



# Public Safety Commission Meeting

June 8, 2023, 10:00 a.m.

6100 Guadalupe, Building E

Austin, TX 78752

## Summary

(This report represents a summary of events of the meeting, and is not necessarily complete nor an exact transcript of testimony.)

The Public Safety Commission convened as posted to consider and take formal action, if necessary, on the following agenda items:

### I. CALL TO ORDER

10:00 am – *Chairman Steven Mach called the meeting to order. In attendance: Chairman Steve Mach, Commissioner Nelda Blair, Commissioner Larry B. Long and Commissioner Wainwright. Commissioner Stodghill was not in attendance. A quorum was present. Also present were Deputy Director Freeman Martin, Lieutenant Colonel Dwight Mathis, Lieutenant Colonel Jeoff Williams and General Counsel Phil Adkins.*



### II. INVOCATION

*Chaplain Ferman Carpenter gave the invocation.*

### III. PLEDGES

*Trooper Travis Roland led the meeting in the Pledge of Alliance and the Texas Pledge of Allegiance.*

#### IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

*A motion was made by Commissioner Wainwright and seconded by Commissioner Long to approve the minutes from the April 21, 2023, Public Safety Commission Meeting. The motion passed.*

#### V. PRESENTATIONS

*(The DPS Public Information Office provided the following information from today's meeting.)*

##### DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE AWARDS

The following employees were presented a certificate in recognition their years of service and accomplishment with the Texas Department of Public Safety:

##### 30 YEAR SERVICE AWARDS



Terry Kuntschik (RSD)



Heidi Prather (ICT)

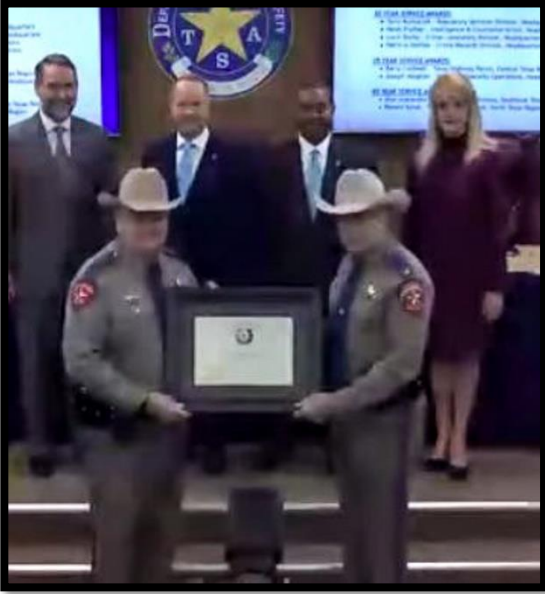


Louis Rocha (CLD)



Patricia Steffek (CRD)

## 35 YEAR SERVICE AWARDS



Barry Caldwell (THP)



Joseph Vaughan (HSO)

## 45 YEAR SERVICE AWARDS



Alan Alexander (DLA)



Ronald Kulak (THP)

## JAVIER ARANA TOP TROOPER AWARDS:



Javier Arana's Family



Trevor Topper (THP) and Jaclyn Gooding (THP)

The Top Trooper Competition began in 2012 as a way to recognize the outstanding Troopers we have working all over the state. The idea was to test Troopers on their physical conditioning, shooting and driving skills, and job knowledge. The Troopers are tested in the field with a written

examination, firearms qualification scores and Physical Readiness Test scores. They are then invited to Austin to participate in the state competition.

The first Top Trooper contest was completed in February of 2012. Trooper Javier Arana, Jr. participated in this first competition and did extremely well. The following month Trooper Arana was tragically killed in the line of duty. As a tribute to his sacrifice the competition was named in his honor.

The 11<sup>th</sup> annual Javier Arana, Jr. Top Trooper competition was held at the Tactical Training Center April 17 – 19, 2023. There were 91 Troopers from across the state that competed in the event. Over the course of the 3-day competition the troopers were tested on their driving and firearms skills, physical conditioning and endurance, and job knowledge during 9 events. The 3 skills-based driving courses measured their abilities in vehicle handling and dynamics. Their firearms proficiency and weapons handling were put to the test during the 3 courses requiring accuracy, weapon transition skills, and target discrimination. The 2 physical fitness courses pushed their endurance, mental toughness, and ability to perform under physical stress to the limits. These 3 skills-based courses were all under the added stress of being timed and penalized for missed objectives and targets. Recognizing the importance of being an expert in their field, the competitors were subjected to an oral interview in front of a board made up of Highway Patrol field supervisors and challenged to answer job related questions and articulate themselves in a professional manner.

As a result of this year's competition, the Javier Arana Jr. Top Trooper Award is presented to Trooper Jaclyn Gooding, Highway Patrol Service, South Texas Region for this year's top female competitor, and Trooper Trevor Topper, Highway Patrol Service, Northwest Texas Region for this year's top male competitor.

### **ADOLPH THOMAS DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD:**



**Adolf Thomas's Family**

In 1970, Adolph Thomas was the first African American to graduate from the Department of Public Safety Training Academy. During the course of his career, he promoted through the ranks from Trooper to Narcotics Sergeant, Narcotics Captain, Commander of the Training Academy, and Chief of Staff Services prior to his retirement in 1995. Over his DPS career and even afterwards as a civilian criminal justice instructor, Chief Thomas excelled in the areas of mentoring fellow employees, training others, and civic engagement. The Adolph Thomas Distinguished Service Award was created to honor DPS employees who display excellence and distinguish themselves in those same three areas.

**Non-Commissioned Recipient –  
Shawn Cossin, Training Specialist,  
Training Operations Division**



This employee began his career with the department in 2021, and in that short amount of time, has made significant contributions that will undoubtedly have long-lasting, positive impacts on our agency. Prior to joining DPS, he served as a commissioned officer in the United States Army, where he trained and mentored hundreds of soldiers and fellow officers as a platoon leader, Assistant Operations Officer in a training environment, and then as an Operations Officer for both a military police battalion and a law enforcement command. Additionally, he had a distinguished career as a Pennsylvania State Trooper, where he served as an instructor in the training academy for both state and municipal officers.

As a Training Specialist in the DPS Training Operations Division, he has gone above and beyond in his service to the people of our agency. As a mentor, relationship coach, and instructor, not only within our department but with partner agencies as well, he consistently

strives to be of service. He has developed courses and leadership programs that have been implemented throughout our department, and in 2022 alone, he led his unit in the instruction of over 3,000 personnel, while personally instructing over two-thirds of these students. Additionally, his desire to serve is reflected in his efforts as a youth leader, ordained minister, police chaplain, and board member for numerous non-profit organizations.

In recognition of his distinguished service, Training Specialist Shawn Cossin is hereby awarded the 2023 Adolph Thomas Distinguished Service Award.

**Commissioned Recipient – Mario  
Reyes III, Special Agent, Criminal  
Investigations Division**



This employee began his career with the department in 1993, and during this time, he has consistently looked for ways in which he can assist others, whether it's serving the citizens of our state, working with our law enforcement partners, or being a leader, mentor, and role model for his coworkers. He was promoted to Sergeant in the Highway Patrol Division in 1998, and then to Special Agent in the Criminal Investigations Division in 2010. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminal Justice from St. Edward's University, serves on the DPS Honor Guard, and is a firearm and physical fitness instructor.

Throughout his career, he has displayed his servant leadership mentality through mentoring subordinates and coworkers, performing as a liaison with other agencies, working with legislators and their staff, and being a dependable and trustworthy representative of our agency.

He is involved with his community, as evidenced by his service as a soccer coach, a cross-

county coach, and as a mentor and friend to everyone. This employee continually represents our agency with dignity, respect, and a general desire to serve others.

In recognition of his distinguished service, Special Agent Mario Reyes III is hereby awarded the 2023 Adolph Thomas Distinguished Service Award.

### LIFESAVING AWARD:

Zachary Johnson (CID) Thomas Vinson (CID)



On January 4, 2023, Criminal Investigations Division Special Agents Zachary Johnson and Thomas Vinson were traveling northbound in an unmarked vehicle in Taylor County when they observed a northbound pickup, ahead of their vehicle, drifting entirely into the southbound lane several times as vehicles were approaching. Southbound vehicles were forced to take evasive action by driving onto the improved shoulder and into the ditch to avoid being struck by the pickup. Special Agents Johnson and Vinson were able to determine the driver was an elderly male, was wearing a nasal cannula for oxygen, and did not appear alert. Vinson contacted DPS Communications and requested a Texas Highway Patrol unit be dispatched to assist with the situation. When the Special Agents were advised there were no THP units in the area, they made the decision to bring the pickup to a stop in order to protect the lives

of other motorists. Special Agent Johnson activated his emergency lights, safely passed the pickup, and positioned his vehicle directly in front of the pickup to get the driver's attention. The driver did not yield or react to the flashing emergency lights. As they were approaching an intersection, Johnson slowed his vehicle, allowed the pickup to contact the rear of the DPS vehicle, and carefully slowed until both vehicles came to a complete stop. Wearing clearly marked reflective vests with police markings, Special Agent Johnson approached the driver's side door while Special Agent Vinson began directing traffic. Johnson observed a dog in the backseat wearing a harness identifying it as a diabetic blood sugar detection service dog. The driver appeared disoriented and was unresponsive to Johnson's commands to roll down the window or unlock the door. As the Special Agents were requesting EMS personnel be dispatched to the scene, the driver began trying to move his vehicle. With no other options available, Special Agent Vinson breached the front passenger window, entered the pickup, and placed the gear selector in park. Johnson gently removed the driver from the pickup and placed him in a recovery position. EMS personnel arrived on the scene, began treating the driver, and transported him and his service dog to a local medical center.

In recognition of their decisive and professional response to a life-threatening situation resulting in the saving of a life, Agents Zachary Johnson and Thomas Vinson are hereby awarded the Lifesaving Award.

## LIFESAVING AWARD:

Jeffery Laurendine (THP)



On January 26, 2023, Trooper Jefferey Laurendine overheard officers requesting assistance regarding a pursuit in Montgomery County, near his location. Trooper Laurendine assisted in the pursuit, and as the suspect vehicle reached a dead end, the suspects fled on foot toward the San Jacinto River. The river's water level and flow were significantly increased due to recent heavy rains. Trooper Laurendine was able to locate the first suspect, handcuffed and released him to another officer, and went to assist in the search for the other suspect. While searching, officers heard a subject calling for help. They were able to locate this subject clinging to a tree with his head barely above water. Trooper Laurendine quickly removed his duty belt and entered the water. As Laurendine reached the subject, the tree limb he had been holding onto broke. Trooper Laurendine held onto the tree with his legs while pulling the subject free of the area where he was trapped. Laurendine held the subject's head above water

as he pulled him toward the bank. Due to the frigid temperatures, the subject had lost all strength and could not be of assistance in his rescue. Once in shallow water, another officer assisted with removing the subject from the river.

In recognition of his decisive and professional response to a life-threatening situation resulting in the saving of a life, Trooper Jeffery Laurendine is hereby awarded the Lifesaving Award.

### **VI. PUBLIC COMMENT**

*(Members of the public wishing to address the Commission are subject to a time limit of 5 minutes and must complete a Public Comment Registration Card located at the entry. Should a member of the public bring an item to the Commission for which the subject was not posted on the agenda of the meeting, state law provides that the Commission may receive the information but cannot act upon it at the meeting. The Commission may direct staff to contact the requestor or request that the issue be placed on a future agenda for discussion.)*

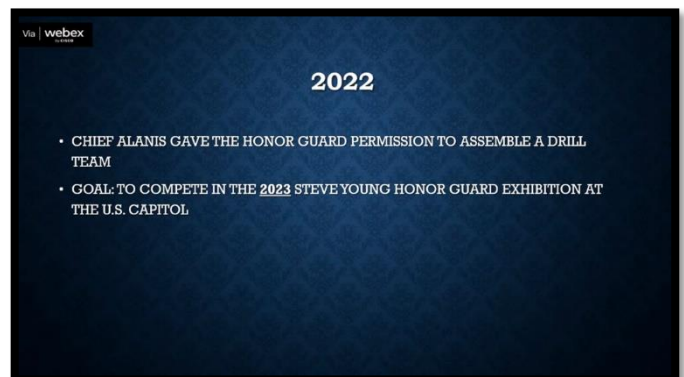
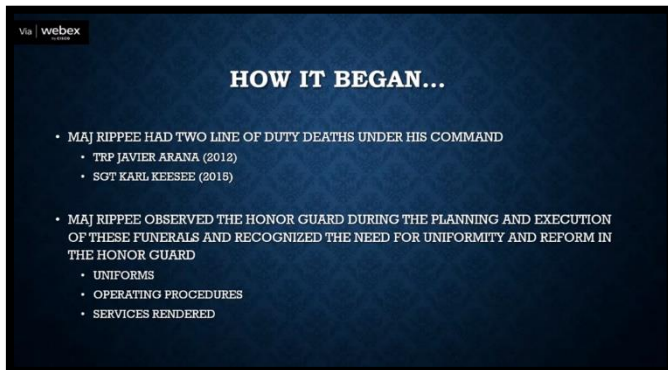
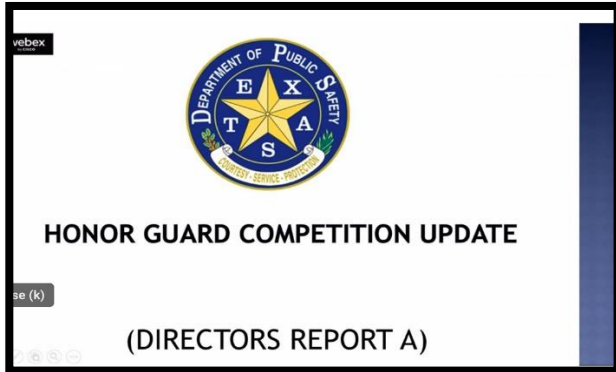
*There were no requests for public comment.*

## VII. DIRECTORS REPORT

### a. Honor Guard Competition Update

*Director McCraw turned it over to Chief Orlando Alanis, Texas Highway Patrol, and Sgt. Bill Robles to present.*

*The following slides were presented to show the hard work and planning that went in to forming the DPS Honor Guard Drill team for Competition. Well over 200 hours were spent in training, not counting personal practice time:*



Via | webex

# PREPARATION

- U.S. BORDER PATROL HONOR GUARD SUPPORT
- OCTOBER 2022
  - TRYOUTS HELD IN EAGLE PASS
  - 8 APPLICANTS
- U.S.B.P. JUDGED TRYOUTS AND SELECTED TEAM
  - 5 TEAM MEMBERS
  - 2 ALTERNATES

Via | webex

# PREPARATION

- MONTHLY PRACTICES
  - FIRST PRACTICE HELD SAN ANTONIO IN JANUARY 2023
  - APPROXIMATELY 200 HOURS
  - SAN ANTONIO
  - WACO
  - DALLAS
  - AUSTIN

*The locations of the training sessions were spread around the state not only to show that the participants were from various parts of the state, but also to accommodate two of the members' more pressing jobs – welcoming the newest members of their families:*

Via | webex



## MATTIE LAUREN SCHOOLEY

- BORN JANUARY 6, 2023
- 7 LBS, 15 OZ.
- 19.25"

Via | webex



## JONATHAN WILLIAM DOSS SCHROEDER

Via | webex

# U.S. BORDER PATROL

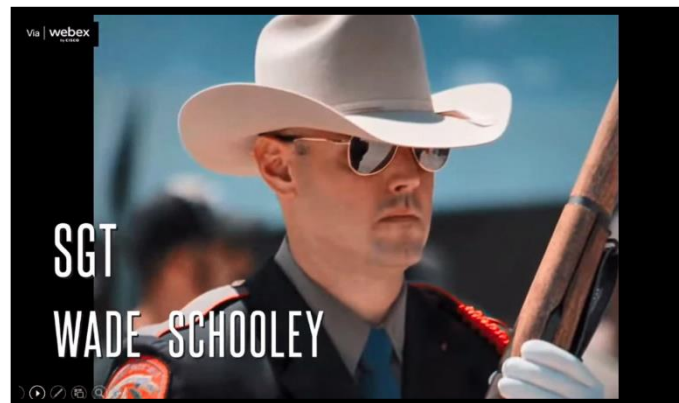
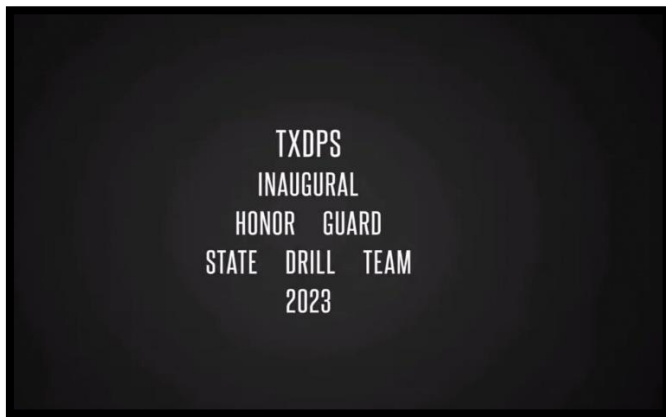
- COACHED TEAM THROUGHOUT PREPARATION
- REVIEWED PHOTOS & VIDEOS
- PROVIDED CONSTRUCTIVE CRITICISM
- MENTORED TEAM AND ENSURED SUCCESS
- THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE BORDER PATROL AND THP HONOR GUARDS IS STRONG AND VITAL

Via | webex

# 2023 STEVE YOUNG HONOR GUARD EXHIBITION & TRIBUTE

- CONSISTS OF 3 EVENTS
  - TEAM INSPECTION DRILL
  - COLOR GUARD
  - EXHIBITION PHASE
- SCORES
  - TEAM INSPECTION DRILL COMMANDER – 88/90
  - TEAM INSPECTION TEAM MEMBER – 86/90
  - COLOR GUARD – 97/100
  - EXHIBITION PHASE – 82/100

*The following images were taken from an excellent video presentation highlighting their hard training and performance excellence:*





2023  
STEVE YOUNG  
HONOR GUARD  
TRIBUTE CHAMPIONS





**2023 STEVE YOUNG HONOR GUARD EXHIBITION & TRIBUTE**

- 1<sup>ST</sup> TIME THP HAS PARTICIPATED IN THIS EVENT
- 1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE - INTERNATIONAL CHAMPIONS



**THANK YOU**

- MAJ RIPPEE
- CHIEF JOY (RETIRED)
- CHIEF ALANIS
- U.S. BORDER PATROL HONOR GUARD
- THE INAUGURAL THP DRILL TEAM
  - TRP ROBERT JACKSON
  - TRP JACOB SCHROEDER
  - TRP ALONZO NUNEZ
  - SGT ELIOT TORRES
  - SGT WADE SCHOOLEY
  - SGT BRYAN MCCANDLESS

Chairman Mach commented that the DPS Honor Guard has come a long way since he first observed them at various events back in 2014. Thank you for representing DPS so honorably. You make us all proud.

Commissioner Blair added that their achievements are phenomenal and said that she couldn't be more proud.

Commissioner Long also thanked the Honor Guard Drill Team and praised the leadership that made this possible. Congratulations.

Commissioner Wainwright thanked the Honor Guard Drill Team for their fantastic representation of DPS.

#### b. Operation Lone Star

Director McCraw gave a brief update on Operation Lone Star. He began by thanking Governor Abbot, Lt. Governor Patrick, and the Texas Legislature for their continued support of DPS operations at the Border.

Since the surge of migrants in 2021, DPS has made 29,000 criminal arrests, of which 75% were felonies. We have seized over 404 million lethal doses of fentanyl and over 50,000 pounds of methamphetamine.

We were averaging approximately 11,000 illegal crossings per week, and in May alone we saw 29,000. We are still expecting around 34,000 crossings per month through the summer. Now that Title 42 has been rescinded, we will continue to stay the course and hold our line of operations. We

*will continue our interdictions and will be more proactive in preventing criminal activity.*

*Cameron County previously has been the center of activity, but since we sealed that area off, the surge is centered in Maverick County around Eagle Pass. El Paso continues to be an area of high activity. We are continuing to monitor activities in train yards as well. Many migrants are now being deported to locations further south in Mexico, which also slows the influx of illegal crossings. He said that this afternoon, the governor would be signing bills that will further support our work at the border and the budget to continue our operations.*

*Chairman Mach thanked the Governor and legislators for continuing to support and affirm our mission.*

*Commissioner Wainwright stated that he was proud of what DPS is doing along with other law enforcement agencies to protect Texas and the rest of the country.*

*Commissioner Long applauded the use of technology and noted that in El Paso he had seen firsthand how effective the use of razor wire is in stopping the crossings. He suspected that its use was somewhat limited but asked if it could be used in places like Maverick County.*

*Colonel McCraw responded that razor wire is effective and can be deployed quickly, but noted it is most effectively used the closer it can be placed to the river. He pointed out that lives are lost in the rushing currents of the Rio Grande. Crossings should only occur at one of the 29 legal points of entry between Mexico and Texas where they can be processed by the federal authorities as to their eligibility of entry and nowhere in between.*

*Chairman Mach recognized representatives from the Governor's office, the Lt. Governor's office and the legislature who were in attendance at the meeting in person or virtually.*

*Director McCraw took a moment to thank Assistant Chief Brian Baxter, Training Operations Division, who is retiring from DPS. Director McCraw noted that all Life Saving Awards that have been given out in recent years can be traced back to the enhanced emergency medical training that troopers receive thanks to Assistant Chief Baxter's initiative. Back in my day, troopers were given a couple of band aids and aspirin as a first aid kit. Stopping the bleeding is often the most critical element of saving a life in a trauma situation. You will be missed. Thank you.*

## **VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

### **a. Report and discussion on Legislative Changes to DPS Appropriations**

*Suzy Whittenton, Chief Finance Division, stated that her report is based on what is expected to be signed into law, but until that happens it is still in the process of passing. She noted that the legislators had an additional \$39 billion to work with this session (26% more than the previous session) and DPS was fortunate to get some of that money.*

*Below are some of the highlights:*

- The largest DPS project receiving funds was the Williamson County Training Facility. We had scaled back our request to be more in line with what we felt could be awarded. This \$381.5 million will allow us to build dorms with a capacity of 400. We will also add a kitchen, cafeteria, fitness center and more classrooms.*

- We also received funding to replace 2 helicopters and 1 fixed wing aircraft that had exceeded their 15-year life expectancy.
- We received funding for 50 additional FTEs including troopers and support staff.
- DPS also received funding for 2 additional recruit schools to help fill our vacancies. This will give us a total of 6 recruit classes over the next two years.
- Also, there was funding for Intelligence and Counterterrorism, adding 27 additional positions.
- We received funding to increase our long-discussed security improvements at the DPS headquarters in Austin, including the perimeter fencing.
- We received funding for our Crime Lab improvements at Building C in Austin as well as for a state-wide portable crime lab.
- Funding was provided for construction projects in Pecos, an equine facility, K-9 facility, crime lab updates and a large canopy at the Lubbock HQ.
- \$10 million to start a new crime lab portal, connecting all LE crime lab data in Texas
- Cyber funding for IT replacement
- Funding for Agency Licensing Program that will put all licensing records in one system
- Corporal pay increase (up from \$600 per year to \$3,000 per year) and a recruit bonus of up to \$5,000.
- And funding for 2 more years of Operation Lone Star.

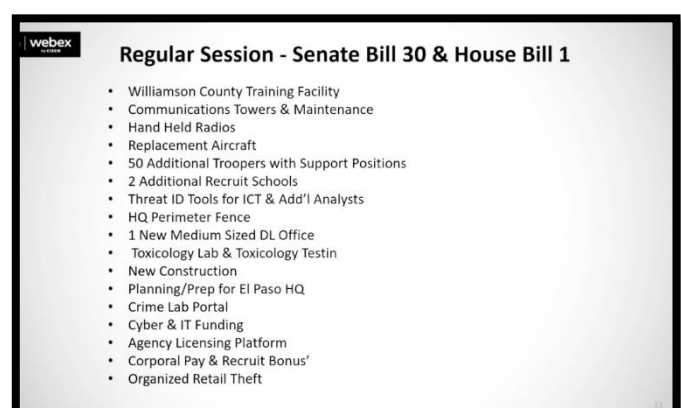
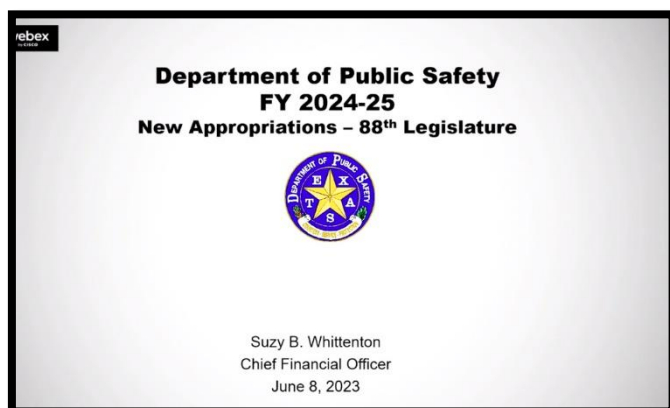
Chief Whittenton thanked her staff and the Legislature for all their support.

Director McCraw thanked Chief Whittenton for her diligence and professionalism in preparing all the financial data needed to achieve our legislative goals.

Commissioner Wainwright also thanked Chief Whittenton for her professionalism.

Commissioner Long asked the Chief if there was anything that we did not get this session that stands out, and she responded that she could not think of anything that was critical. He congratulated her for the great work and was very happy to see the funding in El Paso.

Below are Chief Whittenton's slides:



Via   webex	
<b>Additional Authority</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HB 1846 CDL Skills Test for Learners Permits</li> <li>• HB 3956 DNA Records for Felony Offenses</li> <li>• SB1518 Terrorist Offender Registry</li> <li>• State Employee Pay Raise</li> <li>• Capital Budget Authority Threshold Increase</li> <li>• Operation Lone Star for 2023</li> </ul>	
Pause (k)	

webex	
<b>Changes to FTEs</b>	
Current FTE Cap	11,471.7
50 Troopers & Support	67.0
Organized Retail Theft	7.0
Cyber Security	22.5
Crime Lab Toxicology	41.0
Crime Lab Portal	7.0
Intelligence Analysts	27.0
Driver License Office	45.0
FTE Cap 24-25	11,688.2
Pause (k)	

## b. Report and discussion of the 88<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session

General Counsel Phil Adkins reported on bills that passed that will have operational impacts on DPS. Many of these bills will require rule making that will need to be vetted through the process.

- *HB 3297 – Eliminates vehicle inspections beginning January 1, 2025 for non-commercial vehicles. Emission inspections will still be required in the 17 highly populated counties.*
- *SB 991 – Regarding the Lab Portal – we currently handle requests on a case-by-case basis and require a great deal of work and research to get the necessary information. This portal will be used by all LE agencies in the state to upload lab data. It should greatly increase our efficiency in processing these requests.*
- *SB 267 – This is a law enforcement accreditation bill that requires all law enforcement agencies to be accredited (including DPS) and will require annual re-certifications.*
- *SB 1445 - This is the TCOLE Sunset Bill. Currently when a law enforcement officer resigns, we are required to fill out an F-5 form which classifies the departure as “General”, “Honorable”, or “Dishonorable”. These classifications will no longer be included. Now TCOLE will house a centralized database for all LE agencies (including DPS) where all personnel records will be available for review by agencies looking to hire a former LE officer.*

*Counsel Adkins said that these are only a few of the 4,000 bills passed this session.*

*Commissioner Wainwright asked that the DPS Auditor be updated on all rulemaking to ensure proper monitoring, evaluation and reporting of any and all new rules and procedures within the department, with the PSC permission.*

*Without hearing any objections, Chairman Mach approved the request.*

## c. Legislative Session Wrap Up

*Kevin Cooper, Office Chief, Government Relations asked the Commissioners to review his written report that he provided to them because it had interactive links to bills and other information. He also asked the Commissioners to email or call him if they had questions.*

*Chief Cooper noted that with over 4,000 bills passed (of the 11,850 introduced), there were 683 that required fiscal notes. We were hampered in tracking all of this until Chief Whittenton suggested Sales Force software in which we could collaboratively work through the session. Thank you Chief*

*Whittenton for the recommendation.*

*Chief Cooper went on to thank several staffers in the legislature who were particularly helpful. He noted that Chairman Ryan Guillen was particularly helpful on countless issues.*

- d. Final Determination in Contested Cases – consideration and possible action on Proposals for Decision:

*General Counsel Adkins described the Contested Cases:*

- i. SOAH Docket No. 405-23-04686.MVI – Ruben Martinez Zuniga

*Mr. Zuniga was found to not be performing the inspections as filed. SOAH recommended a 12-month suspension and a \$500 fine.*

- ii. SOAH Docket No. 405-23-06101.MVI – 3C's Auto Service Inspection Station

*This case involved “clear screening” in which the inspector substitutes a “good” car when doing the emissions test. This can also be done using a device designed to simulate a good emissions test.*


*A motion was made by Commissioner Blair and seconded by Commissioner Wainwright to accept and approve the recommendations of SOAH for final determination.*

*The motion passed.*

- e. Report, discussion, and possible action on the following rule proposals for publication to receive public comment:

*Chief Sheri Gipson, Driver License Division, laid out the rules amendments that she was asking to be approved for publication in the Texas Register for review and comment:*

- i. Proposed amendments to 37 TAC Section 15.55, concerning Waiver of Knowledge and/or Skills Tests



### Proposed Rule

**Requested Rule Change:** Amend 15.55 regarding the Waiver of Knowledge and/or Skills Tests

**Discussion:** Amending 15.55 will: Waive the knowledge and skills exams for an applicant that presents a non-commercial driver license not expired over two years from another U.S. state, U.S. territory or province of Canada.

**Requested Action:** Approval for posting in Texas Register

*This amendment would allow drivers licensed in other states to apply and be approved for a Texas Driver License without completing a Knowledge and/or Skills Test (similar to Texas license holders renewing).*

- ii. Proposed amendments to 37 TAC Section 23.62, concerning Violations and Penalty Schedule

*Changed the rule from allowing 30 days before suspension to file an appeal to, in more egregious cases, immediately suspending and then allowing the 30 days for appeal.*

*A motion was made by Commissioner Blair and seconded by Commissioner Long to post the proposed amendments in the Texas Register for review and comments.*

*The motion passed.*

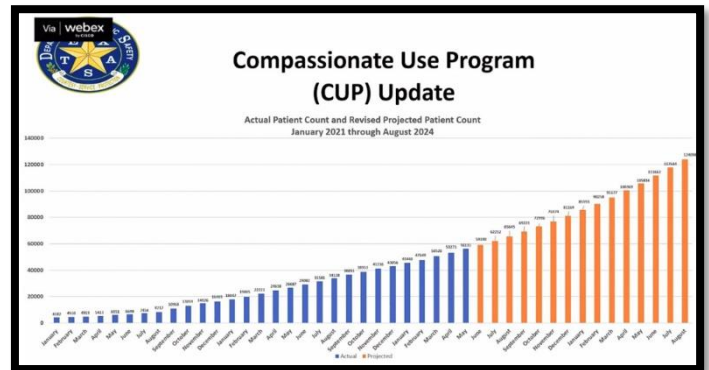
- f. Intelligence Threat Briefing (Clearance Required – Executive Session Expected)

*This item was handled in Executive Session.*

## IX. ONGOING BUSINESS

- a. Discussion and possible action regarding Compassionate Use Program

*Wayne Mueller, Chief of Regulatory Services Division, and Jeoff Williams, Lt. Colonel, Law Enforcement Division prepared the report. Chief Mueller reminded the Commissioners that the decision to add new compassionate use distribution licenses had been discussed and the recommendations were to proceed cautiously and deliberately before granting how many and to whom new licenses would be awarded. As you can see in this slide, the anticipated growth in patients is in line with our projections (the blue bars are the actual patients through May of this year). We are still projecting about 125,000 patients by the end of August this year. At the April PSC Meeting I reported that we had received 137 applications for new licenses, but by the end of that month (the deadline), we had received 238 applications. The application fee was due last Wednesday, and to date we have had 136 application fees paid. The deadline for any supplemental documents to be filed is June 15, 2023, By next Friday, I hope to be able to provide the timing for adding additional licenses. It took us a little longer to find a consultant with experience in other states which have been through this process, but now we have found one and will look to his/her counsel.*



*I know there are some out there questioning why this process is taking so long, but as you remember, we agreed to take a measured and calculated approach to this which takes some time.*

*Chairman Mach said that he is not at all disappointed at the pace in which this process is playing out. Thank you for your work on this.*

*Commissioner Blair said that she was aware that Chief Mueller was getting pressured to expedite this process. She asked what the fee for the application is. Chief Mueller responded that the fee is \$7,354.95, which ensures that the applicants are serious and have some degree of business acumen.*

- b. Report, discussion and possible adoption of the following previously published rules:

- i. Proposed amendments to 37 TAC Section 15.49, concerning Proof of Domicile
- ii. Proposed new 37 TAC Section 15.174, concerning Interagency Application Fees
- iii. Proposed amendments to 37 TAC Section 16.7, concerning Proof of Domicile

*Chief Sheri Gipson said that they had received no public comment and asked that the above rules be adopted.*

*A motion was made by Commissioner Blair and seconded by Commissioner Wainwright. The motion passed.*

- c. Report, discussion, and possible action regarding the modification of the DPS organizational structure and the appointment, promotion, ratification, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a member of the Department or Commission management team

*Director McCraw asked that with the retirement of Brian Baxter as Assistant Chief of Training Operations Division, that Major Derek Prestridge be promoted to the position of Assistant Chief of Training Operations Division.*

*A motion was made by Commissioner Wainwright and seconded by Commissioner Blair to approve the promotion of Derek Prestridge to the position of Assistant Chief of Training Operations Division.*

*The motion passed.*

- d. Report, discussion, and possible action regarding ongoing criminal investigations pursuant to Government Code § 411.0041 (Executive Session anticipated)

This item was handled in Executive Session.

## **X. REPORTS**

- a. Commission member reports and discussion
- b. Finance Report
- c. Chief Auditors Office
- d. Division status reports on activities and action

*No additional reports were provided.*

## **XI. CONSENT ITEMS**

*All of the following items may be enacted with one motion. These items are typically self-explanatory or have been previously considered by the Commission. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a commissioner so requests.*

- a. Discussion and possible action on appointments of Special Rangers and Special Texas Rangers pursuant to Government Code Chapter 411, Secs. 411.023 &

411.024: Special Rangers: John Wesley Crites, Edward Henry Duran, Eligio Garcia, Christopher Blaine Hanson, Raymond Barber Munsell, Kenneth Ray Porterfield, Glenn Eric Shioji, and Peter Lee Steiner; and Special Texas Rangers: William Eric Kasper and Rolando Antonio Villarreal, Jr.

b. Donations:

- i. DPS Aircraft Operations Division, Unmanned Aircraft Program was given the Excellence Award by the 2023 Association for Uncrewed Vehicle Systems International – DPS awarded \$1,000
- ii. Additional donation items, as needed

*Chairman Mach asked Deputy Director Freeman Martin and Lt. Colonel Dwight Mathis if there were any concerns regarding the Consent Items. Hearing none he called for a motion.*

*A motion was made by Commissioner Wainwright and seconded by Commissioner Long to approve the Consent items.*

*The motion Carried.*

## **XII. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA**

**Chairman Mach asked for any items for future agendas be submitted to General Counsel Phil Adkins or to Sophie Yanez.**

## **XIII. DATE FOR FUTURE MEETING**

The regular Public Safety Commission meeting is scheduled for August 17, 2023. Discharge hearings will be scheduled for August 18, 2023.

*The next Public Safety Commission meeting is scheduled for August 17, 2023,*

## **XIV. ADJOURN INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

(If required) to consult with legal counsel regarding pending or contemplated litigation or settlement offers or to receive legal advice on items posted on this agenda; deliberation regarding real estate matters; consideration of any other items authorized by law, including personnel matters, the director's action of discharging employees as identified in this agenda; ongoing criminal investigations

*Chairman Mach adjourned the Public Safety Commission Meeting to Executive Session at 11:59 AM.*

## **XV. ADJOURN**

The Commission may take items out of the order in which they are posted on this agenda. Also, an item that has been adopted, passed upon, delayed or tabled for a later meeting may be considered or reconsidered at the same meeting.

The Public Safety Commission may meet and discuss in Executive Session and have action taken in an Open Meeting where required on the following items:

Government Code Sec. 551.071 Consultation and deliberation with legal counsel about pending or contemplated litigation or a settlement offer, or on a matter where the Commissioners seek the advice of their attorney as privileged communications under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas, and to discuss

the Open Meetings Act and the Administrative Procedures Act with their attorney  
Government Code Sec. 551.074 Appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline or dismissal of director, assistant director, and persons appointed to management team positions pursuant to Govt. Code Sec. 411.0071 Government Code Sec. 551.076 Deliberations about security audits, security devices, including deployment and implementation of security personnel and devices Government Code Chapter 411, Sec. 411.0041 Ongoing criminal investigations Government Code Sec. 551.072 Deliberation of the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property, if deliberation in an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the position of the government body in negotiations with a third person Government Code Sec. 551.073 Deliberation of a negotiated contract for a prospective gift or donation to the state or the governmental body if deliberation in an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the position of the governmental body in negotiations with a third person