



Produced by DPS Public Information, (512) 424-2080

September 2005

## DPS seeking new recruits

The Department is now accepting applications for anyone interested in becoming a state trooper. The next recruit school will start March 6, 2006 in Austin. The application deadline for Texas residents is September 16—September 9 for out-of-state applicants.

"If you know of anyone who would be an excellent addition to the DPS family, please encourage them to apply for the recruit school," said DPS Director Col. Thomas Davis Jr. "Thanks to the Legislature, our new troopers now have salaries more competitive with larger police agencies."

Information is available through a toll-free number, 1-866-TXTROOP (898-7667), that rings directly into the recruiting office in Austin. Additional information is accessible on the DPS Web site, [www.txdps.state.tx.us](http://www.txdps.state.tx.us), and application packets can be picked up at any DPS office.

Applicants must be U.S. citizens, at least 20 years of age, and have completed 90 hours of college credit. Law enforcement, jailer or military experience may be used toward fulfilling the college requirement.

Each applicant's background will be carefully scrutinized, including prior criminal history. They will also be required to submit to a polygraph examination. DPS is an equal opportunity employer.

## Correction on child safety seat law

Please note an error in last month's Chaparral regarding seat belt laws. HB 183, effective Sept. 1, classifies safety seat infractions as moving violations for the first time. Therefore, only violations of the child safety seat law (Transportation Code 545.412) will be considered moving violations. Other seat belt offenses are still not regarded as moving violations.

The new version of the law also states that all children younger than 5 years of age (the old law was 4) *and* less than 36 inches tall are required to be in a child safety seat system.

For more on HB 183, go to [www.capitol.state.tx.us](http://www.capitol.state.tx.us) or the August DPS Legal Bulletin, which is accessible through the DPS Intranet and Outlook (All Public Folders, Office of General Counsel).

Dear Fellow Employee,

We had some scary moments in early August when Tr. **Steven Oliver**, HP Denton, was shot in the leg by a fleeing suspect. Luckily, other law enforcement officers came to Tr. Oliver's aid and were able to get him to safety. He was transported quickly to a hospital in Dallas, where he received treatment for his wounds. Thankfully, Tr. Oliver is expected to make a full recovery. A fund for Tr. Oliver and his family has been established at the DPS Credit Union in Austin.

• • • • •

Senior Ranger Capt. **Earl Pearson** retired on Aug. 31 after almost 30 years with the Department. His career has taken him from the Highway Patrol to the Rangers and from El Paso to Houston and points in between. Please join me in saying, Good Luck, Earl.

• • • • •

Just a reminder: It's vitally important for **all** DPS employees to remain vigilant. You never know when you might see something important in the fight against terrorism.

*Thomas A. Davis Jr.*

---

## Short Shots

---

### Region 6 Retirees Association

The Region 6 Retirees Association annual meeting will be held Sept. 17 in Knox Hall at the Texas Ranger Museum and Hall of Fame in Waco. All DPS retirees are invited to attend. Gathering and visiting will begin at 10 a.m. with a meal served at noon. The meal is \$10. To make reservations, please call retired Maj. **Danny Smith** at 254-666-7084 or **Judy Faulkner** at 254-799-8963.

### SWAT team tryouts

The SWAT team has openings for interested troopers. Troopers who live or work within two contiguous counties of Travis or Williamson counties are eligible. For more details, contact Lt. **Ronnie Tacquard** at 512-424-2339.

### Feel crafty?

The DPS Arts and Crafts Fair is 8 a.m. on Nov. 3 at Headquarters. Call **Jennifer Hall** at 512-424-7297 for booth information. Current and retired employees get first selection.

---

## Mile Markers

---

### Promotions

#### HP

**James A. Conally**, Tech. II, Veh. Insp. Svc. Denton to Field Supv., Veh. Insp. Svc. Garland.

#### CLE

**Jason Christopher Taylor**, Tr. II, HP New Caney to Sgt., Spec. Crimes Svc. Garland; **Michael Ray Drake**, Tr. II, HP Conroe to Sgt., Spec. Crimes Svc. Del Rio; **Robert B. Bess**, Tr. III, HP Beaumont to Sgt., Spec. Crimes Svc. El Paso; **Kelly Wayne Bryant**, Tr. II, HP Webster to Sgt., Narcotics Svc. Garland;

**Efren S. Martinez, Jr.**, Tr. II, HP El Paso to Sgt., Narcotics Svc. Midland; **Daron Wayne Parker**, Tr. II, HP Portland to Sgt., Narcotics Svc. McAllen; **Joe Robert Dennett**, Sgt., CVE Laredo to Sgt., Narcotics Svc. Laredo;

**Christopher Blaine Hanson**, Tr. II, HP Austin Capitol to Sgt., Narcotics Svc. Austin/PSAT; **Frank D. Lozano**, Tr. III, HP Austin to Sgt., Narcotics Svc. McAllen; **Michael D. Stoner**, Tr. III, HP Mineral Wells to Sgt., Narcotics Svc. Garland; **John Frederick Hart**, Sen. Trooper, HP Humble to Sgt., Narcotics Svc. Laredo;

**Gregory James Schroeder**, Sgt., HP Brownsville to Sgt., Narcotics Svc. McAllen; **Jerrold Orrin Bell**, Tr. II, HP Weatherford to Sgt., Narcotics Svc. Alpine; **Ryan Gabriel Maza**, Tr. III, Brownsville to Sgt., Narcotics Svc. McAllen; **William Edwards Groves**, Tr. II, HP Freer to Sgt., Narcotics Svc. Laredo;

**Eliseo Lee Coronado**, Tr. II, HP Waxahachie to Sgt., Narcotics Svc. Alpine; **Jimmy Torres**, Tr. II, HP Lubbock to Sgt., Narcotics Svc. Laredo; **Chad Emil Sparkman**, Tr. II, HP Athens to Sgt., Narcotics Svc. Laredo.

#### DL

**Edubijes (Vicky) Aguirre**, Sgt., DL Carrollton to Lt., DL Lubbock; **Cheryl M. Garren**, Section Supv., DL Austin HQ to Asst. Mgr., DL Austin HQ; **Paul Joseph Simpson, Sr.**, Tr. III, DL Baytown to Sgt., DL Laredo.

### Retirements

**Ronald Joe Cunningham**, Lt., Spec. Crimes Svc. Austin HQ, 15 yrs., 10 mos., 19 days; **Brenda Cockrell Sterling**, Admin. Asst. III,

DL Austin HQ, 5 yrs., 6 mos., 13 days; **Marta McInnis**, Data Entry Oper., Veh. Insp. Records, 9 mos., 13 days; **Charlotte Elaine Williams**, Sr. Programmer II, IMS Austin HQ, 29 yrs., 11 mos.;

**Jimmy Kyle Rhine**, Custodian III, HP Decatur, 22 yrs., 2 mos.; **William Allen Scoggins**, Sen. Tr., HP Graham, 23 yrs., 5 mos., 17 days; **Maria E. Brucker**, Tech., DL El Paso, 20 yrs., 8 mos., 29 days; **Connie Barnett Hartsfield**, Lt., Internal Affairs Austin HQ, 24 yrs., 5 mos., 16 days;

**Doris Elizabeth Yarbrough**, Custodian III, HP San Antonio, 20 yrs., 4 mos., 9 days; **Norman Ray Rust**, Custodian III, HP Del Rio, 20 yrs., 1 mo., 3 days; **Jeffrey Burton Corzine**, Sgt., Narcotics Svc. Hurst, 17 yrs., 5 mos., 11 days; **Julene I. Huckaby**, Clerk IV, DL Austin HQ, 10 yrs., 4 mos., 3 days.



## On the mend...

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

Tr. **Steven Oliver**, HP Denton, shot in leg by a fleeing suspect;

Tr. **Joshua Ray**, HP San Marcos, injured training canine;

Sgt. **Ted Riojas**, CVE Laredo, injured in a traffic crash;

Tr. **Frank Bonilla**, HP Tyler, injured in a traffic crash;

Tr. **James I. Weaver**, HP Weatherford, injured deploying stinger spikes during a pursuit; Tr.

**Wilton White**, HP Hempstead, struck by a drunk driver while directing traffic;

Good news! Tr. **John Henley**, HP Nacogdoches, injured in a vehicle crash, is back on full duty.