

DPS Chaparral



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New Texas Ranger chief, assistant chief named

DPS has named a new Texas Ranger chief and assistant chief. Capt. **Ray Coffman** has been named chief of the Texas Rangers and Capt. **Jim Miller** has been named assistant chief. Coffman replaces Senior Ranger Capt. **Earl Pearson**, who retired as of August 31.

"I am confident that Capt. Coffman will do an excellent job of guiding the Texas Rangers," said Col. **Thomas A. Davis Jr.**, director of the Texas Department of Public Safety.

Coffman, who will hold the rank of Senior Ranger Captain, had been assistant chief of the Rangers since May 2004. Coffman has been with the DPS for more than 29 years, serving as a Highway Patrol trooper and DPS Narcotics lieutenant. He promoted to the Rangers in 1986 and promoted to Ranger lieutenant in 1996. In 2001, he promoted to Ranger captain in San Antonio's Co. D. Coffman is a native of McAllen.



Chief Coffman

"I am truly honored to be considered for this position. I appreciate the Director having enough confidence in me to allow me the opportunity to lead the Texas Rangers. I will miss my good friend and mentor Chief Earl Pearson, but look forward to the new challenges ahead," Chief Coffman said.

Miller, now the assistant chief of the Rangers, became captain of Company C in Lubbock in 2002. He transferred to Company A in Houston in 2004. Miller has been with DPS since 1975. He was a Driver License trooper, then a Highway Patrol trooper. He promoted to Ranger sergeant in 1987 and to lieutenant in 1997. In 2002, Miller was promoted to captain. Miller is a native of Woodville.



Asst. Chief Miller

integrity cases.

The Texas Rangers are one of five major divisions of DPS, along with the Texas Highway Patrol, Criminal Law Enforcement, Driver License and Administration. The Rangers specialize in investigating felony crimes such as murder, white-collar crime and public

Dear Fellow Employee,

In September, our state was involved in an unprecedented event—the mass evacuation of residents from one state to another because of a natural disaster. As I could have predicted, DPS and the people of Texas came through for the hundreds of thousands of evacuees from Louisiana and the other affected states. I have been proud to see DPS on the front lines of this effort, even before Hurricane Katrina hit. For example, Emergency Management employees worked around the clock assisting with response coordination for shelters and other services; others of us have been helping provide security at shelters. These are just a few of the ways that DPS employees helped in this effort.

On Sept. 10, Vice President Dick Cheney visited the Emergency Operations Center to learn more about the state's response to Hurricane Katrina. He left very impressed with the work we have done here in Texas. Congratulations and keep up the good work.



Awards

Two good samaritans who risked their lives to save a man from a burning car were honored with Director's Awards. Pleasanton residents Donnie Boatwright and Luciano Garibaldi were on their way home from work in Dec. 2004 when they drove up on the scene of a crash. The driver of a pickup had fallen asleep and crashed head-on into a tree. The vehicle burst into flames and Boatwright and Garibaldi worked feverishly to free the passenger, who was being burned by the fire. After several tries, the two men and Tr. **Luciano Ebrom**, HP Jourdanton, freed the passenger, who despite serious injuries, survived. The driver died in the crash. Sgt. **Sidney Pullin**, HP Jourdanton, nominated the two men. Ebrom received a Director's Citation for his part in the rescue.

Crime fighters come in all shapes and sizes, including an 8-year-old who helped solve two bank robberies and eight burglaries across five counties that resulted in the recovery of \$50,000 worth of property. In Feb. 2005, Hilaria Rosales and her 8-year-old-son, Luis, were in a bank drive-thru lane in Lufkin when the boy told his mom someone was robbing the bank. After she observed a man in a mask and employees loading money into bags, she called 911 and stayed on the phone to provide information on which way the robber was fleeing. The suspect was captured within minutes by HP and local police. The suspect later confessed to the other crimes and implicated his two accomplices. The

crime fighting duo was nominated by Texas Ranger Sgt. **Tom Davis**, Co. A Nacogdoches.

Four men received Director's Awards after rescuing a man from a burning vehicle, saving him from certain death. In Dec. 2004, a pickup struck a guardrail in Coleman County and landed in a ditch before bursting into flames. Jake Hargett, Jason Sparks, Frank Winn and Robert Yates witnessed the crash and went to help. The driver was unconscious, and the four men began removing him from the vehicle. However, the driver, who was later charged with DWI, woke up and became combative. He grabbed the steering wheel and refused to move. As the driver resisted his rescuers and the fire spread closer to the cab, the four men were finally able to pull the uncooperative man from the pickup moments before it was engulfed in flames. The men were nominated by Tr. **Karl Keese**, HP Brownwood.

A Bell County bank employee refused to be intimidated by armed robbers and helped authorities apprehend the two suspects, earning a Director's Award. In Dec. 95, Carolyn Falk was in the bank parking lot where she worked when she noticed a man leave the bank with a plastic bag, get into a vehicle and leave the scene. She called 911 as she followed the vehicle into Williamson County even when the suspects tried to dissuade her by pointing their loaded weapons at her. HP troopers and a Williamson County constable picked up the pursuit and apprehended the suspects,

who were both convicted felons, after a high-speed chase. Falk was nominated by Texas Ranger Sgt. **Matt Lindemann**, Co. F Georgetown.

Jimmie Badgett, District 1A Regional Liaison Officer for the Division of Emergency Management, has received the Marvin Austin Distinguished Leadership Award from the International Fire Service Training Association (IFSTA), which publishes training manuals for emergency services personnel. The manuals are written and validated by volunteers who have experience in fire service, emergency management or law enforcement. Badgett has served on 17 manual committees and served as chair of the Fire Cause Determination and Emergency Management Handbook committees.



On the mend...

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

- Tr. **Joseph Vogel**, HP Beaumont, injured in traffic crash;
- Tr. **Rene Cordova**, HP Eagle Pass, injured in traffic crash;
- Tr. **Robert Villafranca**, HP Austin, injured during traffic stop;
- Tr. **Steven Oliver**, HP Denton, shot in leg by a suspect;
- Tr. **Wilton White**, HP Hempstead, struck by a drunk driver while directing traffic.

Good news! Tr. **Joshua Ray**, Sgt. **Ted Riojas**, Tr. **Frank Bonilla** and Tr. **James I. Weaver** have returned to work on full duty.

Short Shots

Special Crimes renamed

Effective Sept. 1, the Special Crimes Service was renamed the Criminal Intelligence Service.

Mandatory comp time notice

State law requires that if an employee submits a written request (HR-11) for time off at least 90 days prior to the date accrued state equivalent compensatory time is set to lapse, the supervisor must (1) approve the requested leave time, or (2) provide the employee with an alternate date to use the compensatory time prior to the lapse date. For more information, refer to Chapter 7, 07.06.08, of the General Manual.

Basic Critical Incident Response Team Training set for December

The Critical Incident Response Team is accepting applications for the next basic training to be held in Austin on December 5-7. The team especially needs new members in Regions IV, V and VIII. Employees can obtain an application for the team by contacting **Brenda Hardin** in the Psychological Services Bureau at 512-424-2211 or by e-mail at brenda.hardin@txdps.state.tx.us.

Critical Incident Response Team members provide support and assistance to DPS employees and their families who are experiencing work-related or personal stress or trauma. The DPS team is also available to respond to other law enforcement agencies upon request.

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.

Golf for a good cause anyone?

The 1st Annual Boiled Owl Scholarship Golf Tournament will take place Saturday Oct. 8 at the Sulphur Springs Country Club. The tournament will honor Tr. **Stan Avery**, his son, Jake, and Grapevine Fireman Matt Ringer and his son, Chance, who were all killed in an off-duty traffic crash. Call 903-243-1517 or 903-243-1257 for more info. Any profits will go toward scholarships.

The 1st Annual Memorial Golf Tournament benefiting the **Kurt Knapp** Memorial Scholarship Fund will take place Saturday Oct. 15 at the Scott Schreiner Municipal Golf Course in Kerrville. All proceeds will benefit the scholarship fund at Texas State University. Call 512-296-4040 or 512-917-5929 for more details. Tr. Knapp died in a crash while performing traffic enforcement duties in Kendall County May of 2004.

Keep in touch with the troops

The Public Information Office is seeking e-mail addresses for our employees who are deployed, so that those of us who remain here in Texas can drop them an encouraging note. If you know of e-mail addresses for any of our employees who are deployed, please send that employee's name and e-mail address to: pio@txdps.state.tx.us. In a later issue, we'll have information on how to participate in this program.

Keen eye leads to meth bust

Tr. **Peter Mason**, HP Tomball, was working off-duty when he helped bust a meth lab. Mason was accompanying a Harris County apartment manager to deal with a problem tenant. When the tenant opened the door, Mason observed items known to be used in meth production, and he detected strong chemical odors. The resident, who was behind on his rent, was arrested on drug charges. Methamphetamine and chemicals with a reported street value of \$450,000 were seized.

Mile Markers

Promotions

Texas Ranger Division

Raymond (Ray) L. Coffman, Asst. Chief, Rangers Austin to Chief, Rangers Austin; **James (Jim) L. Miller**, Capt., Texas Rangers Houston to Asst. Chief, Texas Rangers Austin.

HP

Steven Arnold Tellez, Sgt., HP New Caney to Lt., HP San Antonio; **Isaac Antonio Gonzalez**, Cpl. II, CVE Eagle Pass to Sgt., CVE Eagle Pass; **Roberto Pena**, Cpl. III, CVE Pharr to Sgt., CVE Laredo-World Trade POE; **Lewis Britton**, Oper. III, Comm. Svc. Sulphur Springs to Supv., Comm Svc. Laredo.

Administration

Phillip G. Ayala, Sgt. HP Austin to Lt., Administration Austin.

CLE

Jesus Gonzalez, Sgt., Spec. Crimes Svc. Midland to Lt., Spec.

Crimes Svc. Midland; **Leonardo Perez, III**, Sgt., Spec. Crimes Svc. Laredo to Lt., Spec. Crimes Svc. Laredo; **William Eric Kasper**, Tr. II, HP Terrell to Sgt., Spec. Crimes Svc. Garland; **Adam Lloyd Nelson**, Tr. II, HP Tyler to Sgt., Spec. Crimes Svc. Tyler;

Christopher Pratt, Sgt., HP Georgetown to Sgt., Spec. Crimes Svc. San Antonio; **Jerry Don Kaelin**, Tr. III, DL Houston to Sgt., Spec. Crimes Svc. Houston; **Roy Lynn Basham**, Tr. II, HP San Angelo to Sgt., Spec. Crimes Svc. Lubbock; **Keith John Pauska**, Cpl. II, HP Austin to Sgt., Spec. Crimes Svc. Corpus Christi;

Ryan Michael Arthur, Sgt., HP Liberty to Sgt., Spec. Crimes Svc. Angleton; **Timothy Ryan Leggett**, Tr. II, DL Austin to Sgt., Spec. Crimes Svc. Garland; **David Cabrera**, Tr. II, Pearsall to Sgt., Spec. Crimes Svc. Uvalde; **Laura Lynn Dickson**, Sgt., HP Garland to Sgt., Spec. Crimes Svc. Garland;

Michael Allen Boyett, Tr. II, Waco to Sgt., Spec. Crimes Svc. Garland; **Joseph David Armistead, Jr.**, Staff Lt., Governor Protective Detail Austin to Sgt., Spec. Crimes Svc. El Paso; **Patrick Lewis**, Sgt., HP Terrell to Sgt., Spec. Crimes Svc. Garland;

Rusty Jay Hughes, Tr. III, HP Henderson to Sgt., Spec. Crimes Svc. Eagle Pass; **Shannon Dewayne Jones**, Tr. II, HP Freer to Sgt., Spec. Crimes Svc. Laredo; **Damas Lopez, Jr.**, Sgt., HP Van Horn to Sgt., Spec. Crimes Svc. El Paso; **Drew Edward Pilkington**, Tr. II, HP Franklin to Sgt., Spec. Crimes Svc. Eagle Pass;

Dewayne J. Urbanovsky, Tr. III, CVE Bastrop to Sgt., Spec. Crimes Svc. Laredo; **Joel Gregory**

Machost, Tr. II, HP New Braunfels to Sgt., Spec. Crimes Svc. Laredo; **Jose Servando Barrientes**, Tr. II, HP Levelland to Sgt., Spec. Crimes Svc. Alpine; **Juan Enrique Hernandez**, Tr. II, CVE Riviera to Sgt., Spec. Crimes Svc. Laredo;

Douglas Randal Minshew, Tr. II, HP Lufkin to Sgt., Spec. Crimes Svc. El Paso; **Leonard Dean Whitton**, Sen. Cpl., CVE Del Rio to Sgt., Spec. Crimes Svc. Del Rio; **Kenneth Ray Porterfiled**, Tr. III, HP Centerville to Sgt., Spec. Crimes Svc. El Paso;

DL

Adrian Orlando Rivera, Sgt., DL McAllen to Lt., DL McAllen; **Paul Hernandez**, Sen. Tr., DL Plano to Sgt., DL Laredo.

Director's Staff

Nicholas Anthony Granelli, Tr. II, HP Sherman to Sgt., Aircraft Section McAllen; **Adam Clay Kinslow**, Sgt., HP Weatherford to Sgt., Aircraft Section McAllen.

Retirements

Earl Ray Pearson, Chief, Rangers Austin HQ, 29 yrs., 10 mos., 2 days; **Dirk C. Moore**, Sen. Oper., Comm. Svc. Victoria, 25 yrs., 4 mos., 17 days; **Dollie Mae Lockhart**, Acct. IV, EMS Austin HQ, 24 yrs., 6 mos.; **Linda Webb Cloud**, Tech., DL Orange, 23 yrs., 4 mos.;

Michael Eugene Nunnery, Program Spec. I, EMS Austin HQ, 17 yrs., 7 mos., **Theodore T. Brady, III**, Planner II, EMS Austin HQ, 7 yrs., 2 mos., 16 days.

Jack Puckey Downs, Sgt., HP Gonzales, 31 yrs., 2 mos., 19 days; **Bobby Lynn Perry**, Sen. Tr., CVE Livingston, 29 yrs., 10 mos., 2 days;

Michael Dwain Morgan, Admin. Asst., IMS Austin HQ, 28 yrs., 8 mos., 16 days; **John Jay Lubbock**, Sgt., Narcotics Svc. Seguin, 27 yrs., 8 mos., 24 days;

Manuel Alaniz, Capt., Narcotics Svc. Austin HQ, 26 yrs., 7 mos., 21 days; **Michael Ray Hobson**, Sen. Tr., CVE Graham, 26 yrs., 7 mos., 21 days; **Ruben V. Duran**, Lt., Narcotics Svc. Kerrville, 26 yrs., 2 mos., 18 days; **Otto Edward Arnim**, Sgt., Narcotics Svc. Corpus Christi, 24 yrs., 7 mos., 17 days;

Modesto Saavedra, Jr., Custodian IV, HP McAllen, 25 yrs., 4 mos.; **Michael Thomas Brown**, Sgt., Spec. Crimes Svc. Mt. Pleasant, 23 yrs., 8 mos., 26 days; **Monti Sue Fox**, Tech., DL Decatur, 17 yrs., 4 mos., 5 days; **Harvie D. White**, Custodian III, HP San Angelo, 11 yrs., 9 mos., 17 days;

Carol Reinhard Ries, Examiner, DL Seguin, 29 yrs., 10 mos.; **Roberto Gonzalez**, Sgt., DL Laredo, 26 yrs., 4 mos.; **Bonnie L. Nauert**, Tech. I, Reg. Licensing Svc. Austin, 25 yrs., 7 mos., 25 days;

Barry Gene Washington, Sgt., Narcotics Svc. Lufkin, 23 yrs., 1 mo., 22 days; **Thomas G. Sutton**, Sen. Oper., Comm. Svc. Del Rio, 23 yrs., 9 mos., 16 days; **Nancy Kay York**, Tech., DL Waco, 8 yrs., 9 mos., 10 days.

Deaths

Calvin R. Guest, Public Safety Commissioner (1985 – 1992) died Aug. 20, 2005; **Edwin Kendig**, Insp. III, Vehicle Inspection New Waverly (Jan. 2001 – Sept. 2005) died September 9, 2005.