

# DPS Chaparral

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## Suspected railroad killer surrenders to Rangers

by Mike Cox, Chief of Media Relations

The eyes of the nation were on Texas and the DPS in mid-July after a suspected serial killer surrendered to Ranger Sgt. **Drew Carter** in El Paso.

Angel Maturino Resendiz, who became better known under the alias Rafael Resendez Ramirez, was arrested at 9:05 a.m. Mountain Time on July 13 at the Ysleta Bridge in El Paso. He has been charged in connection with four homicides and is considered a suspect in at least nine cases—six in Texas, two in Illinois and one in Kentucky.

Within minutes of Resendiz' arrest, DPS telephone lines were flooded with calls from the news media seeking confirmation of the arrest and more details. As word spread, DPS also received numerous calls and e-mails from citizens wishing to extend their congratulations to the Department.

The major television and cable networks all gave considerable coverage to the story, and pictures of Sgt. Carter and other Rangers escorting Resendiz from Hobby Airport to the Houston Police Department the afternoon of his arrest were on the front pages of newspapers across the nation the next morning.

Carter, who promoted to the Rangers on Sept. 1, 1998, did live interviews with NBC's Today Show, ABC's Good Morning America, CNN and other national media organizations.

After the publicity died down, the DPS continued its role in developing evidence in the Resendiz investigation. Results of DNA testing done by the Crime Laboratory and fingerprint comparisons handled by AFIS were furnished to the Houston Police Department and other Texas agencies with homicides in which Resendiz is suspected.

In addition to the Rangers and CLE criminologists, DPS Aircraft and the Special Crimes Service have played important roles in the Resendiz case.

Dear Fellow Employee:

First of all, my congratulations to everyone with the DPS who was involved in the apprehension of serial killing suspect Angel Maturino Resendiz.

Here's an excerpt from one e-mail we received: "Kudos to all involved in bringing (the suspect) to justice and putting the public at ease once again!! Ya'll worked hard, diligently and non-stop to catch this man. All I can say is thank you and keep up the wonderful work you do to keep us safe..."

The citizens of Texas are justifiably proud of this agency, and so am I.

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Before the next newsletter, most public and private schools and colleges will be in full swing as kindergartners to graduate students head to the classroom. I encourage each of you to exercise caution around schools and as you transport family and friends to school events.

Please remember to stay within speed limits in school zones and stop for school buses on roadways—and remind others to do the same.

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## Short Shots

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### Director's Award

Bob Luce, Sam Bruce and Bob Davis have received Director's Awards for their heroic and decisive actions in saving a woman's life after a car crash in Houston County. The one-vehicle wreck left the driver incapacitated, trapped and crying for help in the smoke-filled, burning car. The three men converged on the crash scene from different locations and combined efforts in battling smoke, fire and heat to pull the driver through a window as flames engulfed the vehicle. Tr. **Jeff Berry**, HP Crockett, nominated the three men.

### Number crunching

The final legislative appropriations for DPS will amount to \$350.5 million and \$345.2 million for the next two years, which are both increases from the prior budget cycle.

### Operation Motorcide

The latest information on the July 4<sup>th</sup> Operation Motorcide indicates 36 people lost their lives in traffic crashes across Texas during the holiday weekend. The DPS had estimated 31 people could die during the 54-hour period.



### *On the mend...*

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

**Tr. Kenneth Rushing**,  
L&W Conroe

**Tr. Dub Gillum**, HP Granbury

**Tr. Richard Miller**, HP Athens

*You might consider dropping them a card or giving them a call.*

### FBI sheepskin

Lt. **Charles Derrick**, Narcotics Service Austin, is the latest DPS graduate from the FBI National Academy. Derrick took part in the 197<sup>th</sup> session in Quantico, Virginia.

### Vacation hours

The Legislature has increased the number of vacation hours that can be carried over from one year to the next for employees with 20-plus years' service. Another change allows unused vacation time at retirement to be counted as service credit in addition to receiving a lump sum payment. Both changes take place effective Sept. 1.

### No peeking

Public viewing or copying of HP video is not permitted until an Open Records' request has been processed by DPS Legal Services. This is especially important in dealing with the media. Please route media inquiries to the Public Information Office, 512-424-2080. Refer legal questions to **Frank Crull**, DPS Legal Services, 512-424-2890.

### Scholarship deadline nears

Applications for the **Wilson E. Speir** Scholarship will be accepted through August 23. Two \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded. Students must be full-time (12 hours) criminal justice majors at a Texas university. Applicants should submit resumes, current college transcripts and their photograph to Col. **Speir** at 11900 Jess Dr., Austin, TX 78737. If all other factors are equal, the parents' law enforcement affiliation may be taken into account.

### Competitive exams set

Competitive examinations for six commissioned positions will take place Tuesday, Sept. 21 at the six DPS regional offices. Those include **Sgt./Inv.-Motor Vehicle Theft; Sgt./Inv.-Narcotics; Sgt./Inv.-Special Crimes; Lt.-Special Crimes; Sgt.-Aircraft Section** and **Sgt.-Highway Patrol**.

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## Mile Markers

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### CLE Promotions

**Richard Melville Blake**, Sgt./Inv., Special Crimes Service Houston to Capt. Special Crimes Service Austin.

### TLE Promotions

**Dennis Wayne Dobias**, Supr. Veh. Insp., Houston to Regional Supr. Veh. Insp. Waco; **John Roger Barnes**, Insp. III, Veh. Insp. Corpus Christi to Supr., Veh. Insp. Corpus Christi; **Douglas Lloyd Lanford, Jr.** Insp. III, Veh. Insp. San Antonio to Supr., Veh. Insp. Midland.

### Retirements

**Jerry Wayne Worth**, Police Comm. Op. IV, Waco, 32 yrs., 9 mos., 27 days; **Dora Mayo Duron**, DL Tech. Austin, 31 yrs., 3 mos.; **Deborah Anne Corner**, Word Processing Op. II Acc. Rec. Austin, 30 yrs., 5 mos., 15 days; **Charles Henry Woelfel**, Supr. Electrician Bldg. Programs Austin, 15 yrs., 10 mos., 20 days; **Victor Herman Miller**, Supr. Acct. Austin, 28 yrs., 10 mos., 24 days; **Ralph Weldon Norsworthy**, Tr. V HP Carthage, 26 yrs., 1 mo., 5 days; **Henry Tyrone Godfrey**, Tr. V HP Dallas, 23 yrs., 9 mos., 3 days; **Mona Allison Yoes**, Hearing Attorney, ALR Houston, 3 yrs., 9 mos.; **Robert Newton Schuler**, Sgt., HP Jasper, 24 yrs., 4 mos., 13 days; **Bethel Dill Greene**, Comm. Maintenance Clerk, Fleet Op. Austin, 22 yrs., 8 mos.

### Deaths

**Frank Horger**, ret. Texas Ranger McAllen (Jan. 1950-Aug. 1986) died June 20; **David Lawrence**, ret. DL Tr. Goldthwaite (Aug. 1957-Aug. 1992) died June 26.

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