

DPS Chaparral



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West Texas Trooper dies in traffic crash

Trooper Jonathan McDonald died on Monday, November 15 in a one-vehicle crash south of Post in Garza County.

As he was responding to an accident scene on U. S. 84, he lost control of his vehicle and struck a culvert. He died instantly and his car was engulfed in flames.

Trooper McDonald, 28, joined the DPS in January 2008 and had been stationed in Post since his graduation from the DPS Training Academy. He is survived by his wife and a six-month-old daughter.

He is the 85th DPS officer killed in the line of duty since the

beginning of the agency.

“By all accounts, Trooper McDonald loved his work and loved his family. Trooper McDonald took seriously his responsibility to keep his fellow Texans safe. We will not forget his service to our State,” said Steve McCraw, DPS director.

Law enforcement officers from as far away as New York came to Lubbock to attend Trooper McDonald’s funeral. Thousands of people lined the streets of Lubbock as the funeral procession traveled from the church to the cemetery.



Trooper Jonathan McDonald

Need your driving record? They're now available instantly online

Texas drivers can now order their driving records online and print them out immediately instead of waiting to have the record mailed to them.

“We are pleased to offer this new service, which is available 24/7 to our customers. The convenience of ordering your driver record online and then printing it out yourself will save everyone time and money,” said Rebecca Davio, the DPS Assistant

Director for Driver License.

Previously, drivers could order their driver record online but had to wait to receive their record via the U.S. Postal Service. Now, drivers can place their order using a credit card and their actual driver license, and then print out their record, which is available in a certified version suitable for submitting to a court for permission to take defensive driving.

All driver record types are available online, including certified records that are acceptable for defensive driving courses. Each year, DPS receives an average of 12 million driver record requests. Before the on-demand Driver Record System was launched, DPS staff printed and mailed every record, even if the request was made online.

To order a driver record online, please visit www.texas.gov.

Mile Markers

Promotions

No promotions for the month of November

Retirements

Christella Newton, Evaluator, DL Austin, 31 yrs., 10 mos., 18 days; **Darryl Glenn Gelasco**, Lt., CID El Paso, 28 yrs., 7 mos., 28 days; **Patricia Ann Shelton**, Evaluator, DL Austin, 28 yrs., 17 days;

Robert Wade Ford, Sgt., Aviation Lubbock, 26 yrs., 9 mos., 20 days; **Danny Wayne Andrews**, Sen. Tr., CVE Denton, 23 yrs. 3 mos., 24 days; **Ricardo Arturo Aguirre**, Sen. Tr., HP Schulenberg, 22 yrs, 13 days; **Wilfredo Banchs**, Supv., DL Temple, 13 yrs., 9 mos.;

Alrene Louise Norred, Tech., Crime Records Austin 13 yrs, 5 mos., 19 days; **Britt Dalton Peace**, Sen. Cpl., CVE Terrell, 27 yrs., 6 mos., 25 days; **Starlan V. Daugherty**, Examiner, DL Austin 23 yrs., 8 mos.; **Thomas W. Lord**, Sen. Tr., CVE Lubbock, 23 yrs., 4 mos., 8 days.

Deaths

Billy E. Crook, ret. Patrolman II, League City (June 1956 – Sept. 1978) died October 14, 2010; **Rochelle “Rocky” Martin**, ret. Tr. V, HP Houston (Sept. 1976 – Jan. 2000) died October 19, 2010; **Jonathan Thomas McDonald**, Tr., HP Post (Jan. 2008 – Nov. 2010) died November 15, 2010.

Briefs

Welcome aboard

The DPS trooper ranks expanded by 39 after the latest class graduated from the Training Academy last month. Eighteen of the recruits served in the U.S. military and 22 of them have college degrees. Another trooper class graduates 10 a.m., Dec. 9 at the LBJ Library Auditorium in Austin—and Nov. 28 marked the beginning of the newest recruit class. Good luck to all!

Fitness Stars continue to shine

The Fitness Star program recognizes commissioned personnel for meeting certain standards on the physical readiness test.

Officers who score 300 points based on their sit up, push up and 1.5 mile run totals are rewarded with 32 hours of Administrative Leave and can wear the Fitness Star on their uniform.

The following individuals met the Fitness Star standards:

Sgt. Joe H. Medrano, HP Borger

Tr. Marcellous Anderson, Regulatory Services Hurst

Agent Joe Matlock, CID Austin

Capt. Selso Artiaga Jr., CID San Antonio

Sgt. Garth Davis, Rangers Austin



Lt. William Urbanczyk, HP Amarillo

Tr. Armando Castillo Jr., Executive Protection Austin

Cpl. Yovanni Flores, Executive Protection Austin

Sgt. Richard Henderson, Executive Protection Austin

Tr. Patrick Hackney, HP Houston

Tr. Christopher Wray, HP Bastrop

Tr. Darryl Tidwell, HP Bastrop

Tr. Keith Montgomery, HP Bastrop

Tr. James Morris, Aviation Alpine

Tr. Alfred Ochoa Jr., HP Pierce

Note: Please forward information on other fitness stars to the Public Information/Media Relations office.



On the mend...

Tr. Manuel Guerra, HP El Paso, injured while attempting to stop a robbery.

Tr. Manuel Gonzales, HP Weslaco, injured in a traffic crash.

Tr. Billy Wallace, HP Carthage, injured when vehicle struck by a passing motorist.

Tr. Andrew Peavy, CVE Houston, injured in a traffic crash.

Good news!

Agent **Herbert City**, CID Drugs Midland, and **Tr. Jose L. Martinez**, HP McAllen, have returned to work.