DLD) issues Texas driver licenses and identification cards, collects, maintains and provides driver records and investigates identity fraud. The Division has 224 commissioned officers and 1,586 noncommissioned employees with a total of 1,810 personnel.

The DLD is comprised of the following services: Administrative License Revocation Service, Field Service and the Headquarter Service, which encompasses the following bureaus: Crash Records, Customer Service, Driver Improvement, Driver Records, License Issuance and Safety Responsibility.

**D.P. Fraud Investigation Unit**

Suspect with possible terrorist ties arrested

Driver License Fraud Investigation Unit, Chief Dean Rimbach received information that a suspect had offered to pay a DL employee at a Houston-area office for a commercial driver license (CDL) with a hazardous materials endorsement. Surveillance resulted in the arrest of the subject after he paid the employee $100 for the CDL. At the time of arrest, he was in possession of a U.S. permanent resident card and a Social Security card belonging to another person of Middle Eastern descent. The suspect also had more than 250 credit card numbers and expiration dates. Due to possible terrorist ties, the Joint Terrorism Task Force, FBI and ICF interviewed the suspect. The investigation continues.

**Arrests at Dallas area flea markets**

On Feb. 26, the DLD Fraud Investigation Unit, along with investigators from the Dallas County District Attorney’s Office and the Secret Service, raided 11 flea markets in the Dallas area. Investigators confiscated computers and fraudulent documents including birth certificates, Social Security cards, ID cards, high school and college diplomas. Authorities issued arrest warrants for the owners of these establishments. During the raid, DLD troopers provided support by securing the locations while the search warrants were executed and provided security for confiscated equipment.

**High-ranking smuggler arrested**

On June 3, DLD Tro. Jorge Lopez assisted a Highway Patrol trooper who was investigating a Hidalgo County fatality collision that killed nine illegal immigrants. The TIIP trooper informed Tro. Lopez that a 37-year-old male was a high-ranking member of a smuggling organization and was involved with the transportation of the undocumented immigrants who had died.

Tro. Lopez obtained copies of the suspect’s Texas ID and driver license applications and interviewed him at the DPS office in McAllen. He informed Tro. Lopez that he used a fictitious social security card to obtain his Texas ID, which he had purchased for $100.

Tro. Lopez arrested the suspect for tampering with governmental records. There is an ongoing federal investigation by Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents on the subject and federal charges are expected.

**Established counterfeit driver license business shut down**

On Oct. 22, DLD Tro. Brad Prince, along with HPU troopers, Dallas County District Attorney investigators, the U.S. Secret Service, Richardson Police Department officers and Dallas County Sheriff’s Office investigators executed a search and arrest warrant on a Dallas apartment occupied by a 22-year-old male who was believed to be manufacturing counterfeit licenses.

The suspect gave a voluntary statement confirming that he had been manufacturing and selling counterfeit Texas driver licenses for approximately two years. Officials charged the suspect with delivery or manufacture of counterfeit instrument, which is a third-degree felony. This investigation is ongoing and may result in the filing of additional charges by federal and state authorities.

**Arrest of crime stopper fugitive**

Tro. J.R. Rhea, in conjunction with the North Texas Identity Theft Task Force, conducted an investigation and arrested a 34-year-old female who had been evading arrest for more than a year. While on the run, the suspect continued to steal identifying information and assumed the identity of others to obtain credit and gift cards. The
suspect was arrested on Jan. 6, 2006.

Headquarters Services and Programs
Survey says DPS customers approve
The Survey of Organizational Excellence Group at the University of Texas has completed the tabulation of the results for the spring 2005 agency survey. This year, the agency's overall score was 4.39 out of 5. Customer perceptions are measured on a Likert-type scale with five possible responses of excellent, good, average, fair and poor. Previous years' scores were as follows: 4.5 in 2004, 4.69 in 2003 and 4.55 in 2002.

DL image-retrieval use by law enforcement agencies by making it possible to view computer images of driver licenses on a secure website in support of an investigation. During October, law enforcement requested an average of 874 images daily, for a monthly total of 27,094 images. In October, image retrieval exceeded the October 2004 average by more than 4,000. The DLIR system continues to win praise from local, state and federal law enforcement agencies as a very useful law enforcement tool.

Crash Records Information System
The Crash Records Information System (CRIS) project has a new rework and deployment plan. The new CRIS project team is on board and beginning to rework critical portions of the CRIS. Full deployment is anticipated by mid-year 2006.

The delays in the deployment of the CRIS project have created an additional backlog of crash reports for 2004 and 2005. The Department will outsource this backlog for data entry to provide useful highway safety analyst data when the CRIS project is deployed.

### 2005 Driver License Field Service Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>Variance %</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Driver licenses and identification cards issued</td>
<td>4,956,607</td>
<td>5,688,735</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knowledge tests</td>
<td>2,175,210</td>
<td>2,271,970</td>
<td>4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Driving skills tests</td>
<td>945,941</td>
<td>1,021,859</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vision tests</td>
<td>2,654,078</td>
<td>3,248,275</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vehicle inspections</td>
<td>466,286</td>
<td>492,221</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Driver improvement actions</td>
<td>78,960</td>
<td>68,504</td>
<td>-13%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Medical limitations screening</td>
<td>54,219</td>
<td>50,854</td>
<td>-6%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Felony and misdemeanor warrant apprehensions</td>
<td>6,008</td>
<td>5,982</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminal investigations</td>
<td>4,349</td>
<td>4,927</td>
<td>13%</td>
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</table>
Driver Responsibility Program (DRP) Compliance

The percentage of compliance for DRP cases graph, page 25, top right, illustrates the percentage of compliance for DRP cases by category. It is noteworthy to mention that the greatest percentage of compliance is seen on cases with the lowest assessments, while the lowest compliance is for persons with no driver license. The DRP has seen a significant impact on weekly collections, due to the second year notices that were mailed in October.

Compliance offices fees collected

Since 2003, Texans have been able to reinstate their licenses in locations other than the Austin headquarters office. Services were expanded so that customers could submit compliance items in Houston, San Antonio and Garland. Some locations offer the sale of driver records. The chart, bottom right, depicts more than $8 million collected for Fiscal Year 2005. The overwhelming customer response confirms the necessity for the availability of these services in the larger metropolitan areas. (For more information on the DRP, please see pages 4-5.)
The Administration Division provides a wide variety of core support functions for the Department. The division includes the Crime Records Service, the Regulatory Licensing Service and the Staff Support Services. The Administration Division has 716 employees—50 commissioned and 666 non-commissioned.

Crime Records Section

The Crime Records Service serves as the Texas state control terminal for three national criminal justice programs: the National Crime Information Center (NCIC), the national Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) program and the Interstate Identification Index (III), which is a national index of criminal history records. Each system requires the compilation of records from local agencies throughout the state into a statewide file, from which data is forwarded to Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) national databases. The systems provide critical operational data to law enforcement agencies in Texas and throughout the country.

The Texas Crime Information Center (TCIC) provides immediate access 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to law enforcement agencies throughout the state to data regarding the stolen status of property and the wanted, missing, sex offender or protective order status of persons. TCIC is accessed via the Texas Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (TLETS), which provides responses within 12 seconds to inquiries from police departments, sheriff’s offices and other criminal justice users. TCIC also provides a direct link to the NCIC so that law enforcement officers throughout Texas know instantly whether a vehicle, a boat or other property under investigation is stolen or a person is wanted anywhere in the country.

The UCR program gathers data on crimes reported to, or known to, the police and publishes these statistics semiannually. The statistics are used by researchers and policy makers to study trends, allocate resources and set policy.

Under Texas law, all persons arrested for offenses categorized as Class B misdemeanors and above are fingerprinted. The fingerprints are then sent to the Crime Records Service for processing through the Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS). After the person has been identified through AFIS, the arrest data is entered into the Texas Computerized Criminal History file and is available over TLETS to all law enforcement agencies in Texas. More than 90 percent of the fingerprints submitted to DPS are sent electronically.

DPS also runs the statewide sex offender registration database. There were more than 45,000 registered sex offenders in Texas as of the end of 2005.

During calendar year 2005, the Crime Records Service finished a complete redesign and re-write of the Texas Computerized Criminal History File (CCFI). The redesign allowed the CCFI file to take advantage of state-of-the-art technologies for data submission, data retrieval, reports and information sharing among agencies. CCFI users will be able to avail themselves of new services that will enhance the value of the system in their duties.

Also in 2005, the Crime Records Service began implementing a contracted fingerprinting service that will place fingerprinting locations throughout the state. These locations will serve individuals who must have their fingerprints taken for licensing, employment or other purposes. The contractor will scan the fingerprints on inkless "livescan" fingerprinting devices and submit them electronically to Crime Records for quick processing. The customers will benefit from increased convenience, quality of fingerprints and ease of submission. The project also is being developed in conjunction with the Texas On-Line Licensing Service to provide participants with integrated services.

Regulatory Licensing Service

The Regulatory Licensing Service Texas Department of Public Safety Annual Report 2005
administers concealed handgun and private security licensing and regulation responsibilities.

The Private Security Bureau administers Chapter 1702 of the Texas Occupations Code. Functions include the commissioning of private security officers, the licensing of companies and the registration of the following individuals: private investigators, unarmed security officers, alarm system installers, security salespersons, personal protection officers, instructors, security consultants, locksmiths and electronic access installers. Companies licensed include private investigation, guard, alarm system, guard dog, armored car, electronic access control, armed courier and locksmith companies.

The 79th Session of the Texas Legislature approved the addition of 39 full-time employees—22 commissioned and 17 non-commissioned—to the Private Security Bureau to better administer the Private Security Act.

The Concealed Handgun Licensing Bureau processes applications for Texas concealed handgun licenses under Chapter 411 of the Texas Government Code. Activities include evaluation of the application to determine eligibility, creation of the license and maintenance of the license record. The bureau takes action to suspend or revoke licenses when statutory provisions are violated.

For the second year in a row, DPS employees won the Texas Round-Up Governor's Cup for fittest state agency. More than 2,200 DPS employees participated in the six-week fitness challenge—beating other agencies that have significantly more employees. Above, Gov. Rick Perry presents the Governor's Cup to Lt. Col. David McAuliffe, who accepted the award on behalf of DPS.

The bureau also certifies qualified handgun instructors following a process very similar to the concealed handgun license application activities. The bureau administers the application and review process in coordination with other DPS areas for the field background investigations of applicants, creation of the actual concealed handgun license document, training of handgun instructors and other necessary functions.

Staff Support Service

Staff Support Services performs many diverse support functions for the commissioned and non-commissioned employees throughout the state, including employee recruitment, training, promotion and wellness. Comprised of 295 full-time employees (22 commissioned and 273 non-commissioned), the bureau within the service is responsible for maintaining all DPS-owned buildings, fleet vehicles, employment records, training records and other pertinent records on all
Building Program was instrumental in the construction of Building 1, the new home of the Regulatory Licensing Service, Breath Test, Radio Frequency Unit and the Emergency Management Division’s Training Unit.

Firearms Range have successfully communicated to other agencies their commitment to firearms tactics and proficiency and successfully promoted the assets they have. City, county and federal agencies frequently use the range and instructors. The Florence staff regularly tests equipment, such as protective vests and weapons, and have facilitated the transition to a new rifle, as a result of testing and recommendations.

The training staff at the Florence

The Motorcycle Safety Bureau trains thousands of motorcycle riders each year. At left, the instructional trailer and motorcycles at the end of a successful day. Below, students practice riding.

Fleet Operations began processing new Chevy Tahoe pursuit vehicles.
The Emergency Management Division (EMD) is charged with carrying out a comprehensive all-hazards emergency management program for the state and with assuring cities, counties, and state agencies in implementing their own emergency management programs. EMD takes a large leadership role in widespread disasters such as hurricanes and wildfires.

A comprehensive emergency management program includes pre- and post-disaster mitigation of known hazards to reduce their impact; preparedness activities, such as emergency planning, training and exercises; provisions for effective response to emergency situations; and recovery programs for major disasters.

EMD also is responsible for supporting development and implementation of the Governor's homeland security strategy.

Preparedness

EMD maintained the State of Texas Emergency Management Plan and other specialized state emergency plans. EMD promulgated state standards for local emergency management plans, assisted cities and counties in developing emergency plans and reviewed those plans for compliance with state planning standards. During 2005, the EMD Plans Unit reviewed more than 2,400 local planning documents from jurisdictions throughout Texas. The EMD Training & Exercise Unit provided a diverse curriculum of emergency management and hazardous materials training for state and local emergency responders, state, local and regional officials and volunteer groups active in disaster assistance. Training was conducted at facilities in Austin and at other locations around the state by the EMD staff and instructors from other state agencies. During 2005, EMD training programs delivered more than 70,000 student hours of instruction.

The Training & Exercise Unit assisted local governments in planning and conducting emergency exercises to test plans and procedures, training and equipment and monitored local emergency exercises. Cities and counties reported conducting more than 130 emergency exercises during the year. EMD also sponsored, conducted and participated in federal and state-level emergency exercises. EMD was a major participant in four major hurricane evacuation exercises and a major regional public health exercise. The State Operations Center (SOC) was activated for two local-state-federal radiological response exercises. Many DPS district offices also participated in the state-level exercises as well as the local exercises conducted by cities and counties.

EMD conducted annual emergency management and hurricane preparedness conferences for state and local officials and representatives of volunteer groups that respond to emergencies. More than 900 people attended the 2005 Emergency Management Training Conference at the Waco Convention Center. More than 650 people attended the 2005 Texas Hurricane Conference in Beaumont. These conferences provided an opportunity for county judges, mayors, local fire and police officials, state troopers, public health workers, emergency management professionals and representatives of volunteer groups and industry to obtain information on new programs and changes in existing programs.

The EMD Preparedness Section administered grants and contracts for a statewide mutual aid system, state and local radiological emergency preparedness, emergency shelter and mass care support and a major grant program to support local emergency management programs.

Emergency response

EMD manages and staffs the SOC, which serves as the state warning point and primary state direction and control facility. It operates around the clock to monitor threats, make notification of threats and provide information on emergency incidents to local, state and federal officials. The SOC coordinates state emergency assistance to local governments when events exceed the abilities and resources available to them.

The SOC is co-located with the Texas Fusion Center and staffed around the clock by DPS Criminal Intelligence personnel. The Fusion Center collects,
analyses and disseminates information on suspicious incidents and potential security threats to local, state and federal agencies and officials. During major emergencies, the state agencies and volunteer groups that comprise the State Emergency Management Council convene at the SEC to identify, mobilize and deploy state and volunteer group resources to respond to emergencies.

EMD’s Regional Liaison Officers (RLOs) are the division’s eyes and ears around the state. They assist local officials in conducting emergency preparedness programs, teach a variety of emergency management courses, identify needs, advise local officials during incidents and disasters and help coordinate state emergency resource support. During 2005, EMD completed a planned increase in its RLO force.

During 2005, the SOC and the EMD Field Response staff coordinated more than 4,000 emergency incidents, ranging from hurricanes, tornadoes, fires and floods to hazardous materials incidents, aircraft crashes and outbreaks of animal disease.

For more information about the EMD response to hurricanes Katrina and Rita, please see pages 4 to 8.

In late November, persistent drought throughout most of the state led to an increasing number of wildfires. Selected state agencies and volunteer group representatives were called in to manage an escalating wildfire crisis. The state activated a specialized fire management organization to deal with this threat. As dry conditions continued, dozens of fires were reported each day, overwhelming local firefighters in some areas. By the end of the year, more than 250,000 acres had burned; hundreds of homes and other structures were destroyed, but many more were saved.

The state requested additional firefighting resources from other states and the federal government, and these resources were in use to augment state and local resources during December.

Disaster recovery

Disaster recovery programs are largely funded by grants from the federal government, with state and local governments also paying a share of recovery costs. During 2005, EMD maintained a staff of recovery specialists and auditors in Austin and in Houston to oversee ongoing recovery programs for a series of previous disasters.

A federal emergency declaration was issued for Hurricane Katrina for Texas and other states that received hurricane evacuees. This declaration initiated federal recovery grant programs that will reimburse local governments, state agencies and voluntary organizations for emergency protective measures—the expenses incurred in providing shelter, mass care, transportation, medical care and other essential services to Katrina evacuees. A federal disaster declaration was issued for Texas prior to Hurricane Rita. This declaration made available assistance to individuals and families affected by the disaster, assistance to state agencies and local governments in covering response costs, and funding for state agencies, local governments and public non-profit organizations to repair or reconstruct damaged facilities and replace damaged equipment.

EMD is administering disaster relief programs for Texas for both Rita and Katrina. By the end of 2005, more than $720 million in grants had been authorized for individuals and households in Texas for Hurricane Katrina; more than $36 million had been authorized for local governments, state agencies and other public entities.

Some $75 million in grants to individuals and households and $140 million in assistance to governments had been authorized for Hurricane Rita. Restoring damaged buildings and equipment and rebuilding facilities that were destroyed may require demolition, decontamination, design and modification or new construction. Some recovery projects may take several years to complete.

Hazard mitigation

The EMD Mitigation Section continued to administer a number of different post-disaster mitigation grant programs for local and regional governments authorized for previous disasters. In addition, it administered a number of pre-disaster mitigation grant programs. The mitigation section continued to provide training and technical assistance on mitigation programs to local officials. The Mitigation staff also reviewed and provided comments on local mitigation plans and forwarded plans that met state and federal standards to FEMA for Texas Department of Public Safety Annual Report 2005
final review and approval.

A new post-disaster hazard mitigation grant program was authorized for Texas in the aftermath of Hurricane Rita. At the end of the year, the EMD Mitigation Section was in the process of accepting applications for this program, which is expected to provide approximately $100 million in funding for hazard mitigation activities within the state.

Homeland security grant programs
At the end of May, the governor transferred responsibility for administration of federal homeland security grants in Texas to EMD, which rapidly responded by organizing and staffing a new workcenter (the State Administrative Agency or SAA Section) to carry out this mission. The Department responded equally swiftly by providing a new portable building on the DPS campus to house the organization. The SAA Section is now administering a number of different U.S. Department of Homeland Security grant programs totaling more than $250 million.

Homeland security grant funding is provided to cities, counties, regional authorities, state agencies and other authorized entities for training, planning, equipment, exercises, and other efforts to enhance terrorism detection, prevention and preparedness activities and response capabilities.
Accounting and Budget Control
Accounting and Budget Control prepares and supervises the Department's budget. Accounting's duties include administering employee insurance programs, processing the payroll and maintaining all financial records and capital property inventory. In addition, this area handles purchasing of supplies, services, equipment and construction. Other responsibilities include the processing of receipts and disbursing funds, accounting for federal grants, travel reimbursement and revenue processing.

The section has 128 full-time employees.

Aircraft
The Aircraft Section is based at Austin Bergstrom International Airport. The DPS fleet across the state has nine helicopters, seven single-engine airplanes and one twin-engine turboprop airplane that support DPS and local law enforcement agencies' police operations. Each helicopter is equipped with an infrared unit and a 30-minute candlepower NightSun searchlight for night-time operations.

The Aircraft Section participates in a variety of investigations, including providing support for criminal interdictions, performing rescue missions and assisting local law enforcement agencies with theft investigations. DPS pilots often carry tactical flight officers (TFOs) with them on missions. Tactical flight officers assist the flying pilot by operating the police radio, the infrared systems and spotlights and performing other duties such as spotting items or people on the ground. They also assist in safely loading and unloading passengers. Pilots flying alone cannot safely perform those duties and fly the aircraft at the same time.

In 2005, the Aircraft Section's pilots flew 2,991 missions for 5,805 hours. Their support of criminal investigations resulted in 547 felony arrests.

Some notable missions in 2005 include:
- The Dallas-based airplane assisted in a manhunt in Smith County in April, when a Canton man shot the high school football coach at school. The man was located in a wooded area and taken into custody.
- In May, the Austin-based helicopter helped locate a suspect who had shot and killed a McLennan County sheriff's deputy during a nighttime traffic stop. The suspect was found at a campground near Lake Buchanan, where he had hidden in a brushy area. He shot himself in the head just before being apprehended.
- In October, the Corpus Christi-based pilots assisted firefighters and plant personnel in Point Comfort by supplying video of a plantwide fire at the Formosa Plastics Plant. Authorities on the ground were able to view the video of the fire to better formulate a plan for fighting the chemical fire.

The section has 29 commissioned

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officers trained as pilots and two non-commissioned employees.

Employee Relations Office
The Employee Relations Office (ERO) manages two Department programs: (1) conflict management and dispute resolution and discrimination, and (2) sexual harassment (DISH) complaint investigations. The conflict management program provides assistance to Department employees, supervisors, and managers through conflict consulting and coaching, training, workplace facilitations, and mediation.

Information Management Service
The Information Management Service provides information technology services to DPS and other law enforcement agencies statewide and nationwide. Services offered include network management, application development and systems support. The service provides access to critical systems 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. The section has 225 full-time employees.

The IMS Telecommunications Group supports external Texas Law Enforcement Telecommunications Switch (TLETS) users by providing security reviews, TLETS training, issue resolution and support. TLETS users depend on the agency to provide life-critical information to officers on the streets and other criminal justice entities. The group also manages the agency’s satellite communications and several information technology projects.

Information Resources
Information Resources is responsible for data security and data recovery, record retention schedules and implementing standards as proposed by the DIR. Daily tasks include routine maintenance of the agency’s computer files.

During 2005, DPS became one of the first state agencies to classify its electronically stored data according to the Federal Information Protection Act 1998 (FIPS 199). This effectively gives DPS a standard by which to judge how much effort needs to be expended on data security and protection.

The section has eight full-time employees.

Internal Affairs
Internal Affairs conducts investigations of personnel complaints and administrative inquiries, which are a type of complaint investigation, as assigned by the director, assistant director or Public Safety Commission. All employee firearm discharges resulting in injury or death are investigated by Internal Affairs. All investigations and inquiries are conducted by Internal Affairs are given a detailed review for completeness, investigative thoroughness, and sufficiency of evidence.

Internal Affairs is also available to provide investigative assistance to the Office of General Counsel, the Employee Relations Office regarding complaints of discrimination or sexual harassment and the Office of Health and Safety regarding workers compensation claims when fraud is suspected.

The section has eight full-time employees.

Legislative Liaison
The Legislative Liaison Office serves as an ombudsman between the Department and Texas public officials.

The Department’s efforts to receive the budgetary and statutory authority needed to accomplish its mission by maximizing positive relations with state and federal officials are coordinated through this office.

In 2005, the Legislative Liaison Office responded to 1,763 Texas public official inquiries and produced 643
identification cards for Texas state officials and their staffs. During one regular and two special sessions of the 79th Texas Legislature, it helped the Department monitor 662 bills which, if enacted would affect DPS. The Legislative Liaison Office also successfully overrode passage into law of all 20 top-priority DPS statutory requests, most agency exceptional item budgetary requests (including employee pay raises), and a record $604,360,416 budget for the 2006-2007 biennium.

Office of General Counsel
The Office of General Counsel

(OGC) advises the Director and management in legal areas affecting the Department. Areas of legal practice include employment and personnel, criminal law, traffic law, litigation, tort claims, administrative law, property and contracts. OGC also publishes and coordinates DPS legal publications, including the monthly DPS Legal Bulletin, an electronic newsletter that addresses issues affecting day-to-day law enforcement operations; the biannual Laws Affecting DPS, a collection of new laws passed during the most recent legislative session; and the biannual Texas Criminal and Traffic Law Manual, a bound compilation of current law enforcement statutes.

During 2005, OGC oversaw 100 active lawsuits; processed more than 2,800 open records requests; reviewed 270 contracts and grants; assisted in handling 192 subpoenas; processed 142 claims against the agency; and reviewed 72 firearms discharges and 244 personnel matters.

The Office of General Counsel has 23 employees, including eight attorneys, one commissioned inspector, four legal assistants and nine support staff.

Public Information Office
The Public Information Office (PIO) represents the DPS in the media. Staff members serve as media liaisons and provide internal communication venues for agency employees. PIOs also provide training in media relations and electronic communication.

The occupant safety coordinator oversees traffic safety programs concerning airbags, seat belts and safety belts.

During 2005, PIO coordinated the agency's media responses to numerous traffic fatalities across the state, six injuries to troopers and a fatality accident during a recruit school drill. The office also handled media questions about sex offender registration and several Amber Alerts. Other notable events included record cash seizures in Nacogdoches and Wharton counties, a fatality wreck involving state legislators, hurricane evacuation issues and new laws enacted in 2005.

PIO handled more than 3,600 calls from the news media in 2005.

The Public Information Office has five full-time employees.
Director's Citation
The Director’s Citation is given to any member of the Department who has rendered a service beyond the normal course of duty, because of his or her timely observation, diligence, perseverance and judgment in the performance of a difficult task that has resulted in the protection of life or property; the prevention of a major crime; the apprehension of a dangerous criminal; or for performing an act that clearly exceeds what is normally required or expected.

Tr. Lucian Ebrom, HP Jourdanton
Tr. Christopher Frost, HP Waco
Tr. William E. Kasper, CVE Garland
Tr. Eric Pechacek, HP Baird
Tr. Gary Rozzell, HP Mineral Wells

Purple Heart
The Purple Heart Award was given for the first time in 2005. The award may be given to commissioned officers of the Department who are seriously injured in the line of duty. The guiding philosophy in issuing this award is to recognize the individual’s sacrifice incurred while in the immediate and direct performance of a law enforcement action. (Some of these injuries occurred as far back as 1972.)

Lt. Larry Allen, HP Houston
Sgt. Calvin Buxton, HP Childress
Sgt. Stephen Bynum, HP Lampasas
Tr. Douglas A. Childs, HP Meridian
Sgt. Lance Coleman, Rangers San Antonio
Sgt. Sharleigh Drake, DL Conroe
Tr. Earl "Dub" Gillam, HP Granbury
Cpl. James G. Haley, CVE Amarillo
Sgt. Odie L. Hitt, HP Gilmer
Tr. James D. Jones, CVE Goldthwaite
Cpl. Gale A. McMullen, HP Tyler
Tr. Kevin Marmor, CVE Devine
Tr. Robert Mendez, HP Terrell
Tr. Steven Oliver, HP Denton
Tr. David Russ, DL Tyler
Sgt. Michael J. Smith, Training Academy Austin
Capt. Robert Wilkerson, Narcotics Waco
Jimmy Ray Carty, a Texas Department of Public Safety recruit, died on May 27, 2005, from injuries he sustained during a training drill in recruit school. Recruit Carty, 29, previously served as a deputy with the Smith County Sheriff's Office. Recruit Carty, who was from Grand Saline, is survived by wife, Christy, and their three children.