



DPS Chaparral

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May 2001

**BECOME A
TEXAS STATE
TROOPER**

CALL NOW

**1-866-TXTROOP
TOLL FREE (1-866-898-7667)**

All DPS black and white patrol cars soon will be sporting the above bumper sticker as part of the latest push to bolster recruiting efforts.

The number on the sticker, 1-866-TXTROOP (898-7667), will ring straight to the DPS recruiting office at Austin Headquarters and will be featured on additional posters and handouts.

“Our patrol cars are one of DPS’ most recognized symbols and they’re always out on the road,” said Col. **Thomas Davis Jr.**, DPS director. “What better way to remind Texans that DPS is always looking for quality individuals to join our ranks.”

An estimated 1,500 vehicles—including Highway Patrol, License & Weight, Vehicle Inspection and Driver License black and whites—will have the 15-inch by 3¾-inch red, white and blue stickers attached to the back bumpers. Additional stickers will be printed to handle the inevitable requests for other staff and personal vehicles.

“Good recruiting is the lifeblood of any organization,” adds **Burton Christian**, chief of Administration. “The more we get the word out, the better shape we’ll be in for the future.”

DPS has requested additional recruit schools from the Legislature to offset an expected wave of retirements in the next several years—so the stickers, which cost about a quarter a piece, are viewed as a big investment in the future.

“We recognize the competition for quality recruits is stiff,” said DPS Recruiting Coordinator Lt. **Curly Colquitt**. “Having a positive message out there on our black and whites gives us a year-round recruiting presence.”

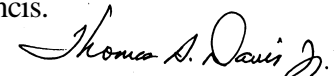
Dear Fellow Employee,

On May 15, we will gather in Austin to remember the 75 members of our DPS family who have been killed in the line of duty since the creation of the agency. This year, we will share this moment with Gov. Rick Perry, who will deliver the memorial speech.

Law enforcement is a dangerous line of work, but one that makes a difference in the lives of all our citizens. If you don’t make it to Austin, please take a moment around 10 a.m. on the 15th to reflect on the sacrifices made by our fellow employees.

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Congratulations to Public Safety Commission Chairman James B. Francis Jr., who has been confirmed to serve an additional term on the commission. We look forward to another six years of leadership from Commissioner Francis.



Awards

Ben Kyser, former Deputy Administrator, Crime Records Service Austin, received a Director's Citation for his long-term service to the Department and duties "above and beyond the call of duty." During the last two years, Kyser filled in extensively for **David Gavin**, Asst. Chief Administration, Crime Records Service Austin. Gavin's DPS commitments took him out of the office more than 50 percent of the time and Kyser admirably handled the extra work load. Kyser recently retired



On the mend...

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

Cpl. Marty Adams, HP Webster, was injured on a traffic stop when a separate vehicle knocked his patrol car into him March 25.

Tr. Lonnie Davis, HP Houston

Linda Swails, DL Examiner Carrollton



Tr. Kenneth Rushing, L&W Conroe, returned to light duty and then retired from DPS March 31. He has been "on the mend" since July 18, 1998 when a Mack truck tractor smashed into him while making a roadside inspection, causing severe leg injuries. Good luck and thanks for your service!

Tr. Leslie Grace, HP DeLeon, has returned to light duty. He was injured in a traffic crash April 15, 2000.

from DPS after 23 years of service.

Six citizens who provided life-saving assistance at the scene of a Garza County wreck were recognized with Director's Awards. Several people witnessed a Blazer crash into a guardrail and roll several times, ejecting a woman passenger in the process. The engine quickly caught fire and the blaze began to spread. The Good Samaritans pulled two victims from the vehicle and moved them to safety as fire engulfed the car. Some of the citizens performed CPR on the badly injured woman in a valiant attempt to save her life. Director's Awards went to David Chadwick Evans, Sue Boyd, Sam Boyd, Genifer Johnson, Larry D. Johnson and Roy Brewer. They were nominated by Tr. **Chris Wischkaemper**, HP Post.

Short Shots

TCLEOSE deadline approaches!

Commissioned personnel are urged to make sure they have completed the proper continuing education requirements by **August 31, 2001**. If you miss this deadline, your peace officer license will be placed on inactive status by the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education (TCLEOSE). If you are unsure whether you have met the 40-hour in-service requirement, call TCLEOSE at 512-936-7700.

Dive team seeks members

The Dive Recovery Team is taking applications for divers. The ap-

plicant must be a commissioned officer with the Department and have a basic diving certificate. Applications must be sent through the applicant's chain of command to the TLE Chief's office. Application deadline is May 30. For additional information, contact Lt. **Lynn Dixon**, 512-424-5789.

FBI grad

Congrats to Sgt. **Robert Douglas Byrd**, HP Amarillo, for his March graduation from the FBI National Academy in Quantico, VA.

Support peer support

The DPS Critical Response Team (peer support) will be adding more members this summer. Training is scheduled from July 31-August 2 at the Training Academy in Austin. Several areas of the state need more coverage, especially Beaumont, Dallas, east Texas and the Panhandle. Any DPS employee with one year of service may serve on the team. Contact Lt. **Wade Ford**, 512-424-5785, or **Cheryl Iselt**, 512-424-2211, for further information. Make sure you go through your chain of command. Interviews will be held May 7, 8, 10, 22, 23 and June 19.

Born to be safe

May is Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Month in Texas. More than 600,000 Texans are licensed to drive some 260,000 registered motorcycles. The Motorcycle Safety Unit of DPS helps spread the safety message and offers motorcycle training courses in nearly 50 locations statewide through a variety of public and private entity contractors. You

can find more information on the DPS Web site, www.txdps.state.tx.us.

Search brings agencies together

DPS personnel earned high praise for their efforts in the nine-day search for a couple whose plane was reported missing as they headed to their home just south of Amarillo. They were attempting to return from watching their grandchildren play a basketball game near Gruver the night of Feb. 15. What followed was the most extensive air, ground and water search ever conducted in the Panhandle area. At the height of the operation, 15 federal, state and local agencies were involved with Sgt. **Joe Medrano**, HP Borger, serving as incident commander. The victims and the plane wreckage were eventually found by an oil field worker. It appears the plane struck a utility pole in bad weather and low visibility conditions.

Citizenship applauded

Cpl. **John Harrell**, HP Crane, has been honored as "Citizen of the Year" by the Crane County Chamber of Commerce for his community involvement. His assistance in projects involving students at local schools and serving as chairman for a local cancer run were cited during the awards ceremony.

Mile Markers

Promotions

CLE

Kent Weir Mawyer, Asst. Comm., Motor Vehicle Theft Austin

to Major, CLE Austin; **Gary Stone**, Capt., Special Crimes Austin to Asst. Comm., Motor Vehicle Theft Austin; **Manuel Alaniz**, Lt., Spec. Crimes Svc. San Antonio to Capt., Spec. Crimes Svc. Austin; **Joseph Carl Longway**, Sgt./Inv., Narc. Svc. Amarillo to Lt., Narcotics Houston;

Michael T. Martin, Tr. II, Hwy. Patrol Svc. Texarkana to Sgt./Inv., Narcotics Texarkana; **Vincent T. Luciano II**, Tr. II, Narcotics Corpus Christi to Sgt./Inv., Narcotics Lubbock; **James Patrick Pieprzica**, Tr. II, Hwy. Patrol Svc. San Antonio to Sgt./Inv., Narcotics Alpine; **Todd Hayden Snyder**, Tr. II, Hwy. Patrol Svc. Sweetwater to Sgt./Inv., Narcotics Amarillo;

Eisenhower Upshaw, Jr., Tr. II, Hwy. Patrol Svc. Denton to Sgt./Inv., Narcotics Hurst; **Robert Ray Morris**, Tr. II, Narcotics McAllen to Sgt./Inv., Narcotics Alpine; **Keith Wayne Deramus**, Sgt., Hwy. Patrol Svc. Orange to Sgt./Inv., Narcotics Amarillo.

Rangers

Norris Lane Akin, Sgt., Ranger Div. Decatur to Lt., Ranger Div. San Antonio; **Bryan Kenneth Ray, Jr.**, Sgt./Inv., Narcotics Tyler to Sgt., Ranger Div. Decatur; **Henry Lee Whitman, Jr.** Sgt./Inv., Spec. Crimes Svc. Beeville to Sgt., Ranger Div. El Paso; **Daniel Alan Young**, Sgt., Hwy. Patrol Svc. Jasper to Sgt., Ranger Div. Dumas.

TLE

Frances E. Rodriguez, Insp. III, Veh. Insp. Svc. Lubbock to Supv., Veh. Insp. Svc. Lubbock; **Johnny Wayne Bekkelund**, Sen.

Cpl., Hwy. Patrol Svc. Cleburne to Sgt., Hwy. Patrol Svc. Big Spring; **Noel Zuniga**, Cpl II, Hwy. Patrol Svc. Harlingen to Sgt., Hwy. Patrol Svc. Beaumont; **Michelle M. McDaniel**, Tr. II, Hwy. Patrol Svc. Greenville to Sgt., Hwy. Patrol Svc. Orange; **Genaro A. Hinojosa, Jr.**, Trp. II, Hwy. Patrol Svc. Laredo to Sgt., Hwy. Patrol Svc. Liberty.

Retirements

Hilda Guerrero Blann, DL Tech., DL Div. Field Svc. Waco, 21 yrs., 1 mo., 20 days; **Evelyn Carolyn Schaefer**, Quality Control Clerk, Driver Records Bur. Austin, 31 yrs., 8 mos., 11 days; **John Scott Salter**, Tr. V, Veh. Insp. Svc. Garland, 31 yrs., 14 days;

Warren Gerard Kiel, Tr. V, Hwy. Patrol Svc. Mineral Wells, 19 yrs., 2 mos., 19 days; **Curtis DeWain Baker**, Sgt./Inv., Narcotics Abilene, 32 yrs., 6 mos.; **Helen Marie Gavit**, Police Comm. Oper. IV, Comm. Svc. Pecos, 23 yrs., 7 mos.;

James Paul Nance, Police Comm. Oper. IV, Comm. Svc. Midland, 26 yrs., 8 mos.; **David Marshall Jones**, Cpl V, Hwy. Patrol Svc. Gainesville, 25 yrs., 5 mos., 3 days; **Israel Cano**, Lt., Ranger Co. "D" San Antonio, 29 yrs., 4 mos., 23 days; **James Carl Pursley**, Sen. Prog. II, IMS Austin, 25 yrs., 1 mo., 14 days.

Deaths

Doyle Spurlin, DL Trooper Hurst (Nov. 1948 – Dec. 1978) died March 24, 2001.

Photos for the Anniversary Book will be taken at locations across the state during May, June and July. Below is a list of tentative locations and dates. Please note that some of the dates have asterisks—the sessions at those locations may be rescheduled for September. Photographer Marisela Bastidas is expecting a baby in August and may need to postpone some of the photography dates. *You will not be left out of the anniversary book!*

The photographer will be available from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. those days. Photo packages will be available for \$20 and \$25 (cash only, please), but you are not required to purchase a package or even an anniversary book in order to have your picture taken for the book. It's not too late to order—the deadline has been extended to June 30. Order forms will be available at the photo shoot. For more information, please call PIO at 512-424-2080 or send us an e-mail at pio@txdps.state.tx.us.

Station/Location Dates for photos

Austin	until May 11	Ozona*	June 19
Texarkana	May 14	Pecos*	June 20
Mount Pleasant	May 15	Midland*	June 21
Sulphur Springs	May 16	San Angelo*	June 22
Garland*	May 17	Beaumont	June 26
Hurst*	May 18	Lufkin	June 27
Sherman	May 21	Tyler	June 28
Wichita Falls	May 22	Bryan	June 29
Childress	May 23	Conroe*	July 2
Amarillo	May 24–25	Victoria*	July 3
Lubbock*	May 28	Houston*	July 9-11
Abilene	May 29	Waco*	July 16-17
Mineral Wells	May 30	San Antonio*	July 20
Brownwood	May 31	Kerrville*	July 23
Lampasas	June 1	Pierce*	TBA
El Paso*	June 7-8		
Corpus Christi	June 12	<u>*All dates are subject to change, especially those with asterisks. PIO will contact regional commanders with additional information ASAP.</u>	
Harlingen	June 13		
McAllen*	June 14		
Laredo*	June 15		
Del Rio*	June 18		