

DPS Chaparral



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

October 2006

Col. Gossett, former DPS director, dies

Col. **Leo E. Gossett**, director of the Texas Department of Public Safety from 1987 to 1988, died Sept. 10, 2006, in Austin. He was 80.

During his 39-year career with the Department, Col. Gossett served as a trooper, sergeant, lieutenant, captain and regional commander (in Midland) in the Highway Patrol. He became the first chief of Criminal Law Enforcement in November 1967. The brand-new division included the Texas Rangers, Narcotics and Intelligence. In September 1968, he was appointed assistant director. Col. Gossett was assistant director of the agency for 19 years, becoming Colonel when Col. **James B. Adams** retired in 1987.



"Col. Gossett was an excellent administrator and a good man," said Col. **Thomas A. Davis Jr.**, director of the DPS. "He cared a great deal
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Real ID potential costs, impact detailed

The Driver License Division recently assessed the implications of the Real ID Act of 2005 on the state's driver license and identification card (DL and ID) programs.

The provisions of the Act, included in the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act for Defense, the Global War on Terror, and Tsunami Relief Act (H.R. 1268), will require significant changes to all states' standards for issuing DL and ID cards.

The state of Texas' initial annual cost is estimated at \$167,457,677 with a recurring annual operational impact of \$101,353,892. Until the proposed federal rule is published by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), costs are based on assumptions of the statutory impact to Texas DL and ID card programs.

"Provisions of Real ID will impact all 20 million existing DL and ID card holders in the state of Texas," said Chief **Judy E. Brown** of the Driver License Division. "The Department and its employees will face implementation challenges with legislative, operational and fiscal limitations."

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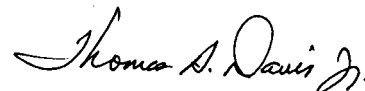
Dear fellow employee,

On September 11, eight members of our DPS family received Star of Texas awards for heroic sacrifice in the line of duty. The award honors Texas first responders who were killed or severely injured in the line of duty during the previous year.

Deceased DPS troopers receiving awards this year were **Jimmy Ray Carty Jr., Matthew Dewayne Myrick, Billy Jack Zachary and Eduardo Chavez**. Current troopers severely injured in the line of duty and receiving awards were **George Correa Jr., Thomas M. McGinnis, Steven Randall Oliver and Steven Michael Stone**.

Although public recognition of the dangers of law enforcement is certainly welcome, I am sure that you would agree that we have far too many names on that list.

As you go about your day, please think about your own safety and the safety of those around you. We need you—and your family needs you even more.



Awards

Eddy Hernandez received a Director's Award for providing assistance to a boy during the Hurricane Rita evacuations. The family was evacuating north on I-45. They had been on the road for 10 hours without water and air-conditioning when they pulled into a parking lot in Spring. When the 13-year-old special needs boy appeared unconscious, Hernandez opened his restaurant to the boy and his family. Lt. **Robbie Sells**, DL Austin, who nominated Hernandez, was working traffic nearby. He assessed that the boy was suffering severe heat stroke. Hernandez helped pack the boy in ice and provide other measures to lower his temperature. Since emergency response was hampered by the traffic congestion, Hernandez' assistance was deemed vital in saving the boy's life.

The annual DIAP (Drug Intervention Assistance Program) Conference was held in Indianapolis, Indiana on August 23. DPS was presented an Agency Award by the El Paso Intelligence Center and the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration in recognition of outstanding highway interdiction seizures in 2005 totaling more than 6,960 pounds of cocaine, 87,179 pounds of marijuana and \$15.1 million in U.S. currency. Major **James Sanders**, HP Corpus Christi, accepted the award.

The Department was also recognized by the U.S. Department of Transportation for the Department's commitment to and success in removing commercial vehicles and

drivers engaged in ongoing criminal activity from the nation's highways.

At the same conference, Sgt. **Rick Rivera**, Narcotics McAllen, received an award recognition of his seizure of 4,822 pounds of marijuana, which was seized on June 10, 2005 in Hidalgo County. It was the largest recorded highway interdiction seizure of marijuana in 2005.

The Heroes of Denton County selected Tr. **Steven Oliver**, HP Denton, as their 2006 Law Enforcement Officer of the Year. In August 2005, Oliver and a Denton County deputy chased a suspect to his residence. The suspect opened fire on both officers and Oliver observed a deputy fall. Believing the deputy was shot, Oliver left cover to go to the deputy's aid and was shot in the left leg by the suspect. The suspect was shot and died a short time later.

Short Shots

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.

Dive Team looking for you

The DPS Dive Recovery Team is seeking applicants for tryouts. Any commissioned THP trooper wishing

to apply for consideration should submit a memo through their chain of command, forwarding the original directly to Lt. **Ronnie Tacquard** in the THP Chief's office. You must also notify Lt. Tacquard of your intent to apply either in person or by calling 512-424-2339. He can answer any questions you have.

No smoking

Please remember that smoking at the Headquarters complex in Austin is prohibited within 25 feet of building entrances, tables and benches marked with "No smoking" signs. Thank you for your cooperation.

SECC hits home stretch

It's time again to help those less fortunate. Every year state employees are given an opportunity to donate to charities both local and around the world. It's as easy as a onetime donation or a monthly donation taken directly from your payroll check. If you are interested please contact your local State Employee Charitable Campaign (SECC) coordinator. Hurry though! The campaign ends Oct. 31.

Mark your calendar

Be sure to come to the Texas Public Employees Association (TPEA) Arts & Crafts Fair on Thursday, Nov. 2 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the DPS Building A (Headquarters) first and basement floors.

Domestic violence awareness

October has been designated Domestic Violence Awareness Month. In an effort to combat this

national tragedy, the DPS Training Academy is sponsoring a Domestic Violence Awareness Day on Oct. 20 in the Building A Cafeteria (Headquarters) from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Representatives from the Department's Victim Services, Texas Council on Family Violence,

Women's Advocacy Center and other groups involved in domestic violence also will be present. Information will be available on victim rights, how victims of domestic violence can obtain help in their hour of need, and how family and friends can help. There is no shame in being a

victim; this is a problem that has no social, cultural, economic or gender boundaries. Learn how you can speak out and be part of the solution.

Aircraft lieutenant promotional exam set

The competitive examinations for Lieutenant, Aircraft Section will be conducted at the DPS **Law Enforcement Academy** in **Austin Tuesday, October 17 at 8 a.m.**

The Oral Examining Board will convene at the Law Enforcement Promotional System Conference Room in Austin at 8 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 18.

The application form HR-106 should be submitted **directly to the Human Resources Bureau**. Applicants must also submit a copy of form HR-106 to their Service Commander through proper channels.

Only those candidates who are qualified will be able to compete in the written examinations.

Applications should be addressed to the Human Resources Bureau, MSC 0251, Texas Department of Public Safety, Box 4087, Austin, Texas 78773; faxed to 512-424-5627; or e-mailed through DPS e-mail system to "Terry Preston" and **should be received no later than 5:00 P. M. on Thursday, October 12, 2006.**

Announcement and application form HR-106 can be found in Outlook at Public Folders/All Public Folders/Law Enforcement Promotions.

Real ID, continued from page 1

Requirements of Real ID must be implemented by May 11, 2008. Failure to do so by the Act's deadline may result in federal agencies not accepting Texas-issued DL and ID cards for official purposes including boarding commercial aircraft and entering federal buildings and nuclear facilities.

Representatives from the Driver License Division, as well as other

states licensing jurisdictions, the National Governors Association, the National Conference of State Legislators and the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators have participated in meetings held by DHS over the last year as it drafts the proposed rule. This cooperative effort has provided some insight as to the possible direction DHS is moving and the impact to Texas.

Col. Gossett, continued from page 1

about the Department and the people who worked here. The safety of all Texans was a priority for him."

Col. Gossett was born in Pearsall in Frio County. He graduated from high school in 1942. He attended the University of Texas from 1942 to 1943 and then attended Southwestern University in Georgetown, Texas from 1943 to 1944. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps during World War II, leaving the service in 1946 to take a job with City Public Service in San Antonio. Col. Gossett joined the DPS in April 1949.

In an interview shortly before he became Colonel, Gossett praised Texas law enforcement: "If I have learned anything about Texas law enforcement officers, it is that they

stand ready to fully accept any challenges."

A fellow administrator once called Col. Gossett one of the best public administrators in Texas state government. He was a past president of the Texas Police Association and a past board member of the Salvation Army and the Boy Scouts of America. He also was a president of the Austin Society of Public Administration, was a member of the Board of Trustees of the Employees Retirement System of Texas and served in many civic and professional roles in the community.

Col. Gossett is survived by his wife, Carmen, three sons, one daughter, six grandchildren and one great-grandchild. He was preceded in death by a son.

Mile Markers

Promotions

HP

Joel McKinney, Capt., HP Garland to Major, HP Austin-Capitol; **John Madden**, Capt., HP Abilene to Major, HP Austin-Capitol; **Michael Wilson**, Capt., HP Bryan to Major HP Austin; **Michael Lathan**, Lt., HP Garland to Capt., HP Garland;

Dwight Mathis, Lt., HP Bryan to Capt., HP Bryan; **Mario Lopez**, Lt., HP McAllen to Capt., HP Laredo; **Ricky Lee Bryant**, Sgt., HP Cameron to Lt., HP Corpus Christi; **Robert Lynn Bailey**, Sgt., HP San Angelo to Lt., HP Austin-Capitol;

Tyler L. Harpole, Sgt., HP Waco to Lt., HP Bryan; **Matt Wayne Garrison**, Sgt., HP Midland to Lt., HP Garland; **Stephen Wayne Steadman**, Sen. Cpl., CVE Houston to Sgt., CVE Georgetown; **Gary Lee Wright**, Cpl. III, HP Liberty to Sgt., HP Austin-Capitol;

Jason Ray Griffin, Tr. II, HP Bastrop to Sgt., HP Cameron; **Bonifacio Esquivel**, Sen. Tr., HP Austin to Sgt., HP Laredo; **Jamie Shane Downs**, Tr. II, HP Dumas to Sgt., HP Brownsville; **William Gary Rash**, Tr. V, CVE Beaumont to Sgt., CVE Laredo POE.

CLE

Dennis Pat Johnson, Mgr., Crime Lab Austin to Director, Crime Lab Austin-HQ.

Director's Staff

Billy Clark Nabors, Lt., Aircraft Austin to Capt., Aircraft Aus-

tin-HQ; **Casey Goetz**, Lt., HP Austin-HQ to Inspector II, OAI Austin-HQ.

DL

Fred Edward Riojas, Tr. II, DL San Antonio to Sgt., DL Laredo; **Patrick Alan Heintz**, Tr. II, DL Plano to Sgt., DL Beaumont.

Retirements

Charles Terry Smith, Major, HP Midland, 30 yrs., 10 mos., 2 days; **Steven Craig Powell**, Capt., Aircraft Section Austin, 29 yrs., 2 mos., 23 days; **William Carson Hartlage**, Sen. Tr., CVE Richmond, 27 yrs., 7 mos., 21 days; **Oscar Daniel Lopez**, Sen. Tr., CVE Falfurrias, 27 yrs., 7 mos., 21 days;

William David Holden, Sgt., Narcotics Svc. Houston, 26 yrs., 7 mos., 22 days; **Carolyn Jane Ragland**, Admin. Assist. III, DL Austin, 26 yrs., 3 mos., 19 days; **Marianne Potts Welch**, Oper. IV, Communications Svc. Bryan, 25 yrs., 10 mos.; **Robert Brent Bush**, Oper. IV, Communications Svc. Brownwood, 25 yrs., 6 mos., 6 days;

Joyce Elaine Capp, Admin. Assist. III, DL Rockwall, 19 yrs., 10 mos., 18 days; **Richard Leslie Rose**, Programmer V, IMS Austin, 13 yrs., 6 mos., 29 days; **Elizabeth Jane Hopkins-Sefcik**, Clerk III, HP Wichita Falls, 10 yrs., 10 mos.; **Harpin Ezekiel Myers, Jr.**, Sen. Cpl., HP Killeen, 25 yrs., 6 mos., 17 days;

David Alan Wisniewski, Tr., DL Cleburne, 20 yrs., 1 mo., 20 days; **Fred J. Hanna, Jr.**, Training Spec. IV, Training Austin, 13 yrs., 11

mos., 7 days; **Joaquin Garcia, Jr.**, Programmer V, IMS Austin, 10 yrs., 6 mos., 25 days; **Juan Simon Galvan**, Major, HP Austin, 27 yrs., 7 mos., 21 days;

Dana Clark Moore, Sgt., CVE Georgetown, 24 yrs., 7 mos., 18 days; **Mary Ellen Small**, Clerk IV, DL Austin, 20 yrs., 5 mos., 14 days; **Jo Ann Wilson**, Oper. IV, Communications Svc. Austin, 14 yrs., 3 mos., 25 days.

Deaths

Fred R. Rymer, ret. Staff Svc. Assist., Crime Lab Austin (Sept. 1941 – March 1981) died September 6, 2006; **Leo Gossett**, ret. Col., Austin-HQ (April 1949 – July 1988) died September 10, 2006.



On the mend...

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

Tr. **David Cordova**, HP Rockport, injured apprehending fleeing suspects;

Tr. **Lucian Ebron**, HP Jourdanton, injured during a struggle with suspect;

Tr. **Ralphell Watkins**, HP Plano, injured in a vehicle crash;

Tr. **Kevin James**, HP Llano, injured in a motor vehicle crash;

Tr. **John Rick Smith**, HP Waxahachie, shot by suspect Aug. 20.

Good news! Tr. **Roger Wolsey**, HP New Caney; Tr. **Steve Stone**, HP Tyler; and Tr. **Renita Coleman**, HP Texas City, have all returned to work.