

DPS Chaparral



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April 2011

Hank Whitman named head of Texas Rangers

Hank Whitman has been named the DPS Assistant Director over the Texas Rangers. Whitman had served briefly as interim chief of the Rangers and was the deputy assistant director for the Texas Rangers since Oct. 1, 2009. Before his position as deputy assistant director of the Rangers, he also served as the interim inspector general of the DPS.

"Hank Whitman has years of law enforcement experience and is uniquely qualified to lead the Texas Rangers, especially as our focus on the border intensifies. He has been instrumental in the creation and operation of the Ranger Reconnaissance team," said **Steve McCraw**, director of the Texas Department of Public Safety.

Whitman joined the DPS in 1990 as a trooper trainee and served in the Texas Highway Patrol until 1996, when he promoted to sergeant/investigator in the Criminal Intelligence Service, now known as the Criminal Investigations Division. He was in the Criminal Intelligence Service until 2001, when he promoted to Texas Ranger sergeant. He was

a sergeant until his promotion to Ranger lieutenant in 2005. He promoted to Ranger captain in 2008 and served as captain until his promotion to deputy assistant director in 2009.

"I'm humbled to have been selected to lead this outstanding group of men and women. I will continue to strive to maintain the tradition of the Texas Rangers, the oldest law enforcement entity on the North American continent," Whitman said.

Whitman has a Bachelor of Science degree from Southwest Texas State University and a master's degree in public administration from Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi.

Last call for DRP amnesty: April 7

Time is running out for the Driver Responsibility Amnesty Program. The deadline to apply for the amnesty is April 7, and all payments must be completed by April 17. The amnesty program allows eligible delinquent drivers to pay just 10 percent of the original amount owed on all surcharges combined, or a maximum of \$250.



Assistant Director Hank Whitman

The Texas Ranger Division includes 209 employees, including 150 Texas Rangers.

This one-time amnesty applies to drivers who had a surcharge assessed between Sept. 30, 2004, and Dec. 31, 2008, and are delinquent on those payments.

To apply for the amnesty program, see the surcharge website at www.txsurchargeonline.com or call 1-877-207-3170. No requests will be accepted by mail, e-mail or fax.

Briefs

Fitness Stars now agency wide

The Fitness Star program now recognizes non-commissioned personnel, as well commissioned DPSers, for meeting certain standards on the physical readiness test.

The standards vary based on age and gender, and timed results

in push ups, sit ups and the 1.5 mile run. Those who qualify are rewarded 32 hours of administrative leave and can wear the Fitness Star on their uniform or lapel.

The following individuals met



Mile Markers

Promotions

Intelligence and Counter Terrorism

Dale L. Avant, Major, ICT Austin to Dep. Asst. Director, ICT Austin.

Highway Patrol

Fred B. Whisenant, Jr., Lt., CVE El Paso to Capt., CVE McAllen; **Mark W. Gumaer**, Sgt., MCB Georgetown to Lt., CVE El Paso; **Matthew T. Scales**, Sgt., CVE El Paso to Lt., CVE El Paso.

Criminal Investigations

Clifford C. Duncan, Lt., ICT Austin to Capt., CID Austin; **Philip C. Harris**, Lt., CID El Paso to Capt., CID El Paso.

Retirements

Carol Love, Tech., DL Houston, 9 years; **Linda Hanson**, Clerk, Regulatory Services Austin, 21 years; **Gil Real Montenegro**, Security Officer III, Dep. Director's Staff Austin, 8 years; **Rob Ray Cox**, Sgt., HP Decatur, 29 years;

Kennis Miles, Capt., HP Gar-

land, 29 years; **Kristi Howell Smith**, Supervisor, DL Lubbock, 27 years; **A. A. Barrette**, Spec. V, Administration Austin, 15 years; **Quincy Adams Campbell**, Sgt., Regulatory Services, Houston, 26 years;

Jacqueline Marie Ferrer, Specialist I, Regulatory Services, Austin, 24 years; **Peter Maskunas**, Sgt., Rangers Lufkin, 20 years; **Darlene Elaine Miller**, Custodian, DL Houston, 13 years; **Binh S. Nguyen**, Tech., DL Houston, 9 years.

Deaths

Horace Weldon Elliott, ret. Sen. Pilot, Aircraft Corpus Christi (October 1954 – May 1988) died March 14, 2011; **Wilson Thurman Dew**, ret. Tr. IV, L&W Palestine (February 1967 – September 1993) died February 19, 2011;

Grady Meredith Birdwell, ret. Patrolman II, MVI Irvin (September 1951 – August 1982) died February 23, 2011; **Thomas Wayne Pfluger**, Asst. Director of Training (August 1959 – October 1991) died December 30, 2010.

the Fitness Star standards:

Tr. Jimmy Morris, Aviation Alpine.

Note: Please forward information on other Fitness Stars to the Public Information/Media Relations Office.

FBI Graduate

Lt. Timothy Caradine, HP Garland, graduated from the 243rd Session of the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Virginia.



On the mend...

Tr. Justin Duck, HP Houston, injured in a traffic crash.

Tr. Joel Callaway, HP Mertzon, injured while making arrest.

Sgt. David Cramer, CVE Garland, injured in a traffic crash.

Tr. Germaine Gaspard, CVE Garland, injured in a traffic crash.

Tr. Billy D. Wallace, HP Carthage, injured in a traffic crash.

Tr. Raymond Sanders, HP Liberty, injured in a traffic crash.

Tr. Chadrick A. Walker, HP Cedar Hill, injured in a traffic crash.

Great news! **Tr. Dave Walker**, HP El Paso, and **Tr. Ronald Johnson**, HP Port Lavaca, have returned to work.