



Lone Star Project

Fighting Back With Facts

Confidential

Candidate Study

Prepared by Lone Star Project Research Division
September 2020

Bill Waybourn

Tarrant County Sheriff

Table of Contents

Personal Overview	12
Personal Information	12
Property	13
Social Media	13
Background Check	13
Biography	14
Personal Voting History	16
Professional Contributions	17
Business Records, Publications, Licenses, etc.	17
Court Cases	17
Key Findings	21
Ardent Supporter and Defender of Donald Trump	21
Called Incarcerated Immigrants “Drunks Who Will Run Over Your Children”	29
Close Allies With Trump Acolytes, Hard-Right Figures	31
Echoed Trump Rhetoric on Coronavirus	46
Close Partner With Controversial, Organization Using Gun Safety Trainings to Sell Insurance to Captive Audience	51
Outspoken Opponent Sanctuary Cities	54
Wants to Build Donald Trump’s Border Wall	56
Inmate Denied Mental Health Services at Jail, Died Amid Neglect Allegations	57
Previously a Small Town Police Chief	61
Hired Convicted Criminal as Campaign Consultant	61
Former Fundraiser is Failed-Trump Proponent	62
Bankrolled by Far-Right, Controversial Donors	62
Jail conditions lead to suicide, 3 deaths due to unknown causes in one week, an unsupervised birth, COVID outbreak, loss of certification, and protests in recent months	71
Jail COVID-19 Outbreak	73
2019: Tarrant County Sheriff’s Department timeline of death of Jennifer Espinoza while in custody did not match hospital staff timeline.	75
2018: Inmate who murdered cell mate at Tarrant Jail claimed he told guards he heard voices, didn’t know right from wrong, was in custody for attack on man who voices told him was part of Al Qaeda.	75
2017: Wrongful death suit from sons of man who died after being in custody at Tarrant County jail.	76
Waybourn has sought national right-wing media attention while neglecting core duties of Sheriff.	77
American Sniper Connection	77
DWI No-Refusals	77
Waybourn’s son has legal issues that are contrasted with rhetoric around “repeat offenders”	78
287g	79
Oathkeepers	80
Shooting accident and workers comp claim	80
2016 Campaign	82
Contributions	83
Personal Contributions	83
Social Media	85
Campaign Facebook	85
Personal Facebook	111



Facebook Ads	135
Instagram	135
Twitter	135
All Tweets – Text Only	187

Summary of Significant News Clips 214

Family of Fort Worth man who died in jail want answers: 'Someone neglected my son'	214
'Create More Chaos': Texas Sheriff Goes After California Officials For Releasing Inmates Due To COVID-19; Thousands have been released	217
Tarrant County tax rate remains unchanged under proposed budget	219
United States Courts Opinions: UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS FORT WORTH DIVISION: GABRIEL PAUL SALAS, § Petitioner, § § VS. § Civil Action No. 4:20-CV-167-P § (Consolidated with No. 4:20-CV-249-P) B I LL WAYBOURN, Sheriff, § Tarrant County, Texas, § Respondent	219
Fort Worth City Council Responds to 'Back the Blue' and Pro-America Rally	220
'No more jail death,' protesters shout outside Tarrant County Jail after recent deaths	221
What Do North Texas Democrats Want to Hide From the Public?	223
Coronavirus Deaths Still Trending Down in Tarrant, Recoveries Rising	224
Here's what swayed Fort Worth and Tarrant County to require COVID-19 masks	224
Unbound Fort Worth opens drop-in center	226
Tarrant area police have received 'mine-resistant' vehicles worth \$3.7M in past 5 years	230
Back the Badge supporters gather at Stockyards bar to celebrate police amid protests	231
#UnmaskHate Campaign Sheds Light on Sheriffs' Role in Criminalizing and Deporting Community Members	234
Tarrant Renews Immigration Enforcement Agreement with Feds	235
Live updates: Public comment on proposed extension of ICE enforcement in Tarrant County	236
Tarrant County Commissioners Court votes 3-2 to renew agreement with ICE	238
Tensions High After Tarrant County Commissioners Vote To Maintain Controversial Immigration Enforcement Program	240
Tarrant County will consider extending one of Trump's key immigration promises	240
Two-Thirds Of Americans Don't Want To Defund Police: Poll	243
Will Tarrant keep letting deputies work as ICE agents? You'll have to comment in person	244
Younger, diverse Fort Worth takes 'a pivotal turn' in week of George Floyd protests	247
'Total Chaos': Texas Sheriff Bill Waybourn Responds To The 'Defund Police' Movement; 'Everybody would be on their own'	250
Tarrant County jailers were late on 3 checks in 24 hours before inmate died by suicide	252
WBAP Morning News: Law Enforcement Roundtable – What Can We Do?	253
Chris Salcedo Show: Tarrant County Sheriff Bill Waybourn Responds to Unrest	253
Texas leaders, stop riots, then focus on police reform as justice for George Floyd	254
Man who died by suicide at Tarrant County Jail needed mental health care, family says	256
Tarrant sheriff should spend more time fixing jail, less building his national profile	261
Watchdog Group Wants Tarrant County Sheriff's Office Investigated After Decertification And Unattended Jail Birth	262
Tarrant County Jail Inmate Dies Of Coronavirus After 3 Weeks In Hospital	263
President's Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice Holds Hearing on Juvenile Justice via Series of Teleconferences	263
President's Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Justice hearing	265
Number of Tarrant County inmates testing positive for coronavirus grows by two-thirds	266
Protecting Texas inmates from coronavirus is public safety 'chess game,' sheriff says	268
Coronavirus live updates April 29: Here's what to know in the Dallas-Fort Worth area	271
'This Is A Law And Order State': Meet The Texas Sheriff Who Didn't Release Inmates Due To Coronavirus; 'We're not releasing prisoners'	279
United States Courts Opinions: UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS FORT WORTH DIVISION: ELIGAH DARNELL, § Petitioner, § § VS. § Civil Action No. 4:19-CV-605-O § BILL WAYBOURN, Sheriff, § Tarrant County, Texas, § Respondent.	280
Mexican drug smugglers feel pandemic pain, just like any other business	281
65 new cases, 32nd death in Dallas County	283
Abbott's jail bond order won't help fight virus	285
Texas Governor Abbott's jail bond order is unfair -- and won't help fight coronavirus	287
Why Jails Are So Important in the Fight Against Coronavirus	289
Man fatally shot ex-girlfriend as they argued at her workplace, Tarrant authorities say	292



<i>Frisco choir teacher charged with online solicitation</i>	293
<i>Frisco high school choir teacher charged with soliciting minor for sex</i>	295
<i>A paranoid militia infiltrating Texas police is bent on rebellion, 'ready to rise up'</i>	296
<i>EXCLUSIVE: Texas Sheriff Talks Trump, Immigration, 2020, 'The Beto Effect' And More; 'Mr. president, thank you for that support'</i>	299
<i>Meet the Texas Republicans running for Congress in District 12</i>	301
<i>Kay Granger has Trump's support. Here's why it might not be enough to win her primary</i>	304
<i>Tarrant County sheriff's officials arrest 41 in anti-human trafficking sting operation</i>	307
<i>Despite Trump endorsement, Kay Granger's primary shows no signs of cooling</i>	309
<i>Billboards warning about human trafficking coming to Dallas-Fort Worth</i>	310
<i>Tarrant County Taskforce launches billboard campaign aimed at human trafficking</i>	312
<i>Church deacon who 'died in the house of the Lord' remembered for life of service</i>	313
<i>Minister: Texas gunman grew angry in past over cash requests</i>	314
<i>2 deaths in church shooting</i>	318
<i>'A horrific day'</i>	321
<i>Evil Strikes At Texas Church Rifleman slain by parishioners after killing two during worship</i>	325
<i>Firearms instructor took out gunman at Texas church service</i>	327
<i>Monday Sunrise Briefs: America responds to attacks on worship; Catch me up on the weekend news: How America responds to attacks on worshippers in New York and Texas. Steps toward peace in Afghanistan, Ukraine.</i>	330
<i>Only Two Murdered In Texas Church Shooting Hailed As Second Amendment Christmas Miracle</i>	332
<i>Police: Parishioners kill man who fatally shoots 2 at church</i>	334
<i>Project 21 Leader Packing in Pulpit Praises Response in Texas Church Shooting</i>	337
<i>Texas Church Not a Protection Free Zone</i>	339
<i>Texas, N.F.L., Carlos Ghosn: Your Monday Evening Briefing</i>	339
<i>WEAPONS AND WORSHIP; SIX SECONDS OF HORROR</i>	342
<i>Worshippers stopped Texas gunman in six seconds</i>	347
<i>Five People Stabbed At Hanukkah Celebration In Rabbi's Home; One Person Killed, One Wounded In Texas Church Shooting; Pentagon: U.S. Strikes Five Facilities In Iraq And Syria; Key National Security Officials Arrive At Mar-a-Lago To Discuss Strikes With Trump; Wall Street's Final Trading Days Of 2019; Kremlin: Putin, Trump Talked Counterterrorism Efforts And "Matter Of Mutual Interests" In Call. Aired 6-7p ET</i>	348
<i>Gunman Opened Fire in Texas Church</i>	364
<i>Security team quickly kills gunman after fatal shooting at Fort Worth-area church</i>	365
<i>SUNDAY SERVICE SHOOTING; GUNMAN TAKEN DOWN AFTER KILLING PARISHIONER</i>	368
<i>Lt. Col. Allen West Has Received Over 100 Endorsements From Key Influencers on His Candidacy for Chairman of the Republican Party of Texas</i>	370
<i>Lt. Col. Allen West Has Received Over 100 Endorsements From Key Influencers on His Candidacy for Chairman of the Republican Party of Texas</i>	371
<i>United States Courts Opinions: United States District Court for the Northern District of TEXAS : GABRIEL PAUL SALAS, § § Petitioner, § § v. § Civil Action No. 4:19-cv-236-O § BILL WAYBOURN, Sheriff, § Tarrant County, Texas, § § Respondent.</i>	372
<i>Races to test Dem support</i>	373
<i>Tarrant County approves game room regulations, requiring permits, fees and more</i>	375
<i>Texas law requires retired police dogs be auctioned off. Proposition 10 would send them home with their handlers.</i>	377
<i>Was Sheriff Bill Waybourn right or wrong about illegal immigration?</i>	379
<i>Do Illegal Immigrants Increase Drunk Driving Deaths?</i>	381
<i>What the Fort Worth police shooting means to the community</i>	383
<i>Son of sheriff who called immigrants 'drunks' at White House event arrested for public intoxication; 'These drunks will run over your children and they will run over my children' Mr Tarrant said of migrant repeat offenders</i>	385
<i>United States: Press Briefing by Acting ICE Director Matthew Albence</i>	387
<i>Son of Tarrant County sheriff remains in jail after being accused of exposing himself</i>	399
<i>PUBLIC SAFETY BRIEFS</i>	401
<i>Texas Sheriff Blasts Immigrant 'Drunks'—Then Son Is Busted for Public Intoxication; Tarrant County Sheriff Bill Waybourn sparked outrage with his remark about undocumented immigrants with repeat DWIs.</i>	403
<i>Son of Texas sheriff who slammed illegal immigrants as 'drunks' who 'will run over your children' is arrested for public intoxication</i>	404
<i>Son of Texas sheriff who said illegal immigrants were risk to 'my children' is arrested for indecent exposure</i>	407
<i>Republicans, it's time for a reckoning over Donald Trump</i>	408
<i>LETTERS</i>	410
<i>Peeping Tom defendant indicted for indecent exposure in front of children in Tarrant County</i>	412

<i>LULAC Issues Statement on Texas Sheriff Waybourn Immigrants Comment</i>	413
<i>Press Briefing by Acting ICE Director Matthew Albence</i>	414
<i>ICE, sheriff say immigration ruling threatens public safety</i>	427
<i>Tarrant sheriff: Immigrants will run over children</i>	429
<i>ICE Chief: Lawmakers Must Stop 'Ugly Rhetoric' and 'Vilification' of Immigration Agents</i>	430
<i>ICE 'criminal alien' arrests plummet amid border surge</i>	432
<i>Acting Immigrations and Customs Enforcement Director Matthew Albence Holds White House News Conference</i>	434
<i>Texas Sheriff Calls Migrants 'Drunks Who Would Run Over Your Children' in White House Press Briefing; Tarrant County Sheriff Bill Waybourn went off the rails during a White House press briefing Thursday about border security.</i>	446
<i>Sheriff: If migrant DWI offenders released, 'these drunks will run over your children'</i>	446
<i>Texas sheriff at White House briefing: If criminal immigrants are released, 'drunks' will 'run over your children.'</i>	449
<i>Texas sheriff at White House briefing: If criminal immigrants are released, "drunks" will "run over your children."</i>	450
<i>'These drunks will run over your children': Texas sheriff uses White House podium to warn that federal court rulings force him to release illegal immigrants with multiple DWIs</i>	451
<i>ICE, sheriff say immigration ruling threatens public safety</i>	454
<i>Tarrant sheriff didn't bash all immigrants as drunks. But he should be more careful</i>	456
PUBLIC SAFETY BRIEFS	458
<i>15-year-old girl forced to work to pay off \$10K debt in trafficking case, sheriff says</i>	460
<i>Arlington honors 9/11 victims, first responders with special memorial. 'It's in our DNA'</i>	461
<i>Don't let immigrants' fears derail common sense on terrorism patrols, Census question</i>	463
<i>Other Voices: What Texas editors are saying</i>	465
<i>Questions Tarrant County must answer to keep deputies in 287(g) immigration program</i>	467
<i>Tarrant County officials extend immigration enforcement program</i>	468
<i>Tarrant pushes back on jail deal</i>	472
<i>This immigration issue has divided Tarrant County. Now it's up for a vote</i>	475
<i>Tarrant sheriff needs to give straight story on immigration program's costs, drawbacks</i>	479
NATION & WORLD WATCH; 10 Kenyan police officers chasing suspects die in blast near Somalia	481
<i>Pulmonary embolism killed deputy</i>	482
<i>Texas sheriff's sergeant found dead in vehicle</i>	483
<i>Fort Worth: Encuentran a policía asesinado en su vehículo; Ningún sospechoso ha sido arrestado, por lo pronto las autoridades están revisando video de las cámaras de vigilancia</i>	484
<i>Football tournament raises \$6K for family of fallen Fort Worth officer Garrett Hull</i>	485
<i>Sheriff's deputy found fatally shot in car in Texas</i>	486
<i>Tarrant County sergeant likely died of pulmonary embolism, medical examiner says</i>	487
<i>The Latest: Texas sheriff's sergeant suffered medical crisis</i>	488
<i>'No evidence' deceased Tarrant Co. sheriff's deputy was shot; he died after head injuries</i>	490
<i>United States Courts Opinions: United States District Court Western District of TEXAS : ROSS THOMAS BRANTLEY III, § (Tarrant CID # 0653759) § Petitioner, § § v. § Civil Action No. 4:18-CV-962-Y § BILL WAYBOURN, Sheriff, § Tarrant County, Texas,</i>	492
<i>'Model' officer dies in crash</i>	492
<i>Football, national speakers and memorial event planned for fallen Fort Worth officer</i>	494
<i>Tarrant County sheriff's deputy injured in wreck; other driver charged with DWI</i>	496
<i>Bait and smuggle: Mexican cartels divert border cops with migrant surges and ferry drugs where the coast is clear</i>	497
<i>Tarrant County Sheriff Bill Waybourn discusses border issues</i>	498
<i>ICE doesn't belong in Tarrant County jails</i>	499
LAW NOTES: Moore takes reins at Lockton in Fort Worth	501
<i>Parker County baby injured in reported child abuse case has died</i>	503
<i>In Tarrant County, all eyes are focused on 2020. Will red -- or blue -- prevail?</i>	505
<i>Will Rogers display at Heritage Center spotlights rare memorabilia</i>	507
<i>Surprise: 'ICE isn't doing raids' here. The sheriff tells why</i>	509
<i>Family: Addict made vow before death in custody</i>	511
<i>She was found unresponsive in her Tarrant County jail cell and died the next day</i>	512
<i>Tarrant Republicans stand 'against bigotry of all kinds' as Muslim keeps party post</i>	514
<i>Public safety briefs</i>	517
<i>Tarrant County sheriff's son arrested in Arlington</i>	520
<i>Plan to vote Muslim out of Tarrant GOP post is scheduled. But will it happen?</i>	521
<i>Dad Detained in Assaulting his Toddler Child to Death in Tarrant County</i>	524
NO COMMENT	525

TEXAS DIGEST	527
Texas roundup	528
Father held in baby's death	529
Texas man charged with capital murder in death of infant son	531
Texas man charged with capital murder in death of infant son	532
Fort Worth father of 5 suspect in youngest son's death, facing capital murder charge.....	533
Fort Worth man arrested in connection with the death of a 2-month-old infant.....	534
For a brief moment, they are not inmates, they are carolers, bringing Christmas joy	535
Tarrant Republican leaders speak out for religious freedom, keeping Muslim in party post	537
Texas day care worker accused of pinning down, hitting child	539
Before killing accused child molester, inmate says, he warned guards he needed own cell	540
Sheriff catches flak for posts of Ted Cruz rally in Arlington	542
Sons sue Tarrant County, say father's jail-related death is part of country-wide epidemic.....	543
A 2-year-old girl stopped breathing. Then a Tarrant County sheriff's deputy rode up	545
Immigration enforcement program lacks transparency, new study says	548
United States Courts Opinions: United States District Court Northern District of Texas: ROBERT F. HALLMAN, Petitioner, v BILL WAYBOURN, Sheriff, Tarrant County, Texas, Respondent.	550
13 men arrested after trying to meet children for sex in Tarrant County, police say	551
United States Courts Opinions: United States District Court Northern District of Texas: RUBEN VASQUEZ, Petitioner, v WAYBOURN, Respondent.	552
Tarrant County prostitution sting nets 30. Will it curb demand in sex trafficking?	554
Ricky Sluder, Ex-Dallas County Criminal Investigator Encourages Public Attendance At Blue Dragon Conference August 30- 31 In Fort Worth Texas On This Episode Of Rise Up Radio And OBBM Radio	555
United States Courts Opinions: United States District Court Northern District of Texas: NORMAN LEE AGNEW, Petitioner, v. BILL WAYBOURN, Sheriff, Respondent.	557
United States Courts Opinions: United States District Court Northern District of Texas: NORMAN LEE AGNEW, Petitioner, v. BILL WAYBOURN, Respondent.....	559
"Stop School And Church Massacres Fast" Presented By Blue Dragon International Consultants In Fort Worth Texas On August 30-31, 2018	561
'Stop School And Church Massacres Fast' Presented By Blue Dragon International Consultants In Fort Worth Texas On August 30-31, 2018	563
Inmate accused of killing alleged child molester said mom and God 'told me to do it'	565
More than 50 'semi-identified' victims of sex trafficking found in Fort Worth this year	567
Susan Hamilton, CEO OffBeat Business Media, Talks About Fort Worth Event, August 30-31, For First Responders And Community On Rise Up Radio With Tom Chesser	570
United States Courts Opinions: United States District Court Northern District of Texas: JONATHAN BLOUNT, Plaintiff, vs. CITY OF DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS, ET AL., Defendants.	573
Immigration program 'separates families,' creates mental anguish, protesters claim	578
Knitting the Stress Away.....	579
MEET THE FACILITY.....	580
United Fort Worth seeks immigration policy transparency from county officials	583
Race and Culture Task Force tackles 'systemic, structural, and institutional racism' in Fort Worth.....	584
No Headline In Original	586
Affluenza teen Ethan Couch killed four people in a drunk driving crash, injuring several others is a free man as of twenty-four hours ago.....	587
After spending two years behind bars, the so-called Affluenza Teen, Ethan Couch, is set to be released from a Texas jail today	591
The arrest of Denton County Sheriff's Office veteran patrol Sgt. Weston Jordan as a result of a mult	596
Denton County sergeant arrested, charged with online solicitation of a minor	598
These North Texas teachers added Pistol 101 to their training	599
Group denounces Tarrant County sheriff's participation in immigration program	601
Texas doesn't want a 'bad guy' with a gun. But do we do anything about it?	602
Letter to the editor: State lawmakers trampling on local decisions	605
Teachers packing heat: It's one thing to carry a gun. It's another to pull the trigger.....	606
Fort Worth has spent millions for jail services through the years. Was it necessary?	610
Why do the Republicans who want to replace Joe Barton in Congress keep talking about him?.....	614
Campaign for this Texas House seat turns nasty and costly, drawing more than \$500,000	618
Critics blast decision to include Abbott in Arlington MLK parade	622

<i>Sex talk led to harassment claims, firing or discipline for sheriff's officers.....</i>	624
<i>Tarrant County Jail inmates sing Christmas carols to passers-by on the street below</i>	629
<i>Former state Rep. Ruth Jones McClendon dies at 74.....</i>	630
<i>A Texas House candidate mocked a sheriff on social media. Did he violate the law?</i>	631
<i>Deputies say Texas House candidate faked Facebook profile for political smear; in my opinion</i>	633
<i>A Texas House candidate mocked a sheriff on social media. Did he violate the law?</i>	635
<i>Fake Facebook page and dirty politics alleged in contentious House race</i>	637
<i>Weekend's Top 10 list: Think princess, a prized piano and holiday 'Plaid'; The top 10.....</i>	639
<i>North Texas DWI press conference.....</i>	641
<i>Gladney Center for Adoption finalization ceremony</i>	642
<i>Convicted sex offender released by mistake.....</i>	643
<i>County leaders raised taxes and voted themselves a 3% pay raise. Nobody even spoke up</i>	644
<i>Funeral arrangements finalized for beloved deputy constable Mark Diebold.....</i>	646
<i>MARK DIEBOLD Tarrant officer helped deliver baby on roadside</i>	647
<i>Mayor's Council of Tarrant County Hosts Second Mental Health and Law Enforcement Summit</i>	649
<i>Texas police officer who helped deliver a baby girl and later enjoyed a heartwarming tea party in celebration of her first birthday has died at age 48.....</i>	650
<i>Deputy Constable Mark Diebold, famous for a roadside baby delivery, died Thursday; Obituary: Mark Diebold (1969-2017)</i>	651
<i>Immigrants uneasy, police on hold as SB4 weighed in courts</i>	654
<i>HONORING Correctional Staff 2017</i>	658
<i>Abbott defends sanctuary ban at state sheriffs' meeting</i>	664
<i>GOP Sen. John Cornyn joins city and county leaders to discuss local law enforcement efforts to recruit veterans</i>	666
<i>Cornyn touts bill meant to encourage law enforcement agencies to hire veterans</i>	667
<i>GOP Sen. John Cornyn joins city and county leaders to discuss local law enforcement efforts to recruit veterans</i>	668
<i>Sheriff: ICE arrests immigrants reporting for labor detail</i>	669
<i>26 reporting for community service are detained by ICE.....</i>	670
<i>ICE arrests 26 illegal immigrants while they are carrying out community service as part of parole deals</i>	671
<i>ICE Deported Around 26 Parolees About to Do Community Service in North Texas</i>	672
<i>Most Tarrant County offenders detained Sunday by ICE were convicted of DWI</i>	673
<i>Sheriff: ICE arrests 26 parolees during community service</i>	675
<i>Sheriff: ICE arrests immigrants reporting for labour detail; Sheriff: ICE arrests immigrants reporting for labour detail ...</i>	675
<i>ICE detains 26 offenders reporting for community service in Fort Worth; Immigration</i>	677
<i>ICE arrests 26 parolees doing community service in Fort Worth</i>	679
<i>Rep. Burgess Recognizes 26th Congressional District's Law Enforcement Officers</i>	680
<i>'Pup in training:' Tarrant County sheriff enlists labradoodle therapy dog.....</i>	681
<i>United States Courts Opinions: United States District Court Eastern District of Texas: KEVIN REID ALTHOUSE, Petitioner, v. BILL WAYBOURN, Sheriff, Tarrant County, Texas, Respondent.</i>	682
<i>Third person dies from injuries suffered in domestic shooting</i>	684
<i>Washington: IN RECOGNITION OF THE 26TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT'S LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS</i>	685
<i>Texas Senate passes sanctuary city bill</i>	686
<i>Sheriff to continue checking for illegal immigrants</i>	688
<i>Sheriff wants jailers to identify inmates in US illegally</i>	689
<i>Sheriff wants Tarrant jailers screening for undocumented immigrants; Immigration</i>	690
<i>Actor Chuck Norris plans to rally Tarrant County Republicans</i>	693
<i>Sanctuary silly: If it isn't Islamophobia, it's Hispanophobia.....</i>	694
<i>Morning briefing: Fort Worth panhandling; Little Elm officer's funeral; Keller searches for graffiti artist</i>	696
<i>Fort Worth Council clamping down on aggressive panhandling</i>	697
<i>Inaugural boycott; Putin stooge; too many guns; fanatic legislators; kudos to sheriff; street fee</i>	700
<i>New sheriff; legal immigration; California votes; Trump and Putin; President Harding</i>	702
<i>Sheriff's new team includes award-winning jail administrator</i>	704
<i>Bill Waybourn sworn in as first new Tarrant County sheriff in 16 years</i>	705
<i>High hopes for new sheriff, but with caution</i>	706
<i>One of Texas' toughest on DWIs, prosecutor adjusts to retirement</i>	708
<i>NCPA discusses sad state of cyber security in U.S.</i>	710
<i>There's a new Tarrant County sheriff in town as Waybourn wins</i>	711
<i>What's on the Nov. 8 ballot in Tarrant County?</i>	713
<i>2016 Voters Guide: Tarrant County local candidates on the Nov. 8 ballot.....</i>	716



<i>Singer Coffey Anderson wants to build a bridge between black and blue</i>	725
<i>Philando Castile shooting hits home with Texas gun owners</i>	729
Transgender; Waybourn win; voter ID; who's qualified?; IRS scam	731
<i>Texas Senate gives preliminary approval to anti-'sanctuary' legislation</i>	733
<i>Tarrant County Sheriff Dee Anderson loses Republican primary runoff</i>	736
<i>Tarrant County sheriff loses</i>	738
<i>Incumbent Tarrant County Sheriff Dee Anderson loses runoff</i>	740
<i>Waybourn upsets Anderson in Tarrant County sheriff runoff</i>	741
<i>Runoff pits Anderson, Waybourn for Tarrant County sheriff</i>	743
<i>Sheriff's race; Allen for judge; Kerr for justice; tort reform; Medicaid</i>	746
<i>Tarrant County sheriff runoff to settle bitter battle</i>	748
<i>No need to change: Anderson for sheriff</i>	752
<i>Tarrant sheriff; Parker judge; Johnny Football; Letters to the editor</i>	753
<i>Sheriff ties terrorism to Arlington, UTA during forum</i>	755
<i>Is record Republican turnout a sign of things to come?</i>	755
<i>Voters psyched, but not so much for runoffs</i>	758
<i>'American Sniper' widow is campaigning for Republican opponent of Texas sheriff who hunted 'influenza' teen</i>	760
<i>Anderson, Waybourn headed to runoff for Tarrant County sheriff</i>	761
<i>Cruz rallies Texans, says no other candidates can win in November</i>	763
<i>Trump's rise; GOP chair; sheriff; Texas Supreme Court; district court; House District 94; Rubio or Kasich; Pope and Trump</i>	766
<i>Sheriff race; Texas House District 92; family court; Trump and Hillary; ignoring Carson; Sanders on education; Proposition 3; GOP chair</i>	770
<i>Accidental shooting, workers' comp claim emerge in Tarrant County sheriff's race</i>	773
<i>Sheriff's race; Texas high court; party chairman; district judge</i>	777
<i>Establishment, or Tea Party? Tough to tell Texas GOP sides</i>	779
<i>H-E-B House seat; sheriff's race; horse racing; abortion rights</i>	781
<i>2016 Voters Guide: Local races</i>	782
<i>Tarrant County sheriff's race a contrast in styles</i>	806
<i>Cruz consistent; sheriff's race; Baker vs. Barton; Letters to the editor</i>	808
<i>For sheriff: Anderson a success worth keeping</i>	810
<i>Livestream video: Debate - Race for Tarrant County sheriff</i>	811
<i>Bank activity detailed</i>	812
<i>Teen's mother appears in court</i>	814
<i>Affidavit: Tonya Couch withdrew \$30,000, told Ethan's father he would never see them again, before fleeing to Mexico</i>	816
<i>Rick Perry's stamp of approval: Is it enough?</i>	818
<i>Sheriff's absence at first forum unmentioned but not unnoticed</i>	820
<i>Sheriff says two-pronged Couch case is time-consuming</i>	822
<i>Perry Endorses Fisher's Bid to Unseat Rep. Stickland in GOP Primary</i>	823
<i>Clock ticking for Texas' 2016 candidate filings</i>	824
<i>Tarrant County candidates rush to file for 2016 ballot</i>	827
<i>Perry backs Waybourn in Tarrant County sheriff's race</i>	830
<i>Tarrant County sheriff's race may be his toughest yet</i>	831
<i>War veteran awaits trial in killing of former Navy SEAL</i>	833
<i>Cheers and Jeers</i>	836
<i>Cheers and Jeers</i>	840
<i>Cheers and Jeers</i>	843
<i>Dalworthington Gardens voters will choose whether to continue crime district tax</i>	847
<i>700 pack free concealed-handgun class for teachers in Tarrant County</i>	848
<i>700 pack free concealed handgun class for teachers in Tarrant County</i>	851
<i>700-Plus Texas Educators Take Free Concealed Handgun Classes</i>	854
<i>Lessons in gun safety</i>	856
<i>Gun course free for teachers</i>	857
<i>North Texas teachers offered training on using guns</i>	859
<i>Teachers offered training on guns</i>	861
<i>Blood draw program starts Carrollton first in county to launch no-refusal; policy for DWI suspects</i>	863
<i>Statewide 'no refusal' lauded</i>	865

<i>Navarro County joins statewide 'No Refusal' weekend</i>	867
<i>Agencies across Texas to participate in anti-DWI campaign</i>	868
<i>Dalworthington Gardens marks 75 years as the rural oasis of the Metroplex</i>	870
<i>Tiny Dalworthington Gardens defies easy description</i>	872
<i>Appeals court upholds drawing of blood by Dalworthington Gardens police</i>	874
<i>Feds call for expanded use of blood draws for suspected drunks, already used in Texas</i>	875
<i>Blood tests sought for all DWI arrests</i>	876
<i>Appeals court upholds dismissal of police-drawn blood evidence in DWI case</i>	880
<i>Feed store owner faces animal-cruelty charges stemming from raid</i>	882
<i>Authorities find dead animals at feed store</i>	883
<i>DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS Officers will still draw blood 'No refusal' DWI policy challenged, but police will use it this weekend</i>	885
<i>Lawyer tries to halt blood draws by Dalworthington Gardens police</i>	887
<i>Temporary ban sought on police blood draws</i>	888
<i>Ruling in '05 case won't end DWI blood draws</i>	889
<i>GOP sheriff leading; some incumbents at risk</i>	891
<i>Set for a ballot cast of thousands Sheriff top race in Dallas County</i>	892
<i>LETTERS</i>	895
<i>Sheriff's race pits change vs. experience</i>	897
<i>MAIN STREET</i>	899
<i>A Republican rift in race for Tarrant County sheriff GOP candidates clash on issues, endorsements</i>	901
<i>Sheriff candidate's degree called into question Tarrant County: He got raise for master's from unaccredited school</i>	904
<i>A clash of Republicans Candidates differ on illegal immigration, working with police chiefs</i>	906
<i>POLICE DWI blood testing sticks In several places, option for refused breath tests not just for special occasions now</i>	909
<i>LETTERS</i>	911
<i>Candidate could be tripped up by unaccredited degree</i>	913
<i>TARRANT COUNTY SHERIFF REPUBLICANS; Newcomer challenging longtime sheriff</i>	915
<i>Quietly excelling</i>	917
<i>Money flowing to N. Texas candidates as primaries loom</i>	918
<i>Money is flowing to North Texas candidates</i>	920
<i>Sheriff will face GOP challenger Tarrant County: House races fill up for party's March primary</i>	922
<i>Tarrant voters to have plenty of choices this year</i>	924
<i>Fort Worth police won't take 'no' for an answer</i>	927
<i>FW police to try a new DWI strategy on reluctant suspects Balking at breath test over holiday to mean mandatory blood exam</i>	930
<i>Ethics complaint submitted against sheriff</i>	931
<i>Chaplain also rescues the rescuers - during, after crises</i>	933
<i>Blood tests get results</i>	935
<i>BINGO HAUL; Some landlords hit the jackpot while charities get consolation prizes</i>	936
<i>From Russia, with love</i>	945
<i>Blood-draw program for DWIs noticed by other departments</i>	948
<i>Officer is newest truancy weapon</i>	951
<i>News pilots help track suspect</i>	953
<i>DWI blood tests draw interest</i>	954
<i>Wilson to stick it to DWI suspects</i>	955
<i>BAND OF BROTHERS; Jedi knights and laundry days - that's what life is like for Bill and Laura Waybourn and their new family of five sons as they mark a year of transition from adoption to adaptation</i>	958
<i>Police are trained to take blood samples for DWI</i>	964
<i>Police arrest students with truancy warrants</i>	967
<i>Big stash of cash found in tire</i>	968
<i>A SERIES OF FORTUNATE EVENTS</i>	970
<i>A SERIES OF FORTUNATE EVENTS</i>	989
<i>ARLINGTON & AREA BRIEFS</i>	1003
<i>Mourning a rocker; North Texans fondly recall ex-Pantera star REACTION: Fans pay tribute to a virtuoso guitarist who was a down-to-earth friend</i>	1007
<i>Citizens look out for their police</i>	1012
<i>Citizens look out for their police</i>	1014
<i>ARLINGTON AREA BRIEFS</i>	1015

ARLINGTON AREA BRIEFS	1018
<i>Pantego wins first-ever intercity softball tourney</i>	1020
<i>Camp helps Russian kids find homes</i>	1021
<i>Volunteers help police clear warrant backlog</i>	1023
<i>Arlington Area Briefs</i>	1026
<i>Chaplain is there for police in times of trauma Volunteer shares his services with several local departments</i>	1028
<i>Chaplain is there for police; Volunteer shares his services with several local departments</i>	1029
<i>Volunteer chaplain there for police officers in times of trauma</i>	1031
<i>Pauline Deats, 80, volunteer for police</i>	1033
<i>FUGITIVE CHASERS; City's five-member team aims to clear backlog of warrants</i>	1035
<i>Fire, police losing staff to call-up</i>	1037
<i>Officials step up truancy pressure; Boot camp, community service methods showing some promise</i>	1039
<i>Cookout helps local law, rescue units get familiar</i>	1042
<i>Finding God amid the rubble; Chaplain travels to ground zero, counsels rescue workers; Two NY trips change pastor - the lives of those he helped</i>	1044
<i>Pantego residents learn how to protect homes</i>	1046
<i>Arlington Area Briefs</i>	1048
<i>Officers to begin residential visits</i>	1049
<i>Police in small northern Texas suburb making house calls</i>	1051
<i>Board denies murder suspect's parole request</i>	1052
<i>Man says officer made unjust arrest</i>	1054
REGION BRIEFS	1055
<i>GETTING FIRED UP; Officers cross-train to form public safety department</i>	1059
<i>Conference speakers praise contributions of police chaplains</i>	1061
<i>INSIDE THE GREAT ESCAPE; RANDY HALPRIN AND GEORGE RIVAS DISCUSS TEXAS SEVEN'S ESCAPE FROM JAIL AND TIME FOLLOWING ESCAPE</i>	1063
<i>Fugitives' story unfolding; Suspected leader admitted killing officer, police say; Van found; whereabouts of pair 'anybody's guess'</i>	1071
<i>Fugitives' capture relieves residents; Halprin, 3 others await extradition to Texas</i>	1075
<i>COPS NAB 4 OF TEXAS 7; ANOTHER KILLS HIMSELF</i>	1078
<i>Four prison escapees captured in Colorado; 1 FUGITIVE KILLS HIMSELF; SEARCH CONTINUES FOR 2 OTHERS Relatives relieved most of 7 in custody</i>	1081
<i>In Irving, guarded optimism and a sense of relief; 'We just hope they catch the rest,' store manager says</i>	1086
<i>Recap of developments, reaction to four fugitives' captures, inmate suicide</i>	1088
<i>4 of 7 Texas Escapees Are Arrested</i>	1090
<i>Escapee from area was 'troubled kid'; His outlaw fantasies may fuel gang</i>	1092
<i>Crossing guards back in city's plans</i>	1096
<i>FOUR OF 7 TEXAS ESCAPEES ARE CAPTURED IN COLORADO; A FIFTH KILLS HIMSELF; TIP GENERATED BY TV SHOW LED TO ARRESTS, POLICE SAY</i>	1098
<i>Halprin the youngest of the seven escapees</i>	1100
<i>Community Can't Escape Fear of Fugitive</i>	1101
<i>'NOT MUCH TO LOSE' / TEXANS FEAR DESPERATE FUGITIVES MAY PROMPT A SHOOTOUT</i>	1104
<i>Escapees share violent history; 7 who have eluded authorities for weeks found bond in prison</i>	1106
<i>Halprin kicked, beat woman's child to stop him from crying</i>	1115
<i>ESCAPED CONVICTS SOUGHT IN KILLING</i>	1117
<i>ESCAPED INMATES WANTED IN KILLING</i>	1119
<i>Hunt for fugitives grows as police investigate tips Similar case may yield clues to men sought in slaying</i>	1121
<i>Shooting suspect spent teen years in Arlington</i>	1125
<i>Escapees sought in killing; 7 convicts suspected in Irving officer's death</i>	1126
<i>Metro & Texas Digest; Arlington Area</i>	1130
<i>Area man fighting city on future of trees</i>	1134
<i>Police say teacher acted legally in incident resulting in injury</i>	1135
<i>Backhoe operator breaks oil pipe, showering nearby horses, homes</i>	1136
<i>Fair Meadows offering \$25,000 cash giveaway on Wednesday</i>	1138
<i>Ex-worker at city court accused of embezzling</i>	1139
<i>Families struggling with Dalworthington Gardens suicide of 2 teens</i>	1140
<i>Families struggling with teens' suicides Police trying to determine where youths got gun</i>	1142
<i>Counselors offer help to youths who went to school with victims</i>	1144

<i>Deaths of junior-high pair may be linked to romance troubles</i>	1146
<i>Police investigating deaths of North Texas teen-agers; Young couple</i>	1149
<i>Teen couple's deaths stun town; Apparent suicides in Dalworthington Gardens investigated</i>	1150
<i>Two teens die in apparent suicide pact; Team of counselors sent to students' junior high school.....</i>	1153
<i>Two teens reportedly kill selves; Girl, 15, boy, 14, die of gunshot wounds.....</i>	1156
<i>Two teenagers apparent suicides.....</i>	1158
<i>In case of emergency. . .; Dalworthington police get defibrillators</i>	1158
LETTERS	1160
<i>Drinking cases on agenda; The Arlington school board will hear about offenses and punishment of students who broke rules.....</i>	1161
<i>Law officials question AISD rule Dalworthington Gardens police chief says it could hinder officers' jobs</i>	1165
<i>Man gets 60 years for role in crime; He burglarized house after accomplice allegedly killed elderly Dalworthington Gardens couple in 1995</i>	1167
<i>Defendant account read in Welch trial; Bruce David Conley said he was told a homeowner 'stroked out' and the other would have to be killed.....</i>	1169
<i>Martin High Explorers post to learn about law enforcement</i>	1171
<i>City reviews police rules about off-duty enforcement</i>	1173
<i>Recording offers insight into policeman's gunfire</i>	1177
<i>Dalworthington Gardens officer investigated</i>	1179
Automobile Accident	1181
<i>Aquatic harvester toils to rid lake of hyacinths</i>	1181
<i>Gun discharge in car injures Alvarado teen</i>	1183
<i>Area sees results of crime bill; Dalworthington Gardens receives funds for equipment, and a class of eight graduates from the Arlington police academy.....</i>	1184
<i>Different approach planned in plant war; Dalworthington Gardens hires a California firm to clear Pappy Elkins Lake of fast-spreading water hyacinth</i>	1185
<i>Fate of vintage getaway car worries suspect in 7 robberies; Police say it was Jon Todd Nickerson's beige 1973 Mercedes-Benz that led to his arrest in a string of Metroplex service station holdups Monday.....</i>	1187
<i>2 charged with capital murder; Roommates held in Dalworthington Gardens slayings</i>	1189
<i>Capital murder charges expected; Officials say evidence ties 2 men to couple's slayings.....</i>	1190
<i>2nd man held, suspected in slayings of Dalworthington Gardens couple</i>	1192
<i>More suspects sought in slaying of mid-cities couple.....</i>	1193
<i>Arlington man held in killings in mid-cities Police seek second suspect in brutal attack on couple.....</i>	1195
<i>Couple found dead at their home Dalworthington Gardens victims had been dead several days, police say</i>	1197
<i>Couple found dead at their home Dalworthington Gardens victims had been dead several days, police say</i>	1198
<i>Arlington man killed in argument; Police arrest suspect after 9-hour standoff.....</i>	1199
<i>Tranquil suburb reaps crime bill benefits</i>	1201
CHURCH FACES TROUBLE FOR RUINED CEMETERY	1203
<i>Burglary Suspect Holds Yard Sale</i>	1206

Personal Overview

Personal Information

Name **Bill Waybourn**
 Billy Earl Waybourn

Spouse Laura Waybourn

Children 10 Children, 8 Adopted

Mailing Address
 2700 Whisperwood Trl Arlington, TX 76016



Education
 Bowie High School (1977)
 Dallas Baptist University - Bachelor's Degree,
 Criminal Justice (1992)
 Trinity University - Master's Degree, Conflict Resolution (Seminary Degree Not
 Accredited in Texas)
 Texas A&M Police Academy (1980)
 FBI National Academy (2007)

Birth Date 07/30/1959

Church Cannot Locate

Professional Experience

- United States Air Force - Active Duty (1978-92), Active Reserve (1991-97)
- Dalworthington Gardens Police Department - Police Officer (1981)
- Dalworthington Gardens Police Department - Chief of Police, Chief of Public Safety (1984)
- Tarrant County - Sheriff (2017-Present)

Political Experience

- Tarrant County Sheriff (2017 - Present)

Community Involvement

- Christmas for Children of the Incarcerated (2019)
- Peace Officer's Angels Foundation - President

Property

According to Tarrant County Appraisal District, **Bill Waybourn owns** property at 2700 Whisperwood Trl, Arlington, TX 76016. Little information is available regarding the property.

Property ID	Owner Name	Property Address	Legal Description	2019 Market Value	Residency
68644159	WAYBOURN BILL E & LAURA	2700 Whisperwood Trl Arlington, TX 76016	A-1311 RANDAL L W SUR	N/A	County Commissioner Pct. 2

Address History

2700 WHISPERWOOD TRL, ARLINGTON, TX 76016-6019 TARRANT (Aug 2000 - Aug 2020)
PO BOX 151305, ARLINGTON, TX 76015-7305 TARRANT (Oct 2000 - May 2020)
2600 ROOSEVELT DR, ARLINGTON, TX 76016-5809 TARRANT (Aug 1977 - Jun 2016)
2703 CASTELON CT, ARLINGTON, TX 76016-5950 TARRANT (Jul 1993 - Dec 2009)
61 TURTLE HILL TRL, MANSFIELD, TX 76063-1549 TARRANT (Feb 2007 - Feb 2007)
2201 MADRID CT, ARLINGTON, TX 76013-5817 TARRANT (Jul 1999 - May 2004)
904 GREENWAY GLEN DR, ARLINGTON, TX 76012-6521 TARRANT (Apr 1998 - Jan 2003)
PO BOX 173081, ARLINGTON, TX 76003-3081 TARRANT (Jan 1998 - Jan 2003)
2406 VASSAR CT, ARLINGTON, TX 76015-3200 TARRANT (May 1987 - Jan 2003)
2204 MADRID CT, ARLINGTON, TX 76013-5830 TARRANT (Mar 1985 - Jan 2003)
5306 TRAIL LAKE DR, FORT WORTH, TX 76133-1931 TARRANT (Jul 1999 - Jul 1999)

Social Media

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/bill.e.waybourn>
Facebook Campaign - <https://www.facebook.com/Sheriff-Bill-Waybourn-1611262829118841/>
Twitter - <https://twitter.com/BillWaybourn>
LinkedIn - <https://www.linkedin.com/in/bill-waybourn-79bab925>
Instagram - N/A
Campaign Site - <https://www.billwaybourn.com/>
Business Site - <https://www.tarrantcounty.com/en/sheriff/>

Background Check

Criminal Background Check

A search of federal, state and county databases did not reveal any criminal cases or actions against **Bill Waybourn**.

Civil Background Check

A search of federal, state and county databases did not reveal any civil cases or actions such as liens, bankruptcies, evictions, foreclosures, and judgments against **Bill Waybourn**.



Biography

(According to <https://www.billwaybourn.com/meet-bill>)

Early Years

Bill was born just across the border of Texas in a small town called Jal, New Mexico. He grew up cowboying and working ranches during the summer.

Bill started his career of service in 1978 when he joined the United States Air Force. After serving his active duty, he moved into the active reserves and began focusing on law enforcement.

Law Enforcement

As a Texas Police Officer, Bill demonstrated exceptional leadership and unwavering integrity. Because of these traits, Bill was appointed Chief of Public Safety at the age of 24 - Making him the youngest Chief in the State of Texas. He held that position for 30 years before running for and becoming Sheriff of Tarrant County.

SHERIFF

Bill was elected Sheriff of Tarrant County and took office on January 1, 2017. As Sheriff he stated his vision was to make the Tarrant County SO the best Sheriff's Office in the country. He wanted to empower the noble people that were working at the Sheriff's Office to be the line between good and evil. Sheriff Waybourn created new divisions to fill the gaps in the agency. Bill created the Human Trafficking Division and the Intelligence Division. Both of these units have been paramount in protecting the residents of Tarrant County and have worked tirelessly to save lives here in Tarrant County, throughout the State of Texas, and across the country! These and many other divisions are now leading the way for national programs to stem the tide of evil before it destroys more people.

Bill has built relationships with local, state, and national agencies. Giving our Deputies and Chiefs the ability to work side by side with law enforcement from across the nation. Some of them are; The Federal Bureau of Investigations, the United States Secret Service, the Department of Homeland Security, the Texas Rangers, and many other law enforcement agencies.

Another priority that Bill worked to expand is re-entry services. He increased the programs for inmates inside the facility as well as created opportunities for inmates outside the jail to help them re-enter society. All with the goal of lowering the recidivism rates in Tarrant County. He has worked to build relationships throughout the community, with local pastors and community leaders, and was proud to create the first annual Christmas for Children of the Incarcerated in 2019. That program provided Christmas presents for over 800 children who either had parents incarcerated, or who were recently released. Bill has worked every day in office to bridge the gap between law enforcement and the community while never losing sight of the mission to stand between evil and good.

PERSONAL LIFE

Bill is married to his wonderful wife Laura and has 10 children. 2 biological and 8 adopted. He has been a coach, a scout leader, a leader in church and at various non-profits. Bill and Laura are advocated for adoption and protecting children.

EDUCATION



Bill is a graduate of the Texas A&M Police Academy and holds a Masters Police Certificate, has a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice, a Masters Degree in Conflict Management*, a graduate of the FBI National Academy, and over 4,700 hours of police training above and beyond the formal training already mentioned. Bill has taught at College and Police Institutes covering; criminal justice, firearms, self defense, and criminal procedure. He has been an expert witness in criminal trials.

*Bill's Masters degree is a seminary degree not accredited in Texas

--

<https://www.tarrantcounty.com/en/sheriff/sheriff-s-administration/sheriff-s-biography.html>

Bill began his career in service when he joined the U.S. Air Force in 1978, serving in both the active duty and reserves. On April 30, 1981, after serving active duty, Bill began working for Dalworthington Gardens Police Department. Bill was promoted to Chief of Police on June 1, 1984 making him the youngest police chief in the state of Texas. Later, he transitioned the city through combining the police and fire services making him the Chief of Public Safety.

In his 31 years as Chief of Dalworthington Gardens, he has testified on numerous cases as an expert witness, pioneered the Texas model for DWI "No Refusal" program – which is now being used as the model for several surrounding states, and testified before the state legislature on a diverse array of issues relating to the Second Amendment and civilians carrying firearms. He worked with state legislatures on Texas' original concealed handgun license laws in the 1990s, as well as the most recent open carry law that passed in 2015.

Also, he was extremely honored to help the Chris Kyle Bill become law in Texas – a bill that streamlines the process for military service men and women to become police officers.

He has a bachelor's degree in criminal justice, and a master's degree in conflict resolution. Bill is a graduate of the FBI National Academy, the Texas A&M Police Academy, and is a black belt in Tae Kwon Do. He currently teaches college and police instructor classes ranging from criminal justice and criminal procedure to firearms safety and self-defense.

Bill is the current President of Peace Officer's Angels Foundation, and feels strongly about protecting the fatherless. He is married to Laura and they have ten children, eight of which have been adopted.



Personal Voting History

According to current Tarrant County voter records, **Bill Waybourn** is registered to vote at 2700 Whisperwood Trl, Arlington, TX 76016. **Bill Waybourn** has been registered to vote in Tarrant County since 11/10/1988 and is affiliated with the Republican Party:

Registrant Information

Name: Bill Waybourn
Residential Address: 2700 Whisperwood Trl Arlington, TX 76016
Date of Birth: 07/30/1959
Gender: M
Race: C

Voter Information

State Voter ID: 11437896
County Voter ID: 1052275667
Voter Status: Registered Active
Registration Date: 11/10/1988
Party Affiliation: Republican
County: Tarrant
State House District: 94
State Senate District: 10
U.S. House District: 6
County Commissioner: 2
Justice of the Peace/Constable: 7
Water District: N/A
County College District: N/A
State Board of Education: 11
City Council: N/A
City: Arlington
ISD: Aledo ISD, Arlington ISD, Azle ISD, Birdville ISD, Burleson ISD, Carroll ISD, Castleberry ISD, Crowley ISD, Eagle Mountain Saginaw ISD, Everman ISD, Fort Worth ISD, Godley ISD, Grapevine-Colleyville ISD, Hurst-Euless-Bedford ISD, Keller ISD, Kennedale ISD, Lake Worth ISD

▼ Voting History

	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006
General		E	E	P	E	P	E		E		E	P	E		Y
Primary	P-R		E-R		E-R		E-R		P-R		P-R		E-R		Y-R
May Election						E		P		P	Y	P	E	Y	
May Runoff													E		
Municipal						E									
Nov Election		E						P		Y		Y		Y	
Nov Runoff															
Primary Runoff			E-R		E-R		P-R		P-R		E-R				
Spec Runoff															
Special															



Professional Contributions

Business Records, Publications, Licenses, etc.

According to an initial search of online business registrations and listings, **Bill Waybourn** is affiliated with the following businesses and/or organizations:

Name	Location	Affiliated Name	Affiliated Role
<u>Bill E Waybourn</u>	Arlington, TX	<u>Covenant Ministries, Inc.</u>	Treasurer

Professional Certifications

- Master Police Officer (1997)
- Firearms Instructor (1985)
- Police Instructor (1987)

Court Cases

A search of county¹ and federal² court databases revealed the following cases associated with 'Bill Waybourn.'

Party Name	Case Number	Case Title	Court	Date Filed	Date Closed
Waybourn, Bill E (dft)	4:2017cv00678	Lutz v. Waybourn et al	Texas Northern District Court	08/16/2017	08/30/2017
Waybourn, Bill (dft)	4:2017cv00720	Blount v. City of Dalworthington	Texas Northern District Court	09/01/2017	12/28/2017
Waybourn, Bill E (dft)	4:2017cv00749	Butler v. Waybourn et al	Texas Northern District Court	09/14/2017	10/10/2017
Waybourn, Bill (dft)	4:2017cv00870	Brantley et al v. Tarrant County Sheriff Department et al	Texas Northern District Court	10/26/2017	12/19/2017
Waybourn, Bill (dft)	4:2017cv00915	Agnew v. Tarrant County Sheriff Department et al	Texas Northern District Court	11/14/2017	01/04/2018

¹ <https://odyssey.tarrantcounty.com/PublicAccess/default.aspx>

² <https://pcl.uscourts.gov/>



Waybourn, Bill (dft)	4:1999cv00387	Baldrige, et al v. Waybourn, et al	Texas Northern District Court	05/19/1999	01/11/2001
Waybourn, Bill (dft)	4:2018cv00287	Fry v. Waybourn et al	Texas Northern District Court	04/16/2018	01/30/2019
Waybourn, Bill (dft)	4:2017cv00930	Agnew v. Tarrant County Sheriff Department et al	Texas Northern District Court	10/26/2017	12/15/2017
Waybourn, Bill (dft)	4:2017cv00931	Fillmore v. Tarrant County Sheriff Department et al	Texas Northern District Court	10/26/2017	12/19/2017
Waybourn, Bill (dft)	4:2018cv00303	Fry v. Waybourn et al	Texas Northern District Court	04/20/2018	01/30/2019
Waybourn, Bill (dft)	4:2018cv00307	Schexnyder v. Waybourn et al	Texas Northern District Court	04/23/2018	05/06/2019
Waybourn, Bill (dft)	4:2018cv00118	McCabe v. Waybourn et al	Texas Northern District Court	02/12/2018	06/18/2018
Waybourn, Bill (dft)	4:2018cv00161	Kennedy v. Waybourn et al	Texas Northern District Court	02/26/2018	03/20/2018
Waybourn, Bill (dft)	4:2018cv00183	Dears v. Waybourn et al	Texas Northern District Court	03/05/2018	04/12/2018
Waybourn, Bill (dft)	4:2018cv00185	Fry v. Waybourn	Texas Northern District Court	03/07/2018	04/30/2018
Waybourn, Bill (dft)	4:2018cv00227	Fry v. Waybourn et al	Texas Northern District Court	03/23/2018	03/29/2018
Waybourn, Bill (dft)	4:2018cv00272	Gray v. Waybourn et al	Texas Northern	04/09/2018	09/24/2018



			District Court		
Waybourn, Bill (dft)	4:2018cv00322	Fry v. Waybourn	Texas Northern District Court	04/27/2018	06/13/2018
Waybourn, Bill (dft)	4:2017cv01014	Blount v. Dalworthington Gardens TX City of et al	Texas Northern District Court	09/01/2017	06/07/2018
Waybourn, Bill (dft)	4:2018cv00341	Lutz v. Waybourn et al	Texas Northern District Court	05/07/2018	01/08/2020
Waybourn, Bill (dft)	4:2018cv00401	Fry v. Waybourn	Texas Northern District Court	05/29/2018	01/30/2019
Waybourn, Bill (dft)	4:2018cv00962	Brantley v. Waybourn	Texas Northern District Court	12/03/2018	06/04/2019
Waybourn, Bill (dft)	4:2019cv00391	Estrada v. Waybourn	Texas Northern District Court	05/13/2019	01/23/2020
Waybourn, Bill (dft)	4:2019cv00399	King v. Waybourn	Texas Northern District Court	05/15/2019	12/05/2019
Waybourn, Bill E (dft)	3:2019cv01903	Kuyateh v. Wilder et al	Texas Northern District Court	08/09/2019	09/16/2019
Waybourn, Bill E (dft)	4:2019cv00730	Ledger v. Waybourn et al	Texas Northern District Court	09/12/2019	09/24/2019
Waybourn, Bill E (dft)	4:2019cv00728	Little v. Waybourn et al	Texas Northern District Court	09/12/2019	10/25/2019
Waybourn, Bill E (dft)	4:2019cv00739	Kuyateh v. Wilder et al	Texas Northern District Court	08/09/2019	10/30/2019



Waybourn, Bill E (dft)	4:2019cv00770	Ledger v. Waybourn	Texas Northern District Court	09/25/2019	12/05/2019
Waybourn, Bill (dft)	4:2020cv00313	Witherspoon v. Waybourn et al	Texas Northern District Court	04/06/2020	
Waybourn, Bill (dft)	4:2020cv00337	Laborde v. Waybourn et al	Texas Northern District Court	04/13/2020	06/05/2020
Waybourn, Bill (dft)	4:2020cv00636	Jones v. Waybourn et al	Texas Northern District Court	06/18/2020	
Waybourn, Bill (dft)	4:2020cv00706	Diggs v. Waybourn et al	Texas Northern District Court	07/09/2020	
Waybourn, Bill E. (dft)	1:2019cv00395	Reger v. Keller et al	Texas Western District Court	04/08/2019	02/26/2020
Waybourne, Bill (dft)	4:2017cv00965	Douthitt v. Waybourne et al	Texas Northern District Court	12/04/2017	02/04/2019
Waybourne, Bill (dft)	4:2018cv00397	Vasquez et al v. Waybourne et al	Texas Northern District Court	05/29/2018	05/31/2018

Ardent Supporter and Defender of Donald Trump

Waybourn has shown his support for Donald Trump through interviews, social media posts, and his attendance at Trump-affiliated rallies.

Interviewer: President Trump, how do you think he's doing?

Waybourn: I think right now he is doing well. I think he is more popular than he's ever been, he's riding a great economy obviously, and the thing that's interesting to me is the Hispanic popularity is up in the 40's, African-American popularity is up in the 30's, and at his rallies, I'm told, 26 percent of the people there cheering him on are Democrats. So I think right now he's at the highest wave he's ever been on. I think he's doing well.

Interviewer: Are you going to support him for reelection?

Waybourn: Yes, ma'am. I sure will.

...

Interviewer: Do you think the impeachment effort against President Trump and his acquittal will change the minds of Texans as well? As you were saying that, I mean, the president has been through a lot. We saw the Russia collusion hoax. There was no assigns. Mueller found that there was no collusion with the Russians whatsoever. Then the impeachment, he was acquitted. A lot of people and polling suggested a lot of Americans just didn't like it. It was a waste of time. We already knew. That, uh, you know, President Trump, there was no quid pro quo because they had released the transcript. So it was like right in front of your face. And the Democrats played a lot of dirty tricks in the House, uh, by not giving all the testimony and everything and the evidence that they needed to give to the Senate. It wasn't the Senate's job to find all of that. So I think that might change some minds.

Waybourn: I think it will absolutely change the minds. And I think what the Democrats did and their work is handed Donald Trump a possibly landslide victory in November. I think he'll carry more States than he did in 16. And I, cause I think the American people saw through some of this stuff and, but you know, on the Russian hoax, if I may talk about what Russia and China is up to, I don't think when people talk about the meddling in our elections, they're they don't care who's president. Their goal is to divide us. And, uh, to keep us divisive. That's, that's their goal. So, uh, you know, so that, I don't think that they've got one candidate or another. It's to keep us divided.

Interviewer: Well, and it's kind of interesting that you mentioned all that, because if you think about it, Russia was running amock under the Obama administration. President Trump's administration has been very tough on Russia--

Waybourn: Very tough

Interviewer: -- when it comes to the sanctions and just everything in general. And president Trump is so unpredictable that I think that the Russians wouldn't even want him in office. If you actually really think about it.

And Sheriff, you mentioned that you are very pro-second amendment, and there's a lot of conversation about what's going on in Virginia. There's an effort there to ban AK 47 and AR 15s. The media and the left like to call them assault weapons, but that's a made up term to scare people. So a lot of people in Virginia enjoy their second amendment rights and they like to have guns. So, I mean, this is not something that's happening in Texas, but this is something that you've been following.

Waybourn: It is. And, uh, what I want the people in Virginia to know your Texas neighbors stand with you to help you keep your second amendment rights and what the governor is doing there and the legislature with you know, a particular candidate for president has bought them is, is that they have done that feel good things, Oh, we're going to stop mass shootings. We're going to do this. Well, at the end of the day, this is, this should be about people, not animated objects, and crime is not going to go down in Virginia and they're not going to see relief on that front, but they are going to see people's rights taken away that normally should be doing it.

I always tell people if you really want to stop death, then let's put governors on vehicles that they only go 40 miles an hour. We will, we will stop a lot of deaths. Cause we have 30,000 people that go die on our roads every year, and there's less than 10,000 people that are murdered. So if you want to save, that's a big lot to save and we can do that, but I don't think people would put up with that for a minute either.

Interviewer: Well, the other side's argument is like, what do you need quote assault weapons for? So how do you react and respond to that?

Waybourn: Well, and I would say to them, why do they need a Corvette? You know, that goes 180 miles an hour. It is the American dream that the government doesn't control me. I am a free person who has not violated in any laws, and I should be able to have what normally citizens would have. I'm not an advocate that we have, you know, cannons out in the yard, but, but I think that some places that'd be great. Uh, but, but to have an AR 15 or a, uh, a big magazine. That's just not something that people, the government should be meddling in.

Interviewer: I also just see it as a, um, you know, slippery slope chipping away at the second amendment. Cause then they do that and then they keep going and keep going and keep going until you have nothing left is how I see it.

I wanted to talk to you about morale among law enforcement. Again, a lot on the left, seem to criticize the, the work that police officers do and, um, the Sheriff's department as well.

I mean, you've been written off as like, you know, racist and this and that, and going after minorities and, you know, it's just like a constant like attack on our law enforcement officers. And we only hear the bad stories. We never hear the good. We hear it once in a while, but the, the good things that are happening all day long in our communities, thanks to law enforcement.

Waybourn: You're absolutely correct. You know, just last month I, in my department, I awarded three medal of valors to officers risking their lives to save good citizens and several



life saving awards. And you know, you get, you have those type of meritorious events, and nobody ever records those, or puts those on TV. And you do have an occasional officer who fouls up, who, who steps across the boundaries and we need to hold them accountable, but the attacks do continue.

And it's all that they, they, they paint and I just on the racist issue, I think they've worn out the term. I don't think anybody takes that serious anymore. And it's so disappointing because if it really was alive someplace, nobody's going to buy it because I think they've just worn out the term, but they've caused divisiveness and police morale is down in certain parts of the country and they feel like they cannot be law enforcement officers and their hands have been tied. Uh, but I think that, uh, right now, uh, I want to say this about American law enforcement. It's the, they're are noble people. They are brave people. I've seen them step in harm's way, time after time, after time without hesitation and save lives. You know, the two got two of the guys that we decorated just last month, they ran into a fully-burning building. The staircase was on fire. They both went upstairs, kicked in a door where somebody was thought they were hiding and being safe and got them out of a burning building. I mean, that thing could have collapsed on them in any, you know, any second. They did it without hesitation. They didn't think about it. They just did it. And I believe that's the spirit of most law enforcement in this country.

Interviewer: Absolutely, I wanted to touch on a couple of things, especially if you call everything racist and nothing's racist and then actually hurts people who are the victims of racism—

Waybourn: Absolutely

Interviewer: -- number two, you're right. It's just, I mean, there's so many acts of kindness and, uh, everything happening in our communities and we don't really hear like the story that you're telling me right now. I never even heard that story. And so, um, I know I noticed this during the Obama administration, there was an attack on law enforcement—

Waybourn: There was

Interviewer: -- even from our president at the time. And President Trump seems to give credit where credit's due, when it comes to law enforcement. How do you think he treats law enforcement? And does that boost morale among—

Waybourn: Across party lines, because there are sheriffs that are, that are Democrats and we that are Republican and every one of them tell me the same thing that have got to deal with Donald Trump. He's gracious. He's good. He's he, he helps them. He, he is just incredibly kind to them.

And I've heard that from hundreds of law enforcement officers that have interacted with him. He comes to police week. He stands with those widows. He stands with the victims that, that have been hurt. He's done all that. I've witnessed that firsthand. So he is a strong pro law enforcement president. And, uh, he's very kind and generous and and respectful of what they do. He seems very appreciative.

Interviewer: Have you met the precedent?



Waybourn: I haven't met him. I've seen him distance, but I've not met him, but I've seen, uh, I've got many friends in my business that have met him. In fact, I have a very good friend that's a Democratic sheriff who got it he wanted his picture taken with him, but he said, I'm afraid to hang it because he's at a Democratic precinct.

But, uh, uh, is, uh, he's been good to the cops. He's really been good to—

Interviewer: If you had a message for the president, if he was watching, what would you tell him?

Waybourn: I would say Mr. President, thank you for that support. Thank you for what you're doing on the border. And thank you for, uh, unleashing Bill Barr on the criminal justice system, because he is working vigorously for you through his U.S. attorneys to help us at a local level.

And thank you for that. Thank you for that empowerment.

Source: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AK5gf8X2txk&feature=emb_logo

In other interviews, he went further in his defense of Donald Trump, calling Democrats “snakes.”

Interviewer: Joining me now to discuss the ramifications of this impeachment trial, Sheriff Bill Waybourn from Tarrant County, Texas, sheriff. I really appreciate you coming on. So we are now at the end of this impeachment process, and we're starting to see a little bit more about the big picture, really what the American people have been thinking about this entire time. In the past, polls, you know, like whatever something's happening in the news, those people are usually talking about polls that have been conducted two weeks prior, something like that. So here we are wrapping it all up. What has been your take so far on this impeachment saga?

Waybourn: Well, I think it's, of course it's been a sham of a, of an impeachment, quite frankly. There was never a law broken. This is policy, that foreign policy that the president has absolutely the authority to conduct. And I believe that the Democrats have been, if you will, they have been flushed out.

And a lot of things that have been a secret, now we know and the people are seeing. And I think that good American people are saying it is a sham. And I think that they're also seeing the policies of Donald Trump. And I think his popularity is going up.

Interviewer: It's kind of been a running joke actually in conservative circles for a while that while Democrats had been focused so much on this impeachment process, whether it be in the House or now in the Senate, Senator the Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell has kind of been ramming through these judicial appointees. He's been kind of going through with his process. I remember during the impeachment inquiry, when they were having those big televised events in the lower chamber, Mitch McConnell was pushing through district judge after district judge, which is his lasting legacy as well as President Trump's actually.

So you're someone who deals with just probably on a regular basis. You are a man of the law. How big of an impact does this make on the country?



Waybourn: Well, you said it best while ago is that this is going to be the biggest legacy of, of President Trump and Mitch McConnell is. They have done an incredible job of getting these federal judges to the bench and they are going to make a difference for decades to come.

And, you know, we've got the ninth court out there in California that hopefully they will have an opportunity to reappoint. And we're going to see the appeals court and we're going to see pro gun. We're going to see pro life judges and, uh, uh, pro law enforcement people that, uh, will hopefully stabilize this country against the radicals.

Interviewer: And to that point too. I mean, you bring up the non-circuit courts, that's one that's been historically kind of a nationwide injunction type courts. If you don't like necessarily that a conservative president is doing, you take it to the ninth circuit, the ninth circuit usually kind of shuts it down and then you have to wait until it's either revisited, taken up by the Supreme Court, deemed to be moved, whatever it may be. It does get paused right there.

So now Democrats are kind of looking at this idea of kind of trying to pad the courts because the Ninth Circuit, by the way, it's very close to being flipped. It's just a couple of judges away. I mean, nobody thought that we would be saying that just a couple of years ago. It's a historically liberal court, but now here we see a lot of Democrat presidential hopefuls, 2020 candidates talking about the idea of court stacking. What's your response to that?

Waybourn: Well, I, I gotta tell you that's exactly why we need to reelect Donald Trump because this court stacking business is nothing more than the Democrats trying to make a play for their liberal agenda to say, "Hey, if we can't beat them in a traditional sense, we're going to go around that."

So I think that the American people need to be wary of that and they need to watch that because these people are snakes in the grass on some of this stuff.

Interviewer: And, you know, when it comes to the idea too, a lot of people don't like to talk about the political leanings of a judge. They kind of say that that's off terms, that's off limits and I'm not making the point either that for example, Democratic judge, can't be a phenomenal judge, the same way that a conservative judge can't be a phenomenal judge. For the most part, I really do think that judges strive to be objective, just good at their job. I think that's what comes first for them. But to ignore a political leaning or bias is ignorant. I mean, you and I can sit here and we can talk about a can of Coke right here and we would both explain it a little bit differently because we're two very different people, despite it being a very similar object. Does this something that you think plays into everyday life, or do you think that this is something that we should try to ignore? Kind of look past political leanings?

Waybourn: It would in a perfect world, it'd be great to look past that. Unfortunately, these judges have records and you can see where their leaning is and it's like Roe V. Wade. Find that the constitution. Find that in the constitution. If these people are not strict constitutionalists, uh, regardless of their leanings, then you know, uh, we're going to get radical left, uh, wing agendas fulfilled.

Interviewer: Yeah. And, you know, I guess after the Iowa caucus, we're kind of getting a better idea of really who the president will be facing off about that.



But a lot of the democratic candidates have said that the idea of court stacking and reforming the courts is something that they're looking to do if they were to win office in 2020. But Sheriff, once again, thank you very much for joining us tonight. Thank you.

Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c-Bakt5kvVA>



Bill Waybourn
@BillWaybourn

Bloomberg says the military is better prepared today than a long time... hummm [@realDonaldTrump](#)

10:39 PM · Feb 25, 2020 · Twitter for iPhone



Beth Van Duyne @Bethvandyne · Jan 22
US House candidate, TX-24

If a lawyer showed up on the day of the trial and asked the judge to wait because they need to issue more subpoenas, find more facts, and invent new evidence they would be laughed out of the courtroom and sent home.

10

26

67



Bill Waybourn @BillWaybourn · Jan 23

Especially if it is the State! They must be ready day 1! Speedy trial, due process, discovery all done day 1! They missed the mark...

Bill Waybourn Retweeted



BlazeTV @BlazeTV · Jun 11, 2019

Sheriff [@BillWaybourn](#) examines the tactics used by [@realDonaldTrump](#) to jumpstart negotiations with Mexico and clamp down on illegal immigration. He says the potential deal could be a "game-changer."

Full episode: [youtube.com/watch?time_con...](https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_con...)



Bill Waybourn Retweeted



Bill Zedler
@Bill_Zedler

Trump has had 400 + business accomplishments-
Hillary Clinton has had zero

10:25 PM · Oct 9, 2016 · [Twitter SMS](#)



Sheriff Bill Waybourn

July 14, 2019 · 🌐

I look forward to appearing on Fox & Friends tomorrow where we will discuss the #ImmigrationCrisis #SanctuaryCities and the responsibility Sheriff's across the country have when it comes to supporting ICE and deporting criminal aliens #SecureTheBorder #MAGA #SupportICE

Bill Waybourn Retweeted



Ricky Rebel
@RickyRebelRocks

it's going to be great to see Sheriff @BillWaybourn , @AllenWest and @WatchChad Looking forward to this event! #tcot#tcot working to #KeepTexasRed" #MAGA #KAG2020Landslide #GOP #RNC come on my rebels buy your tickets and retweet !

SUNDAY, AUGUST 11TH
5:00 - 8:00 PM
MOPAC Event Center - 1815 Rogers Rd.
Fort Worth, TX 76107

BILL WAYBOURN
CONSERVATIVE FOR SHEPHERD

Come join us for a FUNDRAISER for Sheriff Bill Waybourn

Host Chad Prather, Special Guests:
Sonny & Jolie Burgess, Lt Col (Ret) Allen B. West,
Former ICE Director Tom Homan and more!

Tickets \$100.00 ★ VIP tickets \$150.00
VIP access will be from 5 pm - 6 pm

Purchase your tickets at
www.billwaybourn.com

★ Complimentary beer, wine and hors d'oeuvres

Email: sherri@billwaybourn.com or call Sherri Aaron @817-793-1146

HOST LEVELS:

★ CHAIR	\$5,000
★ GOLD	\$2,500
★ SILVER	\$1,000

FEATURING SOME SURPRISE GUESTS YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS

Lt Col (Ret) Allen B. West

1:42 PM · Jul 31, 2019 · [Twitter for iPhone](#)



Bill Waybourn Retweeted



Matt Lewis ✓
@mattklewis

If you're a wavering Republican, Hillary's Supreme Court answer just made a good argument for voting Trump.
[#debate](#)

10:26 PM · Oct 9, 2016 · [Twitter Web Client](#)



Sheriff Bill Waybourn

July 29 · 🌐

I would like to thank all the patriots who joined me last Saturday in our "March for America". It was truly inspiring seeing hundreds of citizens proudly standing up for the rule of law, the law enforcement community and our God given rights.

As I stated during my speech, what separates this country from the rest of the world is two fold. First, I believe the divine hand of God blessed this nation. Second, the wisdom of our founding fathers had them build this nation on the bedrock of the rule of law not the capricious rule of men.

For us to continue to be a successful and moral country, we must recommit ourselves to God and the rule of law! God bless you all and may God bless America! [#MarchForAmerica](#) [#TarrantCounty](#) [#BackTheBlue](#) [#LawAndOrder](#)

Also, thanks to my friend, Rick Irving, for all the photos of the march.





Called Incarcerated Immigrants “Drunks Who Will Run Over Your Children”

In October of 2019, while visiting the White House, Waybourn argued against releasing some undocumented immigrants from jails, stating “If we have to turn them loose or they get released, they're coming back to your neighborhood and my neighborhood. These drunks will run over your children and they will run over my children.”

A Texas sheriff spoke at a [Thursday morning White House press briefing](#) with Immigration and Customs Enforcement Director Matt Albence and said that if law enforcement were forced to release undocumented immigrants with criminal convictions from jails, it would put the public at risk.

Tarrant County Sheriff Bill E. Waybourn said about 7% of the 4,200 inmates in his county jail are undocumented immigrants convicted of crimes including murder, sexual assault of a child and driving while intoxicated — and 72% are repeat offenders. He then made reference to a federal court ruling by a California judge — he didn't specify which judge or what the ruling did — and said, "If we return them with this radical ruling out of California where you have a federal judge making law for the nation, or attempting to, it will put our communities in jeopardy."

"If we have to turn them loose or they get released, they're coming back to your neighborhood and my neighborhood," he said. "These drunks will run over your children and they will run over my children."

Waybourn said he knows many undocumented immigrants cross Texas' southern border looking for "a better day and something better for their family," but "the problem is, the very people they were fleeing, who preyed upon them, came with them.

"That's who we're trying to initially eliminate out of our country," Waybourn said.

The sheriff also defended Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents, comparing public criticism of ICE to how soldiers returning from Vietnam were treated.

"[They are] eviscerating honorable people [who are] doing noble things and standing on the wall between good and evil for you and me," he said.

Immigration agents don't write the policies they enforce, Waybourn said. If people want change, he said, "Capitol Hill is down the street."

Source: <https://www.texastribune.org/2019/10/10/texas-tarrant-county-sheriff-bill-waybourn-speaks-white-house/>

He defended his claims in later interviews, sympathizing with what he alleged Trump goes through more frequently.

Interviewer: How bad did it hurt you when that whole thing came down a couple or three weeks ago? Did it bother you at all, or did you just want to shout from the rooftops "you guys don't even know who I am."

Waybourn: Well I'll tell you, in law enforcement over the years, I've gotten fairly thick skin, and so these people don't know me so I didn't take it real personal and I hated it for my family, I hated it for the kids, those kind of things, but I thought, actually quite frankly, thought of President Trump at the time and he's been saying this and nobody's paying attention and I got a very micro, micro, micro, microcosm of what's been happening to him, and so I thought you know, maybe good-willing the truth come out a little bit and I appreciate you giving me that opportunity today.

Source: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1q_zq2vVKp8



Close Allies With Trump Accolytes, Hard-Right Figures

Bill Waybourn has demonstrated his alignment with far-right Trump allies through social media posts.

Waybourn is very close with former congressman and current Texas GOP Chairman Allen West. Waybourn has called West a “friend,” a “good patriot,” and a “true American hero,” endorsing West’s 2020 campaign for Texas GOP Chair.

Allen West is a tea-party firebrand who was discharged from the U.S. Army in 2003 for torturing a detainee in Iraq, firing a weapon near the person’s head in order to obtain information.³ West is an ardent defender of Donald Trump, and when West won the election to become Texas GOP Chair, Trump applauded the result.⁴ West has even downplayed the COVID-19 virus, stating that “only” 2 percent of active COVID-19 cases are hospitalized, and “why are we allowing the media and leftists to fear monger and drive us into an economic depression to advance their political agenda?”⁵



The image shows a screenshot of a Facebook post. At the top, the profile of Sheriff Bill Waybourn is visible, dated September 6, 2019. The post text reads: "I am so proud to support my friend Lt. Col. West! Support his campaign if you can! #KeepTexasRed #TarrantCounty". Below the text is a large blue graphic with white text that says: "Allen has those great leadership qualities that will weather the upcoming battles in Texas. We need that kind of leadership." The graphic features a photo of Sheriff Bill Waybourn and Allen West. A red banner at the bottom of the graphic reads: "Sheriff Bill Waybourn ENDORSES ALLEN WEST FOR RPT CHAIR". Below the graphic is a Facebook post from West4Texas, dated September 5, 2019, with a "Like Page" button. The text of the West4Texas post says: "I cannot tell you how much it means to have Sheriff Bill Waybourn's support! Thank you, Sheriff Bill! Read the full text of the endorsement here: https://west4texas.com/endorsement/allen-stands-ready/ To add your own endorsement of my candidacy: https://west4texas.com/endorsements/endorse/ Truly humbled. Thank y'all!"

³ <https://www.cnn.com/2003/US/12/12/sprj.nirq.west.ruling/>

⁴ <https://www.texastribune.org/2020/07/20/allen-west-james-dickey-texas-gop-chairman/>

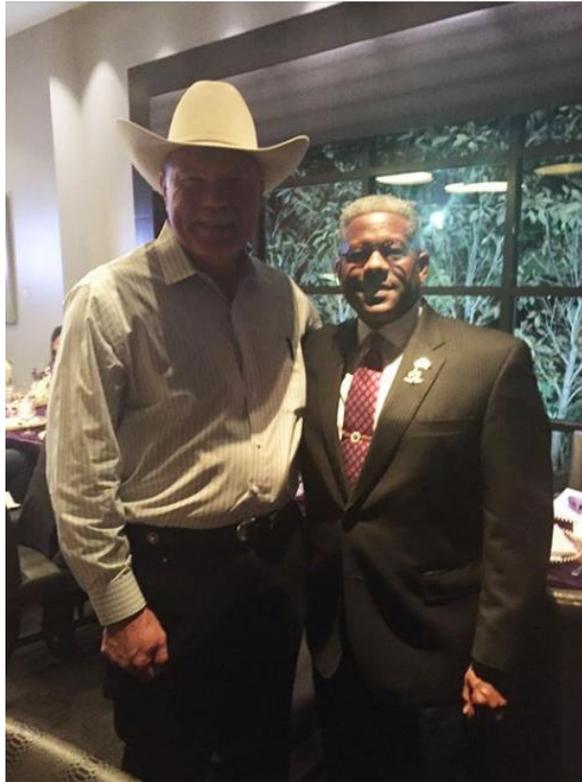
⁵ <https://twitter.com/BudKennedy/status/1294268009037602816>



Sheriff Bill Waybourn

April 28, 2016 · 🌐

I was honored have dinner with a good friend and true American Hero, Mr. Allen West!



Bill Waybourn

@BillWaybourn

With the great patriot @AllenWest at @ArmedForcesBowl today. #LMAFB



5:58 PM · Dec 29, 2015 · Twitter for iPhone



Bill Waybourn
@BillWaybourn

@AllenWest NE Tarrant County Tea Party event tonight
what a great patriot



12:26 AM · Apr 12, 2015 · Twitter for iPhone



Bill E Waybourn is with Laura Waybourn.

August 22, 2015 · 🌐

Great to be with our friend Col. Allen West at Andy Nyugen's fundraiser this evening.



In early 2020, Waybourn endorsed Chris Putnam in his primary challenge against Congresswoman Kay Granger. Putnam campaigned to the right of Granger, arguing the congresswoman wasn't loyal enough to Donald Trump.⁶



Waybourn has also supported Trump spokeswoman Candice Owens, calling her “an inspiration” and a “passionate young woman for the great cause of keeping America free!” Owens, an ardent supporter of Donald Trump, has said that African Americans had it better in the first 100 years after slavery was abolished than now,⁷ that abortion is a tool for the “extermination of black babies,”⁸ that climate change is a lie used to “extract dollars from Americans,”⁹ implied that George Floyd was a “disturbing criminal,”¹⁰ and countless other things. Donald Trump has said Owens is a “very smart thinker.”¹¹

Waybourn said her arguments are “spot on,” “as always.”

⁶ <https://www.texastribune.org/2019/11/11/us-rep-kay-granger-fort-worth-faces-fellow-republican-chris-putnam/>

⁷ <https://www.thedailybeast.com/candace-owens-blacks-did-better-in-the-first-100-years-after-slavery>

⁸ <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/youtube-tested-trump-approved-how-candace-owens-suddenly-became-loudest-n885166>

⁹ <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/youtube-tested-trump-approved-how-candace-owens-suddenly-became-loudest-n885166>

¹⁰ <https://www.chicagotribune.com/columns/dahleen-glanton/ct-george-floyd-funeral-candace-owens-20200609-ywgqvwfjnrherh6se3ber6fxmm-story.html>

¹¹ <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2018/may/09/trump-candace-owens-very-smart-thinker>



Bill E Waybourn is with Laura Waybourn.



June 8, 2019 · 🌐

Celebrating the recent nuptials of mutual friends, Laura and I were excited to meet conservative commentator Candace Owens. What an inspiration and what a passionate young woman for the great cause of keeping America free! (Laura would have been in this picture too, but she was eating cake and felt like Candace would understand.) It was so great to get to know her!



CSPAN @cspan · Sep 20, 2019
Candace Owens (@RealCandaceO) to @kathleen_belew: "The audacity of you to bring up the Christchurch shooting manifesto and make it seem as if I laughed at people that were slaughtered by a homicidal maniac is in my opinion absolutely despicable."

More: [cs.pn/30g3eHN](https://www.c-span.org/video/?cspn/30g3eHN)



5.3K 16.7K 36.9K

Bill Waybourn
@BillWaybourn

Replying to @cspan @RealCandaceO and @kathleen_belew

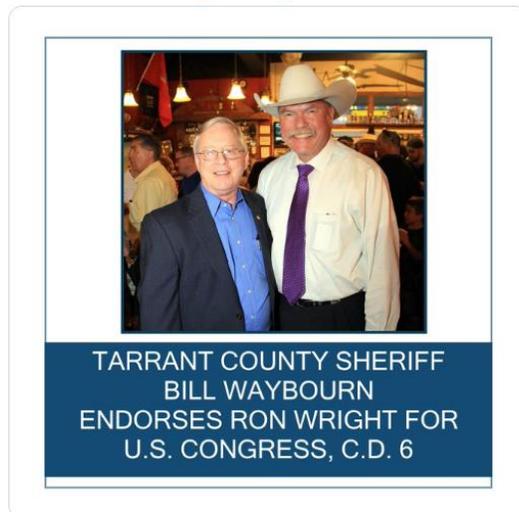
Spot on Candice! As always

9:36 PM · Sep 20, 2019 · Twitter for iPhone

Waybourn has supported Ron Wright’s congressional campaign. Wright is known for being one of the leading lawmakers who “stormed” a secure hearing room in Capitol Hill in protest of the president’s impeachment hearings.¹²

Bill Waybourn Retweeted
Ron Wright @ron4congress
US House candidate, TX-6

I am honored to have the endorsement of the most popular Sheriff in Texas, my friend @BillWaybourn!
[#backthebowtie](#) [#wright4congress](#)



2:04 PM · Feb 5, 2018 · Twitter Web Client

¹² <https://www.mcclatchydc.com/news/politics-government/congress/article236655913.html>

Waybourn has touted his relationship with former Congressman Pete Sessions, who was implicated in Trump's Ukraine scandal. According to reports, Sessions, as Chair of the House Rules Committee, sought the removal of a U.S. Ambassador who Trump felt was critical of him.¹³ Sessions accepted campaign contributions from the Ukrainian businessmen who orchestrated the ousting.



Bill Waybourn
@BillWaybourn

A great evening at AIPAC with congressman Sessions.
Always standing with Israel.



12:23 AM · Apr 27, 2015 · Twitter for iPhone

Waybourn is a frequent commentator on a Youtube show hosted by Dana Loesch, who was a former head spokesperson for the National Rifle Association. Loesch was cut from the organization when her show on NRA-TV criticized the decision by producers of the show Thomas & Friends, a children's program depicting characters as trains and vehicles, to diversify its cast and add more women and international characters. Loesch showed her dismay at the decision by portraying the trains and vehicle characters in Ku Klux Klan hoods.¹⁴

Waybourn has called Loesch his "friend" on multiple occasions. Loesch has called him her favorite law enforcement officer.¹⁵

¹³ <https://www.dallasnews.com/news/politics/2019/11/04/ousted-ambassador-to-ukraine-sees-pete-sessions-as-part-of-smear-campaign/>

¹⁴ <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/09/12/us/nra-tv-thomas-tank-engine.html>

¹⁵ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p--Motqpub8>



Bill Waybourn @BillWaybourn · May 6

Always a pleasure to join my friend @DLoesch to discuss how to open up Texas and how we can support small businesses!

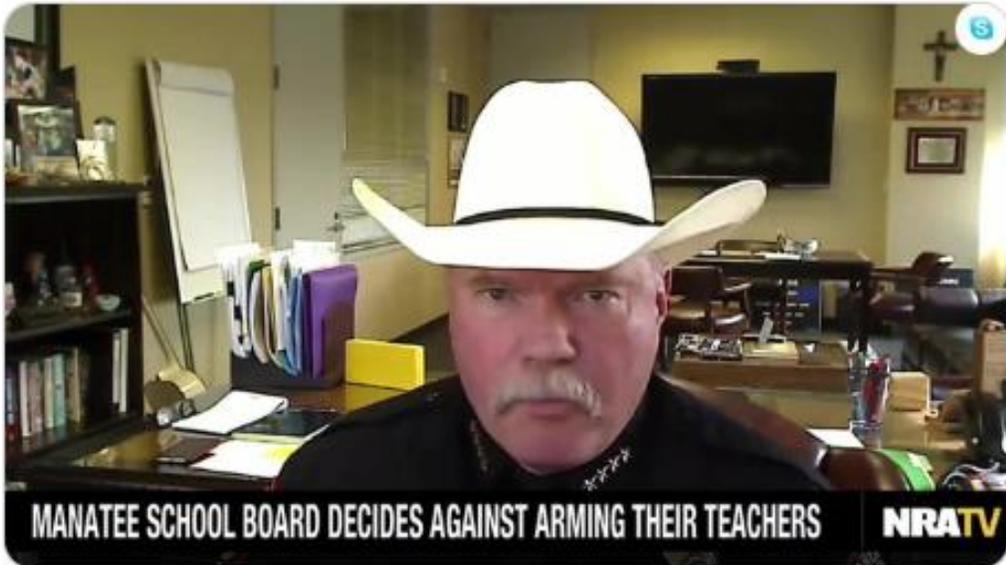


FREEDOM ARRESTED: Tarrant Co. Sheriff on recent ar...
Dana (@DLoesch) is joined by Tarrant County, TX
Sheriff, Bill Waybourn (@BillWaybourn) on the recent...
[youtube.com](#)



Bill Waybourn @BillWaybourn · May 1, 2019

It was a pleasure to join @DLoesch on @NRATV where we discussed how arming teachers would protect students and fortify schools #gunrights #safetyfirst #secondamendment [ow.ly/k2eD50tzBB2](#)



Bill Waybourn Retweeted



Konni Burton
@KonniBurton

Great stuff here as @DLoesch talks w/ Tarrant County Sheriff @BillWaybourn regarding their response to the #Coronavirus.



The First @TheFirstonTV · Mar 16

.@DLoesch is joined by Sheriff @BillWaybourn to discuss the public safety and how the #coronavirus could impact the Second Amendment.

"If we keep our eyes on the prize, we will do just fine." - Sheriff Waybourn



8:28 PM · Mar 16, 2020 · Twitter Web App



Bill Waybourn @BillWaybourn · Mar 16

I will be joining my friend @DLoesch at 2:35pmCT today to discuss the #CoronaVirus. Everyone please engage in #socialdistancing! Only by being responsible citizens can we protect our countrymen and family members! Let's #FlattenTheCurve



Bill Waybourn Retweeted
Dana Loesch @DLoesch · Sep 7, 2018
You spied on their reporters, seized phone records and personal emails and declared James Rosen an enemy of the state. Holder himself signed the secret search warrant application.

NBC News @NBCNews · Sep 7, 2018
Former President Obama: "I complained plenty about Fox News, but you never heard me threaten to shut them down, or call them 'enemies of the people.'"
[Show this thread](#)



Waybourn has shown his support for Congressman Louie Gohmert, sharing content labeled as "GREAT STUFF" that argued the Democratic party be banned because of "historical ties to slavery." Gohmert is infamous for being one of the most far-right figures in the U.S. House. He is known for walking throughout the Capitol without a mask and encouraging his staff not to wear masks. Gohmert later contracted the coronavirus.¹⁶ Gohmert is the same congressman who reported terrorist cells were having women get pregnant on American soil so "one day, 20, 30 years down the road," the "terror babies" will be used to "destroy our way of life."¹⁷ Gohmert has also argued in favor of oil pipelines because he worried caribou use the pipelines to "wine and dine" each other and cutting the pipelines off might adversely affect the caribou populations.¹⁸

¹⁶ <https://thehill.com/homenews/house/511538-watchdog-calls-for-probe-into-gohmert-disregarding-public-health-guidance-on>

¹⁷ <https://www.texastribune.org/2010/06/28/tx-rep-louie-gohmert-warns-of-terrorist-babies/>

¹⁸ https://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/in-the-loop/post/louie-gohmert-best-caribou-wingman-ever/2012/02/07/gIQAIj2dwQ_blog.html



Bill E Waybourn

July 25 · 🌐



REP LOUIE GOHMERT STUNS NANCY PELOSI & THE LEFT BY



INTRODUCING RESOLUTION BANNING DEMOCRATIC PARTY DUE TO HISTORICAL TIES TO SLAVERY

637,072 Views

ACT for America ✓

July 24 · 🌐

👍 Like Page

This is GREAT STUFF by Louie Gohmert!

In 2017, Waybourn endorsed Alex Kim’s campaign 323rd District Court. Kim is known for having all CPS cases removed from his purview in 2020 after several Tarrant County judges voted to move the cases out of his court, citing Kim’s decision to “virtually cut specially appointed advocates for children in abuse and neglect cases” out of the CPS process.¹⁹ In his endorsement of Kim, Waybourn said “If we get Alex’s experience and education, his perseverance, his intelligence, and his love for children... we win. We all win!”

In other findings, Kim was shown to have used the juvenile courthouse late-night to host smoke-filled poker games.²⁰

¹⁹ <https://www.star-telegram.com/opinion/editorials/article240632702.html>

²⁰ <https://www.star-telegram.com/news/local/fort-worth/article238656628.html>



Bill E Waybourn
August 16, 2017 · 🌐

Bill Waybourn
Tarrant County Sheriff
Proudly Endorses
ALEX KIM
FOR TARRANT COUNTY 323RD DISTRICT COURT

"We need a Judge who is compassionate, understands mercy and grace, but also believes in justice. Alex combines those qualities and is that man. If we get Alex's experience and education, his perseverance, his intelligence, and his love for children...we win. We all win!"
—Bill Waybourn

Pol Ad, Paid for by Alexander Kim for Judge in compliance with the voluntary limits of the Judicial Campaign Fairness Act

Judge Alex Kim is with Bill E Waybourn at Tim Curry Criminal Justice Center.

August 16, 2017 · Fort Worth, TX · 🌐

👍 Like Page

Proud to have the good Sheriff, Bill Waybourn, supporting Alex become the next Judge of the 323rd District Court of Tarrant County!

Like this page to stay informed!

Waybourn has touted his endorsement from Texas State Representative Tony Tinderholt, Waybourn saying Tinderholt has “the best interests at heart for Arlington, Mansfield, and the greater Tarrant County area.” Tinderholt is one of the most out-spoken tea-party conservatives in the Texas House. He is an anti-vaxxer,²¹ authored a bill to enforce the death penalty on those who receive or perform abortions,²² admitted to committing insurance fraud,²³ and, as a bar

²¹ <https://www.texansforvaccinechoice.com/online/score-cards-85-2017/>

²² <https://www.washingtonpost.com/nation/2019/04/10/texas-bill-would-make-it-possible-put-women-death-having-abortions/>

²³ https://lonestarproject.net/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/Pshy_Eval_Redacted-Full-Redact.pdf

manager, allowed a minor to be served alcohol, become overly intoxicated and drive drunk, injuring several people.²⁴

 **Bill E Waybourn** is with Andrew Piel and Tony Tinderholt. May 5, 2016 · 🌐

Both Tony Tinderholt and Andrew Piel ran tough campaigns. However, both men have the best interests at heart for Arlington, Mansfield, and the greater Tarrant County area. In fact, they agree on most things. I am honored that one of those things is supporting me for Sheriff of Tarrant County.

We all need to be building relationships throughout our city, county, and state. Isolationism is never the answer.

#leadthewaybourn
State Representative Tony Tinderholt



Bill Waybourn Retweeted

 **Laura Waybourn**
@laura_waybourn

@BillWaybourn we testified today in favor of Rep Tony Tinderholt HB 2514 pro adoption legislation #txlege #adoption



Laura Waybourn and Bill Waybourn
10:03 PM · Apr 29, 2015 · Twitter for iPhone

²⁴ <https://lonestarproject.net/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/Plaintiff-Employment.pdf>

During his first race, Waybourn campaigned with then-State Representative Bill Zedler. According to reporting, “In 2008, Rep. [Bill Zedler](#), R-Arlington, [used his legislative authority](#) to obtain confidential records related to the [Texas Medical Board’s](#) investigations into five physicians, two of whom were not his constituents but had given a combined \$25,000 to his campaign. Zedler said he intervened because he believed rival physicians had wrongfully accused the doctors — who faced allegations of performing overly invasive procedures and injecting jet fuel and natural gas into patients to diagnose chemical sensitivities. He was using the confidential records, he said, “to find out who was filing complaints.” The two doctors who contributed to his campaign were ultimately sanctioned for lesser violations.”²⁵

He is the same representative who claimed Texas’ 2019 measles outbreak was not an issue because of antibiotics.²⁶



Waybourn has also shown his support for and from multiple other Trump-Republicans, including Ted Cruz, Beth Van Duyne, and Dan Patrick.

²⁵ <https://www.texastribune.org/2013/01/13/part-time-legislature-questions-conflict/>

²⁶ <https://www.thedailybeast.com/anti-vaxx-texas-lawmaker-measles-outbreak-not-an-issue-because-of-antibiotics>



Bill Waybourn
@BillWaybourn



Looking forward to a great day of campaigning with great conservatives. First stop Ted Cruz Rally!

10:38 AM · Nov 2, 2018 · [Twitter for iPhone](#)



Bill Waybourn @BillWaybourn · Sep 15, 2018



I choose [@tedcruz](#) for [#TXSen](#) because he has our veterans' backs and he fights for them in the United States Senate. RETWEET if you do too! [#TXSen](#) [#KeepTexasRed](#)

TED CRUZ	BETO O'ROURKE
ON VETERANS	
SUPPORTS OUR VETERANS 100% AND BELIEVES VETERANS SHOULD BE ABLE TO GET THE QUALITY HEALTH CARE THEY'VE EARNED 	SAYS HE SUPPORTS VETERANS BUT HAS VOTED AGAINST HOLDING INEPT BUREAUCRATS AT THE VA ACCOUNTABLE
#CHOOSECRUZ	

Click to Tweet!

[Tweet #ChooseCruz](#)



Bill E Waybourn
February 27 · 🌐



What a honor to meet Dr. Carson and always ready to stand with Beth Van Duyne

This content isn't available right now

When this happens, it's usually because the owner only shared it with a small group of people, changed who can see it or it's been deleted.





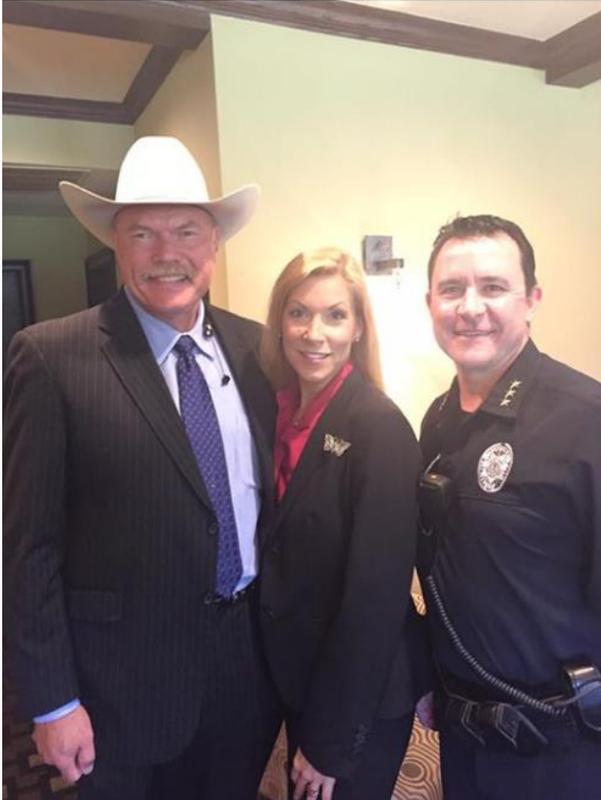
Sheriff Bill Waybourn

April 21, 2016 · 🌐

It was great to listen to, and hang out with Mayor Beth Van Duyne this afternoon! Great to see her and other strong republican women leading from the front!

#leadthewaybourn

Beth Van Duyne Mayor Beth Van Duyne



Sheriff Bill Waybourn

November 6, 2015 · 🌐

Lt. Governor Dan Patrick tonight at the 40th Anniversary Celebration for the Arlington Republican Club.



Echoed Trump Rhetoric on Coronavirus

On social media, Waybourn has downplayed COVID-19, calling the virus the “Wuhan Virus” and “Chinese Virus.” In an interview, he said how he didn’t believe his deputies or law enforcement should enforce business capacity rules and encouraged the hasty reopening of the Texas economy.



Bill Waybourn @BillWaybourn · May 6

Always a pleasure to join my friend @DLoesch to discuss how to open up Texas and how we can support small businesses!



FREEDOM ARRESTED: Tarrant Co. Sheriff on recent ar...
Dana (@DLoesch) is joined by Tarrant County, TX
Sheriff, Bill Waybourn (@BillWaybourn) on the recent...
[🔗 youtube.com](#)





Bill Waybourn
@BillWaybourn



Great job Govenor Abbott! We will not release nor did we plan to release dangerous criminals in the name of Coronavirus! Good to be in Texas.

4:01 PM · Mar 29, 2020 · [Twitter for iPhone](#)



Bill Waybourn
@BillWaybourn



It was great to join my constituent [@RealMattLocke](#) today on [@AVoiceNews](#) to discuss how the [#ChineseVirus](#) is affecting [#TarrantCounty](#). Lets be safe and smart! Together we can [#FlattenTheCurve](#)



Video - America's Voice News
[americasvoice.news](#)

7:33 PM · Mar 19, 2020 · [Hootsuite Inc.](#)



Bill Waybourn
@BillWaybourn



I'm looking forward to joining [@RealMattLocke](#) on [@AVoiceNews](#) at 11:30amCT to discuss how [#TarrantCounty](#) is addressing the [#WuhanVirus](#) [#FlattenTheCurve](#)

11:13 AM · Mar 19, 2020 · [Hootsuite Inc.](#)



Bill Waybourn @BillWaybourn · Mar 16

I will be joining my friend @DLoesch at 2:35pmCT today to discuss the #CoronaVirus. Everyone please engage in #socialdistancing! Only by being responsible citizens can we protect our countrymen and family members! Let's #FlattenTheCurve



Loesch: What would you like to tell people as things are reopening and as we are getting used to going back to a normal? What would you have people keep in mind as we're now starting to patronize restaurants on a limited basis and some of these other stores and go back to our gyms and salons? What would you like people to keep in mind to make it easy for everybody?

Waybourn: I think I think simple thoughts of one: go do it. Go to the salons. Go to the restaurants. Go to the gyms. Go enjoy yourself and don't think the virus is at the door, but use a little bit of common sense. Make sure you do stay a little bit distanced from people, make sure you do have things that if you're going to cough or something, don't cough on somebody and just use good common-sense. And let's go enjoy life and let's move this back toward normal.

Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p--Motqpub8>

In other interviews, he said people who claim that blaming the Chinese for the coronavirus is racist “need to get with reality if they want to protect their families individually.”²⁷ In the same interview, he criticized Dallas County Judge Clay Jenkins for issuing stay-at-home orders, saying “he is rushing ahead of the rest of the state but maybe he has some inside information that I’m not aware of, but he seems to be moving ahead very quickly.”

Governor Abbott and Texas Republicans have taken significant criticism because of their weak response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Thousands of Texans have died from the pandemic at the hands of the failed Republican plan to address the virus, many of the deaths resulting from the rushed reopening of the Texas economy.

Abbott’s foolish denial about coronavirus spike is leading Texas into a disaster

²⁷ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gKB-TMiRfC8>

Houston Chronicle / June 23, 2020

The emperor has no mask.

Gov. Greg Abbott may indeed have donned a patriotic-colored face covering at a coronavirus press conference on Monday, but his attempt to cloak Texas' dangerous spike in cases with a fine drape of reassurances and wishful thinking revealed a simple truth in the governor's pandemic leadership: there's no there there.

"Texans need to step up and work collaboratively," the governor said, to "corral" the new coronavirus by following his plan to assure that the state "remains wide-open for business."

While Harris County enforced an order that businesses require customers to wear masks and health experts rang the alarm about an explosion in new coronavirus cases, Abbott offered no significant changes in policy.

Flanked by charts showing disturbing medical trends, Abbott declined yet again to make masks mandatory out of concern for "personal liberty" and suggested that it is not yet necessary to consider dialing back any of the reopening phases that have clearly played a role in the surge of coronavirus infections in Houston and across the state.

This might look like smart politics but it's foolish, shortsighted leadership at a time when Texans are facing a deadly serious situation. It is time for the governor to slow the rush to reopen, limit the size of public gatherings and send a clearer message that social-distancing guidelines must be observed for businesses to keep operating.

Texas is at a crossroads.

Dr. Peter Hotez, a professor and dean of the National School of Tropical Medicine at Baylor College of Medicine, issued a strong warning over the weekend that if things don't change soon, Houston will become the next global hot spot in the pandemic.

"My observations if this trajectory persists: 1) Houston would become the worst affected city in the U.S., maybe rival what we're seeing now in Brazil 2) The masks = good 1st step but simply won't be enough 3) We would need to proceed to red alert," Hotez said Saturday on Twitter.

How can Abbott continue to claim the reopening has been going as planned?

Texas is the largest state in the country not to have a mask order. Statewide orders are in place in 16 states. Abbott's resistance to order one is a prime example of his muddled approach.

If he truly believes that a statewide mandate wouldn't work because urban and rural communities require different responses, then why did he bigfoot mask orders in Texas' major cities where leaders deemed them necessary? Surely, the governor is aware that some of Texas' worst hot spots are in rural communities where people falsely believe they're insulated from the virus and walk around obliviously mask free.



Abbott appeared to backtrack a little last week by allowing Bexar County to impose a mandate on businesses to require customers to wear masks, opening the way for Harris County and others to follow.

But rather than admitting that stronger measures are needed, Abbott sought to save face with a bizarre explanation of how it was up to local leaders to figure it out.

“There has been a plan in place all along,” Abbott told Waco TV station KWTX. “All that was needed (was) for local officials to actually read the plan that was issued by the state of Texas.”

People are dying. This is no time for tea leaves or smoke signals or any other forms of obfuscation. Texans need clear, consistent guidance.

At this point, even that may be too little too late.

The trajectory Hotez refers to is frightening.

The state reported a 5 percent increase in COVID-19 hospitalizations on Sunday for a cumulative total of 3,409 patients, a figure that has more than doubled since Memorial Day.

The 2,726 new cases recorded Sunday constituted the sixth-highest single-day increase in Texas, according to a Houston Chronicle analysis.

Houston Chronicle data show that Harris County is averaging 610 new cases per day over the past week, compared with 313 new cases per day the previous week.

The World Health Organization warned late last week that the pandemic has entered a “new and dangerous phase” with daily COVID-19 cases hitting record highs worldwide.

The new cases reported June 18 “were the most in a single day so far” at 150,000, WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said during a press conference.

The United States has the worst outbreak in the world with 2.1 million infected and almost 120,000 dead.

The coronavirus isn't going away. The best we can hope for is that it doesn't get worse.

That requires a strong response from all of us and real leadership at the top.

Governor, your attempts to dress up this disaster aren't fooling anybody — least of all the virus.

Source: <https://www.houstonchronicle.com/opinion/editorials/article/Editorial-The-emperor-has-no-mask-Abbott-s-15358493>



Close Partner With Controversial, Organization Using Gun Safety Trainings to Sell Insurance to Captive Audience

Records show Bill Waybourn works in alliance with Texas Law Shield (TLS), an organization being sued for predatory client acquisition practices at concealed handgun license classes, events Waybourn has hosted jointly with TLS.

Waybourn's campaign has received tens of thousands of dollars from the organization 'Texas Law Shield' and affiliate employees.

Date	Contributor	Location	Amount
5/22/15	Darren Rice	League City, TX	\$5,000
9/25/15	Michele Myington	Houston, TX	\$482.20
10/19/15	Texas Law Shield	Houston, TX	\$10,000
11/1/17	Darren Rice	League City, TX	\$5,000
NA (2020 Mid-Year Report)	Darin Rice ²⁸		\$10,000

Texas Law Shield is an organization purporting to defend gun owners sued for the use of firearms in situations of "self defense."²⁹ In 2013, the organization was sued by two individuals for barratry, specifically for the act of paying to receive clients, akin to ambulance chasing.³⁰ The organization paid businesses offering concealed handgun license classes for each client Texas Law Shield was able to sign from each class. The businesses would allow TLS to pitch its services to students at the classes, TLS often employing scare tactics to get the students to sign onto agreements with the organization.

The suit has been passed back and forth between trial and appeals courts since that initial filing, and the case is still ongoing as of August of 2020.

After the initial suit was filed, the court found in favor of one the plaintiffs and the barratry question and denied the other. They stated the following regarding the behavior of the Texas Law Shield:

Going as a law firm cold calling and saying, we have a wealth of expertise, we know you need this work, we would love to have some of your work in the future to me is far different than sending somebody over there, a non-lawyer, a salesperson and saying, I will pay you a commission or a flat fee for every retainer agreement you bring back. I think to me—frankly, if it is not barratry, it ought to be. That is no different in my mind than sending somebody to run a case, an individual case.

The court later explained that "[w]hen I say barratry, I don't think it is appropriate conduct. Whether or not it constituted barratry under the Texas Disciplinary Rules or the Penal Code is a different issue." The court observed that the case "involves conduct in circumstances when it comes to lawyers I would like to think for most of us it doesn't pass the smell test. But whether it is technically legal or not, ethical or not or certifiable as a class may be an entirely different issue."

²⁸ Likely Darren Rice. Campaign finance report riddled with spelling errors.

²⁹ <https://www.uslawshield.com/>

³⁰ <https://www.thetrace.org/2015/08/texas-law-shield-concealed-carry-insurance-class-action-lawsuit/>



Source: <https://caselaw.findlaw.com/tx-court-of-appeals/1762258.html>

The court also allowed the plaintiffs to expand the suit to a class action level. The defendants appealed both the decisions (the barratry question and the class action question), and when the appeals court found in favor of the defendants, and court sent the case back to the trial court, furthering the long process.

When the case reconvened in 2017, the plaintiffs filed two pleadings – a motion for reconsideration of the trial court’s 2015 dismissal of the second barratry claim, and a motion for partial summary judgment as to the remaining barratry claims. The defendants filed their opposition to the motion and also a cross-motion for partial summary judgment on the same two barratry claims. The trial court granted Plaintiffs’ motion for reconsideration of the trial court’s earlier dismissal of the barratry claim. It also granted the plaintiffs’ motion and found the defendants liable to one plaintiff for statutory damages of \$10,000 from one defendant, \$10,000 from another defendant, \$10,000 from Texas Law Shield, and \$10,000 another defendant due to barratry. The trial court found the defendants jointly and severally liable to the second defendant for statutory damages of \$151.35. The court denied the defendants’ motion.

The case proceeded to trial on the issues of attorney’s fees. The jury found that defendants should pay \$96,233.75 in attorney’s fees for plaintiffs. If defendants appealed that judgment and they were unsuccessful, the jury awarded Plaintiffs \$1,575 on appeal. The final judgment was signed on August 9, 2018.

Defendants filed a motion for new trial, which was denied. They then appealed the judgment.

On August 20, 2020, the court of appeals issued its opinion in which it reversed the judgment in favor of the second plaintiff on the barratry claims. The judgment in favor of the first plaintiff was affirmed. However, because the attorney fee award was not segregated between the two, the award of those fees was reversed and remanded, along with the second plaintiff’s barratry claim, to the trial court for further consideration.

Because this report is being written at the same time as the court proceedings, there have been no actions yet at the trial court level in response to the judgement. However, at latest, all courts have found in favor of the first plaintiff on barratry claims.

The courts affirmed Texas Law Shield was taking part in predatory client acquisition practices, according to news reporting, scaring CHL class attendees into purchasing legal insurance which in many cases may not apply to legal cases attendees would use said insurance for.

Waybourn Hosted Concealed Handgun Training Classes Jointly With Texas Law Shield

Records show that Bill Waybourn hosted CHL classes jointly with Texas Law Shield and promoted these classes on his social media channels. It is notable that the classes jointly hosted by Waybourn and Texas Law Shield took place while the company was being sued in civil court.





Bill Waybourn
@BillWaybourn



Great visiting with @MarkDavis this morning! To register for the free CHL go to: gunlawseminar.com or billwaybourn.com

11:47 AM · Dec 10, 2015 · Twitter for iPhone

When

Saturday, December 12, 2015 from 8:30 AM to 2:30 PM CST

[Add to Calendar](#)

Where

Kennedale High School - Performing Arts Center

901 Wildcat Way
Kennedale, TX 76060

Contact

Events Department

Texas Law Shield, LLP

281-461-6000

seminars@uslawshield.com

Free CHL Class Hosted By Chief Bill Waybourn

Registration is closed.

Source:

<https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07ebxdlaw2a84eb3a&oseq=&c=&h=>



Waybourn Seminars
@WaybournSeminar



In response to the recent shootings Texas Law Shield is sponsoring a free CHL class taught by Bill E Waybourn...
fb.me/7BCzfDvVH

9:43 AM · Dec 5, 2015 · Facebook

Texas Law Shield and Bill Waybourn have also, together, hosted a “Second Amendment Celebration” in February of 2020, where the subject of the event included “the importance of Second Amendment in the current political climate.”³¹ Reports show Waybourn and TLS and its members were in attendance.³²

³¹ <https://jp.uslawshield.com/sheriff-waybourn-event/>

³² <https://marketnewsfirst.com/2020/02/13/law-shield-hosts-sheriff-waybourn-celebrates-2nd-amendment-event-in-fort-worth/>



Outspoken Opponent Sanctuary Cities

Bill Waybourn has vocally attacked sanctuary city laws, calling them a “failure of duty” and “we don’t let that stand in Tarrant County.” As a “big supporter of ICE,” he opposes sanctuary cities and allows his deputies to become de facto federal immigration agents.³³ Through these actions, Waybourn has effectively shown his support for discriminatory “Show Me Your Papers” bills, such as Senate Bill 4 in 2017.³⁴

Bill Waybourn Retweeted



Beth Van Duyne @Bethvanduyne · Jan 18

US House candidate, TX-24

How many more innocent lives lost because of liberal elitist sanctuary city policies? Enough is enough.

bit.ly/363b9Gb

#TX24 #BethForTexas



Bill Waybourn @BillWaybourn · Jul 15, 2019

It was a privilege to appear on @foxandfriends this morning. I had a great chat with @kilmeade about the failure of duty that all sanctuary cities are engaged in. We don't let that stand in #TarrantCounty #LawAndOrder #SecureTheBorder



Sanctuary city mayors push back against ICE's planne...
The Los Angeles mayor and police force say they will not get involved in a federal matter.
video.foxnews.com



Sheriff Bill Waybourn

July 14, 2019 · 🌐

I look forward to appearing on Fox & Friends tomorrow where we will discuss the #ImmigrationCrisis #SanctuaryCities and the responsibility Sheriff's across the country have when it comes to supporting ICE and deporting criminal aliens #SecureTheBorder #MAGA #SupportICE

³³ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1q_zq2vVKp8

³⁴ <https://www.aclutx.org/en/sb4>

Waybourn told right-wing group that ICE didn't conduct "raids" in their county because they only needed to come to his jail. "In a fascinating twist on immigration enforcement, Waybourn told a grassroots conservative political group last week that U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) officers no longer raid homes or round up families here. "ICE isn't doing raids in Tarrant County," Waybourn told the Project Fort Worth group, "because they only come to the Tarrant County jail." Since 2017, when Waybourn agreed to have 12 deputies trained to act as local ICE agents under the federal program known as 287(g), ICE just picks up some of the immigration violators in the jail and doesn't go out looking for them, he said. "They don't go out into the neighborhoods," Waybourn, a first-term Republican and former Dalworthington Gardens police chief, told the meeting at an Elks Lodge in west Fort Worth." (Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas), January 26, 2019)

70 deportations were the result of Tarrant County 287(g) participation since 2019. "Last year, 1,466 inmates in Tarrant County had ICE detainers. Of those, 307 were put on inmates by the Tarrant County Sheriff's Department. None of those were for Class C misdemeanors, officials said. Of those 307, 236 were released to ICE and 70 of those people had hearings and were deported and 61 of them voluntarily decided to go back to their home country. Others posted bond, remained in ICE custody or their cases haven't been resolved, sheriff's data shows." (Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas), June 16, 2020)

Waybourn defended 287(g) as giving more structure to local engagement with ICE. "Tarrant County Sheriff Bill Waybourn updated commissioners about the 287(g) plan that lets sheriff's deputies work as ICE agents. "For the last 30 years, ICE has been in Tarrant County jail," he said. In the past, without this program, any peace officer or detention officer could conduct an investigation and contact ICE if there was a concern. If there was a detainer on that person, ICE would fax over the information. "That was completely apart from 287(g)," Waybourn said. He also noted that if there was no 287(g) contract, the department would still have to honor ICE holds on inmates brought to the jail from other cities. Waybourn said 287(g) "gives us some discretion and a solidified policy" of how to proceed." (Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas), June 16, 2020)

In 2017, Waybourn agreed to have 12 deputies trained to act as local ICE. "In 2017, Waybourn agreed to have 12 deputies trained to act as local ICE agents under the federal program. Waybourn has said deputies perform ICE duties while also performing routine tasks. He said the deputies' salaries are paid by the county and the federal government pays for travel, boarding, meals and other expenses associated with ICE training. Sheriff department calculations show the program cost \$17,800 from June 1, 2019, to May 31, 2020." (Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas), June 16, 2020)

Waybourn claimed deputies "are not racially profiling or conducting raids for ICE." "Waybourn has said that sheriff's deputies are not racially profiling or conducting raids for ICE. His office said immigration checks are run on those arrested for Class B misdemeanor arrests or higher." (Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas), June 16, 2020)

Wants to Build Donald Trump's Border Wall

Waybourn has publicly stated he supports building Donald Trump's border wall, which would be the equivalent of what it would take to build one and a half new military aircraft carriers.³⁵



State taxpayers are already paying \$400 million per year for border security.³⁶

Waybourn's response is in-line with one of Donald Trump's main policy focuses – building a border wall as an attempt to block immigration to the United States:

\$11 Billion And Counting: Trump's Border Wall Would Be The World's Most Costly

NPR / January 19, 2020

The pricetag for President Trump's border wall has topped \$11 billion — or nearly \$20 million a mile — to become the most expensive wall of its kind anywhere in the world.

In a status report last week, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, which is overseeing wall construction, reported that \$11 billion has been identified since Trump took office to construct 576 miles of a new "border wall system."

And the Trump administration is on the hunt for funding to build even more. The Department of Homeland Security has asked the Defense Department to come up with money for 270 additional miles of border wall that DHS says is needed to block drug smuggling routes on federal land. The Pentagon is studying the request, which did not come with a dollar figure.

If the Trump administration completes all of the wall projects it has set in motion, three-quarters of the U.S. southern border would be walled off from Mexico. The government inherited about 650 miles of border structures erected under Presidents George W. Bush and Barack Obama.

³⁵ <http://www.politifact.com/california/statements/2017/apr/28/scott-peters/would-trumps-border-wall-cost-same-one-and-half-us/>

³⁶ <https://www.chron.com/news/houston-texas/texas/article/texas-border-patrol-800-million-12472117.php>

"You're going to have a wall like no other. It's going to be a powerful, terrific wall," President Trump said at a rally in Milwaukee last week. "A very big and very powerful border wall is going up at a record speed, and we are fully financed now, isn't that nice?"

Source: <https://www.npr.org/2020/01/19/797319968/-11-billion-and-counting-trumps-border-wall-would-be-the-world-s-most-costly>

Waybourn's unequivocal support goes beyond what even Republican Greg Abbott supports, which is a limited border wall that doesn't extend and impact environmentally important areas, such as Big Bend National Park.³⁷

Inmate Denied Mental Health Services at Jail, Died Amid Neglect Allegations

In summer of 2020, a person died under the Tarrant County Jail System's custody because of a seizure condition. The person, who experienced homelessness and drug addiction, was repeatedly arrested and put in jail instead of given resources to address his underlying situation. His parents alleged he wasn't given his medication or checked on enough, stating "bottom line is, someone neglected my son."

Family of Fort Worth man who died in jail want answers: 'Someone neglected my son'

Fort Worth Star-Telegram / August 17, 2020

<https://www.star-telegram.com/news/local/fort-worth/article244416882.html>

Javonte Myers could feel when the seizures were about to happen. Sometimes he'd end up at John Peter Smith Hospital. Other times he rode them out.

It's hard to say exactly how many seizures the 28-year-old experienced in his life. It was a seizure that killed him as he lay in a Tarrant County Jail cell on June 19. Three days earlier, jail officials had taken him to JPS because of another episode, his mom, Sondrea Miller said recently.

Now, his parents are trying to piece together what happened during their son's last days.

Why was he arrested for trespassing instead of just ticketed?

Why was he released from the hospital but taken back to jail?

Was he taking his medicine?

³⁷ <https://www.mystatesman.com/news/local/texas-governor-doesn-want-see-border-wall-big-bend/2Hm19kcHSN1qzDhvHSvZP/>



Miller, of Fort Worth, said her son was her best friend and he fell under hard times when he became addicted to K2, a strain of synthetic marijuana, in his early 20s. His addiction led to him sometimes sleeping in shelters or on the street or bouncing from couch to couch. During his worst times, he chose the drug over his family. He checked himself out of rehab at least three times. But during his best, he was a mama's boy who wanted to make sure she was cared for.

Miller and her husband believe a system that doesn't look out for its homeless and downtrodden failed their son and they want someone to be held accountable.

But the question is, who?

STRUGGLES WITH ADDICTION, HOMELESSNESS

The K2 that filled Myers' lungs not only made his body feel light and high, but it also triggered sensors in his brain that made him seize.

He started having seizures in 2018. His mom estimates he'd gone to a hospital at least dozens of times. Myers had been a patient at JPS multiple times throughout 2019 and 2020 and that the Tarrant County Hospital District Police had been called to help him multiple times, according to hospital spokesperson Diana Brodeur.

Brodeur said she couldn't release information about why Myers was at the hospital but said he had not been denied behavioral health or substance abuse treatment.

Miller said her son often faced homelessness and sometimes she only knew where he was when if he was in a hospital.

"He chose not to live with anyone so he could get his K2 when he wanted and didn't have to put up with people complaining about you shouldn't do this or that," his stepfather, Paul Miller, said.

The Millers said they did everything they could to help their son.

Sondrea Miller paid for rehab three times. But he would check himself out after a few days and leave, she said. She would beg him to stay home, but the pull of the drug was often stronger.

Miller said she and her husband felt alone and didn't know where to go for help.

One time Myers fell asleep in a hospital waiting room after he received treatment for seizures. An officer woke him up and called his mother to pick him up. She asked the officer if he could have Myers committed for mental health treatment.

The officer said no, Miller said.

Over the course of three years, Myers was arrested eight times for criminal trespass, an offense that mostly affects people who are experiencing homelessness, advocates say.

Lauren King, the interim executive director of the Tarrant County Homeless Coalition, said the coalition has worked with Fort Worth police to see where improvements can be made in



helping the city's homeless population instead of arresting them. The group has given police an overview of what homelessness looks like in Fort Worth.

"No one wants people to be or remain homeless, so we talk about how do we work together on this?" she said. "We talked about how criminal records make it harder for people to find help, so how can we avoid that?"

The coalition is also working to end the revolving door people often find themselves in between the county jail and shelters.

"A focus for 2021 will be creating a connection with the criminal justice system and figuring out how do we catch people who go back and forth between the jail and a shelter," King said, explaining that the group already has a similar program with JPS. "JPS lets us know who their high utilizers are and we can connect them with housing. It's a win for everyone."

Last year, Bexar County District Attorney Joe Gonzales announced his office wouldn't prosecute homeless people for criminal trespassing unless they had a violent history. Gonzales made the decision after two people died in the jail related to homelessness or mental illness, according to the San Antonio Express-News.

Asked how the Tarrant County District Attorney's Office prosecutes criminal trespassing against the homeless population and if she'd consider adapting a similar policy to San Antonio, District Attorney Sharen Wilson said, "Yes, homeless people who commit crimes are prosecuted in Tarrant County."

She said several groups within Tarrant County, including the DA's office and law enforcement, are working with mental health services and JPS to create a mental health diversion center.

The center would divert low-level, non-violent offenders (mostly people accused of criminal trespassing) out of the jail and into treatment, Wilson said.

Myers could have fallen through the cracks in the system.

"Absolutely I'm sure he could have been served better," King said. "We need to improve our system to make sure we catch people like him. ... Why wasn't he connected? It could be that he was couch surfing, there are people who are homeless and don't ever interact with a shelter or outreach team and our system is looking at how we can make contact with those people and serve those people."

DEATH IN THE JAIL

When her son was taken to jail for the last time, Miller said she only knew about it because he was hospitalized for a day.

Then, on June 19, Miller answered a knock at her door. Two police officers stood there.

The coroner wanted to talk with her, they said.

"I automatically knew it was Javonte," she said, holding back tears.



Myers was found dead in his jail cell that day.

Miller said the jail knew about his seizure disorder. The Tarrant County District Attorney's Office declined the newspaper's request for copies of Myers' intake paperwork and sent a letter to the Texas Attorney General arguing against its release.

It also declined to send the Star-Telegram paperwork that would show how often jailers had checked on Myers, who was apparently being held in a unit that required frequent checks by employees.

An in-custody death form filled out by the sheriff's office said that Myers exhibited medical and mental health problems, but it didn't go into detail. The Texas Commission on Jail Standards is investigating the death and said its report likely won't be available for a few months. It investigates all deaths at Texas jails.

Myers was declared dead by Medstar about 12 minutes after he was found unresponsive.

His cause of death is listed as "seizure disorder" by the Tarrant County Medical Examiner's office, but autopsy isn't final yet.

Myers was the fourth person in June to die while being held at the jail.

Jason Martin, 40, [died on June 24](#) of heart disease.

[Abdullahi Mohamed](#), 40, died the next day and a state report says he was found "on his mattress on the floor naked."

"Officers became concerned when he failed to answer their questions and eat his food," the report says. "They put him in a wheelchair and en route to medical he stopped breathing."

Mohamed's cause of death is still pending.

Jose Rivera, 67, [died on June 11 after contracting COVID-19](#) while being held on two counts of felony DWI.

Myers' family believes he was neglected and question why he was arrested in the first place.

"Why couldn't they have left him in the hospital? Or let him go?" Paul Miller said. "Why couldn't you have given him a ticket?"

The circumstances surrounding Myers' [latest arrest are unclear](#). There is no case file available, according to jail and district attorney records. When the jail announced Myers' death, a news release said he was also booked on a drug possession charge.

His parents fear Myers didn't get his medicine and that he wasn't checked on enough.

"You have human lives behind bars, you still have to make sure they're OK," Paul Miller said.

"You have to do what you're supposed to do. Years ago when I dropped my kids off at school, the school was responsible for them, it's that simple. It's the same thing."



The state investigation into his death isn't complete and no information could be given about their findings thus far.

"Bottom line is, someone neglected my son," Miller said.

Previously a Small Town Police Chief

The city where Waybourn previously served as chief has a total population of 2,300 at the time of his 2016 campaign. "Dalworthington Gardens is a city of 2,300 that sits north of Interstate 20, next to Pantego and Arlington."³⁸ (Fort Worth Star-Telegram, 1/18/16)

Sheriff manages 1,600 employees with an annual budget of \$120 million, 80 percent of which is running the jail. "In a debate Friday on WFAA's Inside Texas Politics,³⁹ the incumbent, Dee Anderson, said the sheriff's main focus should be on operating the jail, which has passed 15 consecutive annual state jail inspections, while also managing more than 1,600 employees and overseeing an annual budget of \$120 million... notes that 80 percent of the Sheriff's Department budget and staffing goes toward running the jail."⁴⁰ (Dallas Morning News, 2/8/16)

Reflecting on time as Police Chief during 2016 campaign Waybourn said, "Every day was a holiday." "Waybourn said he believes he left Dalworthington Gardens under good terms. 'Every day was a holiday and every meal was a banquet,' he said."⁴¹ (Fort Worth Star-Telegram, 2/18/16)

1995: "In fact, no one is gunning down anybody. The town has not recorded a single murder in the 14 years it has been keeping track. Police in Dalworthington Gardens, population 1,758, average less than one felony arrest per week" "Residents of this tiny Tarrant County suburb know plenty about drive-by shootings and gang murders. They've seen reports of the bloody crimes on TV and read of them in newspapers. But gangs aren't gunning down each other here. In fact, no one is gunning down anybody. The town has not recorded a single murder in the 14 years it has been keeping track. Police in Dalworthington Gardens, population 1,758, average less than one felony arrest per week. The number of single-family residences burglarized in 1994: one." Dallas Morning News, January 15, 1995)

Hired Convicted Criminal as Campaign Consultant

During his first campaign for Tarrant County Sheriff, Bill Waybourn paid several thousand dollars to Craig Ownby for consulting expenses.

A decade earlier, Ownby was sentenced to 5 months in prison and 5 months of home confinement for federal tax evasion.

³⁸ <https://www.star-telegram.com/article61168537.html>

³⁹ <https://www.wfaa.com/news/debate-race-for-tarrant-county-sheriff-1/33299561>

⁴⁰ <https://www.dallasnews.com/news/politics/2016/02/08/tarrant-county-sheriff-s-race-a-contrast-in-styles/>

⁴¹ <https://www.star-telegram.com/article61168537.html>



TARRANT COUNTY BUSINESSMAN SENTENCED TO FIVE MONTHS IN PRISON FOR FAILING TO FILE INCOME TAX RETURN

U.S. Department of Justice / March 23, 2007

U.S. Attorney Richard B. Roper of the Northern District of Texas announced that Wesley Craig Ownby, a Tarrant County businessman, was sentenced today by U.S. District Judge John McBryde to five months in prison followed by 150 days home confinement. Ownby pled guilty in December 2006 to one count of failing to file an income tax return. He has been ordered to surrender to the Bureau of Prisons on April 13, 2007.

Ownby worked in the real estate business and also performed consulting work. He admitted in court documents that he knew of the requirement to file a federal income tax return, and that he wilfully failed to do so for the calendar year 2000.

“When the majority of citizens out there are making every effort to file their tax returns and report all their income, it is IRS’s duty to investigate individuals like Wesley Craig Ownby who do not file their tax returns. As the due date for filing this year’s tax returns approaches, heed today’s sentencing and the consequences of wilfully not filing your tax return,” said Erick Martinez, Special Agent-in-Charge for IRS Criminal Investigation in Dallas, Texas.

This case was investigated by Internal Revenue Service - Criminal Investigation and prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Mark Nichols.

Source: https://www.justice.gov/archive/usao/txn/PressRel07/ownby_tax_sen_pr.html

Former Fundraiser is Failed-Trump Proponent

According to his 2016 8-day General report, Waybourn had Bunni Pounds on his payroll. Pounds, a known ultra-conservative fundraiser in North Texas, unsuccessfully ran in a Republican congressional primary to replace her former boss Jeb Hensarling. She ran to the far-right, boasting her support from Mike Pence and her unwavering support for Donald Trump.⁴²

Bankrolled by Far-Right, Controversial Donors

Waybourn has received campaign contributions from several controversial figures.

James Ashby is a “full-time” volunteer for Tea-Party candidates throughout the DFW area. He is supported by Empower Texans and Texas Scorecard, who said “He tirelessly (and generously) gives his time, talents, and treasure to the conservative movement. He has helped countless candidates across Texas with block walking, campaign sign placement and removal, sign grommet installation, sound reinforcement, polling place electioneering, or social media posting. Ashby does it all.”⁴³

Date	Contributor	Location	Amount
10/4/15	James Ashby	Eules, TX	\$964.70

⁴² <https://www.keranews.org/post/gop-runoff-replace-jeb-hensarling-its-battle-be-most-conservative>

⁴³ <https://texasscorecard.com/citizen-profiles/james-ashby-full-time-citizen/>



John Copeland, son of televangelist Kenneth Copeland, is the CEO of Kenneth Copeland Ministries (KCM). Kenneth Copeland is a controversial figure, known widely for being a Donald Trump Faith Advisor⁴⁴ and owning three private jets funded off donations from church-goers, further saying flying commercial is akin to being with “a bunch of demons.”⁴⁵ KCM has come under fire recently for hosting a 2,000-member, in-person congregation in Fort Worth amid the COVID-19 pandemic.⁴⁶ Kenneth Copeland has directly downplayed the pandemic, stating it is a weak-version of the flu and that fearing the pandemic is a sin.⁴⁷

Date	Contributor	Location	Amount
10/12/15	John Copeland	Argyle, TX	\$964.70

Greg Thomas is the President of Delta Oil and Gas, and is a major Donald Trump donor, giving thousands to the president’s campaign.

Date	Contributor	Location	Amount
10/19/15	Greg Thomas	Fort Worth, TX	\$4,824.70

Mark Mathews, the former mayor of Keller, Texas has donated to Waybourn’s campaign. Mathews announced he would not seek reelection in 2017 after prevailing in a recall election where many alleged he voted in favor of business dealings that would benefit his wife’s business and his own neighborhood.⁴⁸

Date	Contributor	Location	Amount
10/27/15	Mark Mathews	Keller, TX	\$433.95

Waybourn has accepted donations from Texas House District 94 Representative Matt Krause. The State Representative is known for his hard-line stance against the Affordable Care Act and against expanding Medicaid in Texas.

Date	Contributor	Location	Amount
12/31/15	Matt Krause	Fort Worth, TX	\$240.95

Stephen Lockwood has contributed tens of thousands of dollars to Waybourn’s campaign. Lockwood is a major Trump donor, giving close to \$60,000 to Donald Trump’s campaign and tens of thousands to the RNC.

Date	Contributor	Location	Amount
10/28/15	Stephen Lockwood	Mansfield, TX	\$10,000
4/28/16	Stephen Lockwood	Mansfield, TX	\$5,000
N/A (2020 Mid-Year Report)	Stephen and Sally Lockwood		\$10,000

⁴⁴ <https://blog.kcm.org/kenneth-gloria-accept-trumps-invitation-to-join-faith-culture-advisory-board/>

⁴⁵ <https://www.star-telegram.com/news/local/article230913808.html>

⁴⁶ <https://thehill.com/homenews/state-watch/510313-former-trump-faith-adviser-holding-in-person-event-for-more-than-2000>

⁴⁷ <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2020/apr/04/america-rightwing-christian-preachers-virus-hoax>

⁴⁸ <https://www.star-telegram.com/news/local/community/northeast-tarrant/article132379154.html>



Waybourn has received contributions from Texas State Representative Bill Zedler, who used his legislative authority to defend doctors who were alleged to have given patients jet fuel as a drug.⁴⁹

Date	Contributor	Location	Amount
10/30/15	Bill Zedler	Arlington, TX	\$250
1/28/2016	William Zedler	Arlington, TX	\$250
4/28/16	William Zedler Campaign	Arlington, TX	\$125
12/9/16	William Zedler	Arlington, TX	\$100

John Goff is a billionaire real estate developer in North Texas. He recently lamented government stimulus checks in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, worrying they would “crowd out the real capitalists.”⁵⁰ One of Goff’s main properties, Canyon Ranch, has skipped mortgage payments for April and May of 2020, totaling near \$363,000.⁵¹

Date	Contributor	Location	Amount
10/28/15	John Goff	Fort Worth, Texas	\$500

Waybourn has received a sizable contribution from Josh Hamilton, a former baseball player with the Texas Rangers. In April of 2020, Hamilton was indicted by a grand jury on charges that he beat his daughter, hitting her repeatedly on the back, chest, and legs.⁵² His family described him as being physically abusive since at least 2017 when “he taped together wooden sticks from a hardware store and beat one of the girls with them.” In other instances, he told one of his daughters “I want to beat the [expletive] out of you.”

Date	Contributor	Location	Amount
1/8/16	Joshua Hamilton	Liberty	\$10,000

Mona Bailey is a Republican National Convention delegate from Richland Hills, and is also currently the Finance Chair for the Tarrant County Republican Party. She said in a 2020 interview that “we need to get out in the neighborhoods and talk about Trump’s positives — the things he’s gotten done. Whether we like his tweets or not, we are all impressed with the work he’s done. He’s done a lot of work behind the scenes. We need to make sure we elect Donald Trump again. We are energized now to move forward.”⁵³

Date	Contributor	Location	Amount
1/18/16	Mona Bailey	Richland Hills, TX	\$1,000
4/27/16	Mona Bailey	Richland Hills, TX	\$1,000
3/8/16	Mona Bailey	Richland Hills, TX	\$1,000
10/22/16	Mona Bailey	North Richland Hills, TX	\$2,500

⁴⁹ <https://www.texastribune.org/2013/01/13/part-time-legislature-questions-conflict/>

⁵⁰ <https://www.forbes.com/sites/christopherhelman/2020/03/24/texas-business-leaders-chafe-at-coronavirus-lockdowns-weve-got-to-figure-out-how-to-live-with-this-thing/#5ed8ad27687f>

⁵¹ <https://www.dallasnews.com/business/economy/2020/05/31/john-goffs-real-estate-firm-skips-mortgage-payments-on-famed-canyon-ranch-resorts/>

⁵² <https://www.dallasnews.com/news/crime/2020/04/08/texas-rangers-hall-of-famer-josh-hamilton-indicted-on-injury-to-a-child-charge/>

⁵³ <https://www.star-telegram.com/news/politics-government/election/article244350472.html>



10/17/17	Mona Bailey	North Richland Hills, TX	\$1,000
2/25/19	Mona Bailey		\$500

Waybourn has accepted money from Hussein Mahrouq, who in 2011, was charged with fraud by the Texas Attorney General for selling cars to customers he purposefully misled to believe passed air-quality standards.⁵⁴ The Texas AG said emissions data from vehicles with clean emissions were substituted for vehicles that might have failed state emissions tests, and in some instances, one vehicle was used for numerous inspections, up to 20 times in one day.

Date	Contributor	Location	Amount
2/2/16	Hussein Mahrouq	Arlington, TX	\$500

Trevor Ahlberg has contributed to Waybourn’s campaign. Trevor Ahlberg, an avid big-game hunter who has killed elephants before, owns Cottonwood Financial and its affiliate ‘Cash Store,’ a payday-lending-type business with many locations throughout the U.S. and Texas. In 2012, reporting showed Cash Store was skirting Texas lending law, engaging in predatory lending practices which existed because of loopholes in the statute.⁵⁵ In 2020, Ahlberg gained national attention because his Cash Stores ignored business-closure orders in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, citing payday lending was an essential business.⁵⁶

Date	Contributor	Location	Amount
2/15/16	Trevor Ahlberg	Irving, TX	\$1,000

Waybourn has received contributions from Joe Shannon, the ex-Tarrant County DA. In 2012, Shannon was credibly accused of sexually harassing an employee as he was District Attorney.⁵⁷ The county settled with the employee, stating they would save money settling instead of going to court.

Date	Contributor	Location	Amount
2/22/16	Joe Shannon	Fort Worth, TX	\$500

Jonathan Stickland has donated to Waybourn’s campaign. Stickland, an out-going Texas State Representative, is known as one of the most far-right, outspoken members of the Texas House. In the past, he has said controversial things like “rape is non existent in marriage.”⁵⁸

Date	Contributor	Location	Amount
4/29/16	Jonathan Stickland Campaign	Bedford, TX	\$500
11/6/17	Jonathan Stickland	Bedford, TX	\$2,500

Toby Goodman is a former long-time member of the Texas House of Representatives, serving from the early 1990s to mid 2000s. In 2008, he was fined by the Texas Ethics Commission for

⁵⁴ <https://www.nbcdfw.com/news/local/emissions-test-tampering-lawsuit-filed-by-ags-office/1898744/>

⁵⁵ <https://www.texasobserver.org/payday-loan-chain-owned-by-major-gop-donor-skirts-texas-law/>

⁵⁶ <https://www.motherjones.com/coronavirus-updates/2020/04/a-payday-loan-chain-is-defying-state-shutdowns-to-collect-debts-in-a-pandemic/>

⁵⁷ <https://www.star-telegram.com/news/local/fort-worth/article144216284.html>

⁵⁸ <https://www.star-telegram.com/opinion/editorials/article53388020.html>



using campaign funds to purchase real estate in Travis County. However, the fine was reversed by an appeals court.⁵⁹

Date	Contributor	Location	Amount
4/20/16	Toby Goodman	Arlington, TX	\$500
12/9/16	Toby Goodman	Arlington, TX	\$250

Waybourn has received significant contributions from Empower Texans, an organization funded by West Texas billionaires to push the Texas Legislature further right.

According to policies the organization supports on its website, Empower Texans would be content to starve local and state government services, bankrupt neighborhood schools and gut local law enforcement and first responders.⁶⁰

Facts About Empower Texans

- Empower Texans' Michael Quinn Sullivan was the chief vote enforcer on the school funding cuts in 2011 that Abbott is now defending, even though Sullivan switched Texans for Fiscal Responsibility from a PAC to a nonprofit, so they could keep their donor list secret.⁶¹
- Then-AG Greg Abbott was so tangled up with Sullivan⁶² that the Ethics Commission didn't use the attorney general's office to handle its complaint against Sullivan, and hired outside counsel instead.⁶³
- Sullivan's major donor and the bankroller of the anti-Straus movement is Midland oilman Tim Dunn.⁶⁴
- Empower Texans tax documents don't match activities⁶⁵
- The organization and its leaders spearheaded 'dark money' campaigns against Speaker Joe Straus and moderate Republicans.⁶⁶
- Sullivan and his organization tried to take down Speaker Bonnen by recording a meeting between Sullivan, Bonnen, and Rep. Dustin Burrows. In this meeting,

⁵⁹ <https://www.wfaa.com/article/news/local/ethics-ruling-against-former-state-representative-goodman-overtured/287-411445704>

⁶⁰ <https://empowertexas.com/about/>

⁶¹ <http://www.texasmonthly.com/story/primary-targets?fullpage=1>

⁶² <http://www.empowertexas.com/around-texas/endorsement-greg-abbott-for-gov/>

⁶³ <http://www.houstonchronicle.com/news/politics/texas/article/Ethics-Commission-continues-fight-without-AG-5706920.php>

⁶⁴ http://www.texastribune.org/2014/05/11/tim-dunn-far-right-has-big-spender-who-gets-result/?utm_source=texastribune.org&utm_medium=rss&utm_campaign=Tribune%20Fee

⁶⁵ <http://www.expressnews.com/news/local/article/Empower-Texas-tax-documents-don-t-match-5801529.php>

⁶⁶ <http://www.expressnews.com/news/local/article/Dark-money-takes-root-in-Texas-5432529.php>



Bonnen and Burrows provided a list of Republicans they wanted Empower Texans to help defeat in exchange for press credentials.⁶⁷

Empower Texans funder, Tim Dunn, has been a leading force in fight for vouchers and opened a private school in Midland. According to the Midland Times Review, "Empower Texans has also been behind a push to allow students to use public money to attend private schools through vouchers or so-called taxpayer savings grants."⁶⁸

Farris and Dan Wilks, also major donors to Empower Texans, are not as high-profile as Tim Dunn but equally as dangerous in pushing an end-of-times ideology.

CBN's Brody reported: "The Wilks brothers worry that America's declining morals will especially hurt the younger generation, so they're using the riches that the Lord has blessed them with to back specific goals." One of those goals may be David Lane's insistence that politicians make the Bible a primary textbook in public schools. Here's Dan Wilks speaking to Brody: "I just think we have to make people aware, you know, and bring the Bible back into the school, and start teaching our kids at a younger age, and, uh, you know, and focus on the younger generation." And here's Farris: "They're being taught the other ideas, the gay agenda, every day out in the world so we have to stand up and explain to them that that's not real, that's not proper, it's not right."

Farris thinks conservative economics are grounded in the Bible. Like Mitt Romney, he says people shouldn't vote for politicians who promise "free this, free that." Like any number of Religious Right leaders, he saw Barack Obama's re-election as a harbinger of the End Times and he believes God will punish America for embracing homosexuality.

Source: <https://prospect.org/power/meet-billionaire-brothers-never-heard-fund-religious-right/>

Empower Texans Deeply Unpopular in North Texas in 2018

Tying the support of Empower Texans and its funders to the notion that West Texas billionaires are trying to buy power to impose their extreme ideological views on the rest of Texans has been viewed quite negatively.

Dan Patrick.

Very favorable 9%

Somewhat favorable 27%

Somewhat unfavorable 12%

Very unfavorable 26%

⁶⁷ <https://www.houstonchronicle.com/politics/texas/article/What-is-Empower-Texas-A-look-at-the-group-14273613.php>

⁶⁸ <https://www.mrt.com/news/article/In-Midland-a-political-donor-with-a-private-7410595.php>



DK/Refused 27%

Favorable 35%

Unfavorable 37%

[Incumbent Conservative Republican's] campaign is funded by West Texas billionaires who want to impose their conservative social values on all Texans.

Very positive 5%

Somewhat positive 14%

Somewhat negative 28%

Very negative 45%

DK/Refused 8%

Total Positive 19%

Total Negative 74%

Source: North Texas Poll Conducted Post-Primary, 2018

Date	Contributor	Location	Amount
4/20/16	Empower Texans	Austin, TX	\$5,000

Waybourn has received contributions from attorney Jeff Kearney, who in 2020, is representing a man who attempted to hire a hit man to kill his wife's ex-husband.⁶⁹

Date	Contributor	Location	Amount
10/17/20	Jeff Kearney	Fort Worth, TX	\$1,000
11/8/17	Jeff Kearney	Fort Worth, TX	\$500

J.D. Johnson, a Tarrant County commissioner, has donated to Waybourn's campaign. In June of 2020, Johnson voted to extend a program allowing transfers of undocumented immigrants to ICE from Tarrant County jails.⁷⁰

Date	Contributor	Location	Amount
10/17/16	J.D. Johnson	Fort Worth, TX	\$500
10/30/17	JD Johnson		\$100

At least one contribution is from Richard Morris. Initial research shows a police officer with the same name who was employed by the Arlington Police Department. Morris was reprimanded in 2009 by Fort Worth PD for aggressively raiding a local gay bar with his peers and failing to adequately write a report about the incident.⁷¹ Years later in 2018, likely the same Morris was suspended, arrested, charged with family violence.⁷²

⁶⁹ https://wacotrib.com/news/local/crime-and-courts/sources-undercover-officer-in-hit-case-was-in-waco-attorneys-motorcycle-club/article_cd5cf46b-4b61-52b4-a0c4-634723b161e3.html

⁷⁰ <https://www.dallasnews.com/news/immigration/2020/06/17/controversial-immigration-enforcement-agreement-with-ice-extended-in-tarrant-county/>

⁷¹ <https://www.nbcdfw.com/news/local/three-officers-suspended-in-rainbow-lounge-raid/1861859/>

⁷² <https://www.nbcdfw.com/local/arlington-officer-suspended-arrested-charged-with-family-violence/263334/>



Further research needed for accuracy.

Date	Contributor	Location	Amount
11/10/17	Richard Morris	Fort Worth, TX	\$500

Waybourn has accepted money from Mark Caffey, who was arrested months after his donation for alleged drunk driving.

Date	Contributor	Location	Amount
3/3/19	Mark Caffey		\$500
3/3/19	Mark Caffey		\$1,700

Chris Putnam, a heavily Trump-aligned Republican who unsuccessfully ran for congress in 2020, has significantly supported Waybourn's campaign.

Date	Contributor	Location	Amount
3/12/20	Chris Putname		\$5,000

Ray Davis and Neil Leibman have contributed to Waybourn's campaign. The reclusive co-owners of the Texas Rangers MLB team have been criticized for their organization's lack of community-involvement,⁷³ and recently, they reopened the offices of the baseball organization in spite of the COVID-19 pandemic.⁷⁴ Employees noted they were "terrified" to return back to work.

Date	Contributor	Location	Amount
N/A (2020 Mid-Year Report)	Ray Davis		\$5,000
N/A (2020 Mid-Year Report)	Neil Leibman		\$1,000

Doug Deason is a Trump supporter and Koch brothers buddy.⁷⁵ When he was a teenager, he was arrested and charged with felony burglary. His mom called Asa Hutchinson, the city attorney and "future drug czar, congressman, and governor," who his mom knew. The charge was reduced. In college at Arkansas, he was pulled over for speeding while he had "a pretty good buzz on," but instead of a DUI, he got a ticket, and the cop followed him home. Deason didn't pay the ticket, so he was arrested, but he was out of jail that evening and his brother paid the fine. He's since tried to reform the criminal justice system.⁷⁶ His father has also given to Waybourn's campaign.

Date	Contributor	Location	Amount
N/A (2020 Mid-Year Report)	Doug Deason		\$5,000

⁷³ <https://www.dallasnews.com/sports/rangers/2020/08/17/rangers-famously-reclusive-ownership-group-stepped-forward-monday-on-a-path-to-more-accountability/>

⁷⁴ <https://www.dallasnews.com/sports/rangers/2020/06/26/report-multiple-rangers-employees-test-positive-for-covid-19-others-terrified-to-work-at-globe-life-field/>

⁷⁵ <https://www.fox4news.com/news/dallas-millionaires-continue-to-back-trump-despite-video>

⁷⁶ <https://www.dmagazine.com/publications/d-magazine/2020/may/doug-deason-criminal-justice-reform/>



N/A (2020 Mid-Year Report)	Darwin Deason		\$5,000
----------------------------	---------------	--	---------

Waybourn has accepted support from David Simpson, a former Republican Texas House member who once voted against an anti-puppy mill bill meant to regulate animal breeders, calling the bill “government expansion” and saying it would create a “dog Gestapo.”⁷⁷

Date	Contributor	Location	Amount
N/A (2020 Mid-Year Report)	David and Arnie Simpson		\$5,000

The following information in this section is adopted from another third-party research report.

Since April 2020, one suicide and one unsupervised birth occurred at Waybourn’s jail, and the jail lost certification after failing to conduct required observations.

Dean Stewart who committed suicide in Tarrant County Jail had mental health issues that were documented by police prior to detainment. Stewart exhibited several signs of mental instability during his interview with police the day he was arrested and had documented encounters with local law enforcement. Tarrant County Jail employees were late for 3 prisoner checks before Dean Stewart committed suicide. Tarrant jail had three deaths due to unknown causes over the course of one week in June.

After being celebrated by right-wing media outlets for not releasing non-violent offenders due to COVID and claiming to have instituted policies and procedures to stop the spread of the virus in the jail early during the pandemic, Tarrant Jail has seen an unmitigated outbreak. Over the last week of May the number of cases in inmates went from 47 to 78, 18 staff were positive, and three deaths have occurred traced to Tarrant Jail. Waybourn has refused to release details of the policies and procedures he has instituted to contain the spread of the virus. Waybourn retweeted coverage of an alleged Physician support hydroxychloroquine as a COVID treatment on July 28.

The culmination of the prisoner suicide, 3 unknown deaths, unsupervised birth, and loss of certification has led to protests of Waybourn. Protestors cite “troubling culture of negligence and racism” at Tarrant County Jail. At a “Back the Badge” event organized in response to mass protests of police brutality in the wake of George Floyd’s murder Waybourn was quoted saying “the Silent Majority” supported police. In 2018, Waybourn said his department couldn’t accurately report the racial makeup of 4,000 people in custody as their computer system only allowed people to be reported as white or black.

The documented problems of mid-2020 are part of a longer pattern of neglect and worse at Waybourn’s jail. In 2019, following the death of Jennifer Espinoza while in custody, hospital staff disputed the timeline of Espinoza’s death reported by the Sheriff’s dept. In 2018, an inmate who murdered his cell mate at Tarrant Jail claimed he told guards he heard voices, didn’t know right from wrong. He was in custody for attack on man who voices told him was part of Al Qaeda. Jail staff ignored his and put him in a cell with another detainee. Waybourn’s jail was sued over the 2017 alleged wrongful death of a detainee.

⁷⁷ <https://www.nytimes.com/2011/06/03/us/03ttsimpson.html>



After claiming in his campaign his goal was to be more present in his community, he has spent much of his time pandering to right-wing media. This has including speaking at an ICE event at the White House where he faced criticism for equating all immigrants to drunk drivers and claiming “these “drunks” will “run over your children” if not for ICE. He later clarified he was referring to repeat DWI offenders, coincidentally days later his grown son was arrested for public intoxication after having been arrested 3 times previously for other offences. Waybourn ran in 2016 echoing then-candidate Trump racist immigration platform and has since called for sending troops to secure the border. He has been a defender of participation in the 287g program claiming that because of his effective implementation of it, ICE was not required to conduct “raids” of Latinx communities as they could just come to his jail. One of his first acts as Sheriff was to have 12 deputies undergo ICE training.

A veteran himself, Waybourn had “no comment” when asked about a local recruiter for the Oathkeepers militia group that was recruiting veterans into law enforcement in order to prepare for “bloody civil war” even though Waybourn had previously been excited to talk about recruiting veterans into law enforcement.

Waybourn’s 2016 campaign led to reports of an odd shooting accident he was involved in. While teaching a concealed carry class one on one with a doctor, Cindy Simmons, at a private firing range Waybourn injured his hand in a misfire. Waybourn got surgical repair for his hand paid for through a workers comp claim as he said the one on one class was part of standard outreach. City officials including the Counsel backed Waybourn’s claim even though they could produce no written policy or record of such a program. Waybourn had previously said he had sought to start a business teacher conceal carry classes with Chris Kyle of “American Sniper” fame, prior to his death. When the story surfaced on a Facebook parody cite during his 2016 campaign, Waybourn worked with a friend who was a local judge to obtain a warrant to find out who started the site, circumventing standard warrant procedure.

Waybourn spent 31 years as City Police Chief of Dalworthington Gardens after being appointed the youngest police chief in Texas. He retired the year before running for Sheriff claiming “every day was a holiday” in the job. Dalworth Gardens had a population of 2,300, and less than 20 officers, when he ran for Sheriff in 2016. It was noted for being a small and peaceful suburb with little serious crime in news stories from both the mid-90s and around the time of his campaign. In contrast Waybourn now heads an office with 1,600 staff and \$120 million budget, 80 percent of which is dedicated to running the county jail.

Jail conditions lead to suicide, 3 deaths due to unknown causes in one week, an unsupervised birth, COVID outbreak, loss of certification, and protests in recent months

Since April one suicide and one unsupervised birth occurred at Waybourn’s jail, and the jail lost certification after failing to conduct required observations.

Dean Stewart who committed suicide in Tarrant County Jail had mental health issues that were documented by police prior to detainment. Stewart exhibited several signs of mental instability during his interview with police the day he was arrested and had documented encounters with local law enforcement. Tarrant County Jail employees were late for 3 prisoner checks before Dean Stewart committed suicide.



Tarrant jail had three deaths due to unknown causes over the course of one week in June.

Protestors cite “troubling culture of negligence and racism” at Tarrant County Jail. In 2018, Waybourn said his department couldn’t accurately report the racial makeup of 4,000 people in custody as their computer system only allowed people to be reported as white or black.

Since April one suicide and one unsupervised birth occurred at Waybourn’s jail, and the jail lost certification after failing to conduct required observations. “All evidence indicates that Waybourn is failing to properly run his jail. On April 26, the sheriff’s office reported that an inmate died by suicide.⁷⁸ On May 17, a woman who had been imprisoned since January gave birth without anyone noticing.⁷⁹ The jail lost state certification by not conducting the required 30-minute face-to-face observation checks, and Waybourn has not responded to questions nor made this information public. This raises serious questions about his ability to keep people in custody safe.” (Fort Worth Star-Telegram, opinion, 5/29/20)

Dean Stewart who committed suicide in Tarrant County Jail had mental health issues that were documented by police prior to detainment. “Prior to his suicide in jail, there were plenty of clues that Dean Ray Stewart, 50, suffered from serious mental instability, his brother said. Documentation from police bears that out. Family members contend that police were aware of their relative’s mental problems and should have taken him someplace where he could have received appropriate mental health treatment or monitored him more closely while he was in the Tarrant County Jail. ‘He didn’t have his medication,’ Dean Stewart’s brother Kerry Stewart told the Star-Telegram. “It wasn’t like he was a crazy person. When he was on his medication, you would never know. How could they, why would they have put someone in jail knowing that this was his situation?” (Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas), May 29, 2020)

Dean Stewart exhibited several signs of mental instability during his interview with police the day he was arrested and had documented encounters with local law enforcement. “Dean Stewart told police that helicopters and drones were following and listening to him, the police report said. Stewart said he believed that people and listening devices were hidden in his house, the report said. Dean Stewart also told the Euless police officer who interviewed him after his arrest that government drones were being used to spread viruses, including the coronavirus, and that he had encouraged authorities to test the area where he lived for radiation, but that no one would listen, the report said. Police from two other departments recorded multiple encounters with Dean Stewart, according to the Euless police report.” (Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas), May 29, 2020)

- **Tarrant County Jail employees were late for 3 prisoner checks before Dean Stewart committed suicide.** “Employees at the Tarrant County Jail were late on three checks before an inmate died by suicide in April, according to a document obtained by the Star-Telegram through an open records request. Dean Stewart’s death, which happened on April 26, sparked a routine investigation by the Texas Commission of Jail Standards. The investigation revealed the lapse in checks, which resulted in the jail losing state certification for six days in May. To regain its certification, the jail had to supply the state with a plan of action detailing how they would ensure that inmate checks weren’t missed in the future. In Stewart’s case, he was left alone for nearly an hour when jailers were 21 minutes late to a check. Another time, the check was made 17 minutes

⁷⁸ <https://www.star-telegram.com/news/local/crime/article242326876.html>

⁷⁹ <https://www.star-telegram.com/news/local/fort-worth/article243035716.html>



late and in the third it was done 12 minutes late, according to the document. An internal investigation was opened on May 5 against the three correctional officers who were assigned to Stewart's pod. Those investigations are still ongoing.” (Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas), June 5, 2020)

Tarrant jail had three deaths due to unknown causes over the course of one week in June. “Three people died at the jail within a week in late June, according to the Tarrant County medical examiner and sheriff’s office. Jason Glendon Martin, 40, was pronounced dead on June 24 of unknown causes. One day later, Abdullahi Mohamed, 40, died of an unknown medical emergency. A day after that, Javonte Lakendrick Myers, 28, was found dead in his cell after the sheriff’s office said he experienced an unknown medical emergency.” (Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas), July 11, 2020)

Protestors cite “troubling culture of negligence and racism” at Tarrant County Jail. “Rodriguez, who said he spent 14 hours in custody before he was released, has become part of a group of activists calling for change inside of a jail with what they see as a troubling culture of negligence and racism. There have been more than 40 coronavirus cases at the jail. Three people died from unknown causes within one week in late June. A spokesperson for the Tarrant County Sheriff’s Office didn’t respond to a request for comment on Saturday about the issues raised by protesters. But in late May, after the jail lost state certification and a woman gave birth alone in a cell, the sheriff’s office said in a Facebook post that many recent headlines about incidents were ‘sensationalized or unclear on facts.’” (Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas), July 11, 2020)

Waybourn referred to “the silent majority” supporting law enforcement at “back the badge” event at a bar in late June 2020 amid pandemic and widespread protests of police brutality in the wake of George Floyd execution. “Tarrant County Sheriff Bill Waybourn told the party that he was there to ‘remind police that the silent majority is with them.’ ‘My heroes are America’s police officers,’ Waybourn said. ‘I stand with you, beside you, in front of you and behind you.’” Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas), June 21, 2020 Sunday)

2018: Waybourn said his department couldn’t accurately report the racial makeup of 4,000 people in custody as their computer system only allowed people to be reported as white or black. “Waybourn said there were 4,000 people in prison in Tarrant County as of Monday morning. However, because of outdated technology, he’s unable to determine the racial breakdown of the inmates. The system only allows for someone to be identified as white or black. Waybourn said his office is trying to obtain a new system to keep more accurate and precise records.” (Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas), April 16, 2018)

Jail COVID-19 Outbreak

After being celebrated by right-wing media outlets for not releasing non-violent offenders due to COVID and claiming to have instituted policies and procedures to stop the spread of the virus in the jail early during the pandemic, Tarrant Jail has seen an unmitigated outbreak. Over the last week of May the number of cases in inmates went from 47 to 78, 18 staff were positive, and three deaths have occurred traced to Tarrant Jail. Waybourn has refused to release details of the policies and procedures he has instituted to contain the spread of the virus.



Less than a month after being profiled as model for containing COVID outbreaks in jail, Waybourn’s jails had 41 inmates and 18 staffers positive and one death and refused to publicly release plan to deal with outbreak. “At Waybourn’s jail, 41 inmates and 18 jail staffers currently have coronavirus, and one man has already died. Waybourn has not released a public plan for testing or tracing cases to protect those in custody and staff. Despite numerous calls to release nonviolent offenders to lessen the potential for the spread of the disease in jail, Waybourn continues to book offenders for offenses such as possession of marijuana, putting more at dangerous risk to the virus.”⁸⁰ (Fort Worth Star-Telegram, opinion, 5/29/20)

- **Political news outlet “the Texan” profiled Waybourn’s jail as model for containing COVID19 prior to outbreak – claimed they already had protocols and procedure in place.** “The Tarrant County jail, the fifteenth largest jail in the nation currently holding about 3,300 inmates, had remained coronavirus free until two inmates tested positive over the weekend. Sheriff Bill Waybourn told the Tarrant County Commissioners Court on Tuesday that the two inmates had been isolated and will be quarantined until at least April 24, but they are exhibiting very minor symptoms and are doing well. ‘We put protocols and procedures in place before there was any outbreak in the state and as things worsened around the state, we looked at ways to strengthen those protocols,’ David McClelland, the Tarrant County Sheriff’s chief of staff told The Texan.” (The Texan, political news outlet, 4/14/20)
- **Waybourn was featured in right-wing outlet the Daily Caller for refusal to consider prisoner release to stop the spread of COVID.** “Tarrant County Sheriff Bill Waybourn joined the Daily Caller’s Stephanie Hamill to discuss Texas’ plan to reopen and how his county jail has been handling inmates during the coronavirus pandemic and more. ‘This is a law and order state and these people are going through the judicial process, we’re not releasing prisoners,’ said Sheriff Waybourn. ‘Regardless of what we want to believe is that we still have a 70 percent recidivism rate all over the country so even though you have great grace like they did in New York and let all those people off, I don’t know, law enforcement certainly wasn’t surprised that they were brought back to crime.’”⁸¹ (Daily Caller, 4/28/20)

Waybourn retweeted coverage of an alleged Physician support hydroxychloroquine as a COVID treatment on July 28.

⁸⁰ <https://www.star-telegram.com/opinion/opn-columns-blogs/other-voices/article243060041.html>

⁸¹ <https://dailycaller.com/2020/04/28/meet-the-texas-sheriff-who-didnt-release-inmates-due-to-coronavirus/>





2019: Tarrant County Sheriff's Department timeline of death of Jennifer Espinoza while in custody did not match hospital staff timeline.

2019: According to family hospital staff disagreed with Sheriff's department timeline of death of Jennifer Espinoza while in custody. "A Haltom City woman who died in the custody of the Tarrant County Sheriff's Department last week had told her family she was ready to leave addiction behind for good just days before her death, her sister says. Jennifer Espinoza, 37, died at John Peter Smith Hospital last Wednesday, the day after she was found unresponsive in her jail cell, officials said. The medical examiner's office has not released her cause of death. Espinoza had been booked into the Tarrant County jail Jan. 10 on a charge of possession of methamphetamine with intent to deliver, according to jail and court records. On Tuesday evening, the sheriff's department released a timeline of events preceding Espinoza's death. The department said it came from jail video and cell-check records. At 1:48 p.m. Jan. 15, jail video showed Espinoza leaving her cell to use the phone, then returning 17 minutes later, the department said in a news release. At 2:22 p.m., jail staff checked on Espinoza and found no issues. Then, at 2:51 p.m., officers doing another observation check called for emergency help, and medical staff arrived three minutes later. Espinoza's sister, Cheryl Hammett, said the timeline conflicts with what hospital staff told her: that Espinoza had been unresponsive in her cell for 50 minutes before she was resuscitated and taken to the hospital. Hammett said her sister died after going into cardiac arrest." (DALLAS MORNING NEWS, January 23, 2019)

2018: Inmate who murdered cell mate at Tarrant Jail claimed he told guards he heard voices, didn't know right from wrong, was in custody

for attack on man who voices told him was part of Al Qaeda.

Tarrant County inmate who killed cell mate claimed he had warned guards he heard voices that told him to attack people and shouldn't be left with others. "An inmate at Tarrant County jail charged with killing a notoriously accused child molester said Wednesday he warned guards he should not be placed in a cell with other people. Jail officials said David Faustino Flores, 42, killed 76-year-old Clinton Don Simpson on Nov. 7 by slamming his head into the floor more than a dozen times. Flores talked to reporters from jail on Wednesday afternoon, the same day he was formally charged with murder in the case, according to court records. Flores said he hears voices and does not know right from wrong. He said he was in solitary confinement before being moved to suicide watch for trying to kill himself. 'I told them I was schizophrenic and need my own cell. They didn't know me either. They didn't know better,' Flores said. 'I can't handle people. I said that when I first got here.' Flores was in jail on a charge of assaulting an elderly man. He said he attacked the elderly man because he was hearing voices and thought he was part of Al-Qaeda." (Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas), November 14, 2018)

Brother of accused killer said he shouldn't have been jailed in a shared cell and should have been under psychiatric treatment due to known mental health issues. "The brother of a Fort Worth man accused of killing an alleged child molester in a Tarrant County Jail cell says his mentally ill brother should not have been housed with another inmate. Brandon Flores said his brother, David Faustino Flores, 43, suffers from schizophrenia and has hallucinations but had never been violent until October, when he was accused of hitting an elderly employee at a store. Brandon Flores said he doesn't believe his brother attacked Clinton Don Simpson, 76, because Simpson was an accused pedophile or because Simpson was elderly. He said he believes his brother's mental condition made him vulnerable in jail and that he probably felt alone, only escalating his schizophrenia. 'The mental health system fails the people daily on normal things. I never expected them to fail my brother this much,' Brandon Flores said. Brandon Flores said his brother belonged in the John Peter Smith psychiatric ward, not in a Tarrant County Jail cell with another inmate whom he is now accused of fatally beating." (Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas) November 12, 2018)

2017: Wrongful death suit from sons of man who died after being in custody at Tarrant County jail.

After lack of medical care Billy Freeland died after being in Tarrant County custody. "Billy Larae Freeland was drunk when he was booked into the Tarrant County jail in October of 2017. Five days later, he was taken to the emergency room with acute respiratory and renal failure caused by substance abuse withdrawal and was essentially unresponsive. He never regained consciousness and, 12 days later, the 61-year-old Bedford man died, according to a wrongful death lawsuit filed by his sons. Billy Freeland's sons filed the wrongful death lawsuit in district court against Tarrant County and Sheriff Bill Waybourn on Oct. 12. In the suit, Taylor and Josh Freeland say their father died due to a lack of basic medical care while in custody at the Tarrant County Jail." (Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas), October 19, 2018)



Waybourn has sought national right-wing media attention while neglecting core duties of Sheriff.

HEADLINE: “Tarrant sheriff should spend more time fixing jail, less building his national profile”⁸² (Fort Worth Star-Telegram, opinion, 5/29/20)

Waybourn has sought national right-wing media attention while neglecting core duties of Sheriff. “Tarrant County Sheriff Bill Waybourn is not one to shy away from publicity. Whether on Fox News, speaking at the White House, or standing before the cameras with conservative commentator Allen West, Waybourn has spent the last three and half years trying to politicize the sheriff’s office and raise his stardom nationally among conservatives. But while the sheriff accepts invitations to appear nationally on outlets such as Fox News, he failed to inform the local public or respond to a Star-Telegram reporter’s request for information⁸³ about how the jail he runs lost state certification this week by not meeting minimum standards. As the sheriff was at the hospital after West’s motorcycle wreck in Waco,⁸⁴ someone being held in Waybourn’s jail died of coronavirus at John Peter Smith Hospital in Fort Worth. And while Waybourn stood in front of a White House lectern and demonized immigrants last year,⁸⁵ he couldn’t provide basic statistics about inmates in his jail while asking the Tarrant County Commissioners Court to spend taxpayer dollars to renew the county’s voluntary 287(g) immigration program,⁸⁶ in which jail deputies perform some federal immigration duties.” (Fort Worth Star-Telegram, opinion, 5/29/20)

American Sniper Connection

Waybourn was accused of political opportunism in escorting “American Sniper” widow to murder trial for her husbands alleged killer. “Waybourn was also asked if it was political posturing when he escorted Taya Kyle, the widow of American Sniper author Chris Kyle, to the Stephenville murder trial of Eddie Ray Routh. Routh was convicted of killing Chris Kyle and his best friend, Chad Littlefield, at an Erath County gun range in 2013. ‘I was on vacation many times if you were referring to the trial,’ Waybourn said. ‘... That was a horrible event and we wanted to see justice served.’”⁸⁷ (Dallas Morning News, 2/8/16)

DWI No-Refusals

During 2016 Campaign Waybourn said no-refusal DWI enforcement was his proudest achievement. “Waybourn said he is most proud of pioneering DWI no-refusals in Dalworthington Gardens since 2005, where court orders for blood draws are obtained for suspected drunk

⁸² <https://www.star-telegram.com/opinion/opn-columns-blogs/other-voices/article243060041.html>

⁸³ <https://www.star-telegram.com/news/local/fort-worth/article243028416.html>

⁸⁴ <https://www.dallasnews.com/news/2020/05/23/former-us-congressman-allen-west-injured-in-motorcycle-accident-near-waco/>

⁸⁵ <https://www.houstonchronicle.com/politics/texas/article/Texas-sheriff-speaking-at-White-House-calls-14507109.php>

⁸⁶ <https://www.keranews.org/post/tarrant-county-commissioners-vote-extend-ice-agreement>

⁸⁷ <https://www.dallasnews.com/news/politics/2016/02/08/tarrant-county-sheriff-s-race-a-contrast-in-styles/>



drivers if they refuse a Breathalyzer. 'I think it saved thousands of lives,' Waybourn said."⁸⁸ (Dallas Morning News, 2/8/16)

Waybourn's son has legal issues that are contrasted with rhetoric around "repeat offenders"

Waybourn's adult son was arrested for public intoxication days after Waybourn made national headlines for comments referring to "illegal immigrants" as "drunk" who "will run over your children." "Sergei Waybourn was arrested for public intoxication in the 1300 block of N. Collins Street in Arlington, near AT&T Stadium — just days after his adoptive father made headlines for calling some illegal immigrants in his county's jail "drunks" who "will run over your children" when speaking about DWI suspects and repeat offenders...⁸⁹ "This morning we had 4,200 inmates, out of that, 7% were illegal aliens... of those people we have custody, we know for a fact that 72% of them are repeat offenders," Waybourn said. "If we have to turn them loose or they get released, they're coming back to your neighborhood and my neighborhood. These drunks will run over your children and they will run over my children." However, Sergei is a repeat offender — with charges dating back to 2018 for assault, criminal trespassing and theft."⁹⁰ (21 CBS Dallas Fort Worth, 10/12/19)

Waybourn's son had three prior arrests over the previous two years including for assault. "Not including the latest arrest, Sergei Waybourn has been charged three times with criminal trespassing and twice with theft in the past two years. In June 2018, he was charged with assault." (Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas), January 4, 2019)

Waybourn's statement after son's second arrest was that he had disassociated from our family after failed support to deal with drug addiction. "Waybourn has since made a statement regarding his son's arrest: The family and I are deeply saddened by Sergei's choices. It has been many years since he disassociated from our family. We, along with many family members have made efforts over the years to help him — all to no avail. It is always sad when drugs take control of a person's life. His choices and actions have led to this situation.[emphasis in original]"⁹¹ (21 CBS Dallas Fort Worth, 10/12/19)

"Sergei Waybourn is one of **Bill Waybourn's** nine children. He is one of seven children the Waybourn's adopted, according to the Tarrant County Sheriff's department website." (Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas), January 4, 2019)

⁸⁸ <https://www.dallasnews.com/news/politics/2016/02/08/tarrant-county-sheriff-s-race-a-contrast-in-styles/>

⁸⁹ <https://dfw.cbslocal.com/2019/10/10/tarrant-county-sheriff-bill-waybourn-comments-illegal-immigration-texas/>

⁹⁰ <https://dfw.cbslocal.com/2019/01/04/tarrant-county-sheriff-son-charged-criminal-trespassing-theft-arlington/>

⁹¹ <https://dfw.cbslocal.com/2019/10/12/tarrant-county-sheriff-bill-waybourns-son-arrested-for-indecent-exposure-records-show/>



287g

Waybourn told right-wing group that ICE didn't conduct "raids" in their county because they only needed to come to his jail. "In a fascinating twist on immigration enforcement, Waybourn told a grassroots conservative political group last week that U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) officers no longer raid homes or round up families here. "ICE isn't doing raids in Tarrant County," Waybourn told the Project Fort Worth group, "because they only come to the Tarrant County jail." Since 2017, when Waybourn agreed to have 12 deputies trained to act as local ICE agents under the federal program known as 287(g), ICE just picks up some of the immigration violators in the jail and doesn't go out looking for them, he said. "They don't go out into the neighborhoods," Waybourn, a first-term Republican and former Dalworthington Gardens police chief, told the meeting at an Elks Lodge in west Fort Worth." (Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas), January 26, 2019)

70 deportations were the result of Tarrant County 287(g) participation since 2019. "Last year, 1,466 inmates in Tarrant County had ICE detainers. Of those, 307 were put on inmates by the Tarrant County Sheriff's Department. None of those were for Class C misdemeanors, officials said. Of those 307, 236 were released to ICE and 70 of those people had hearings and were deported and 61 of them voluntarily decided to go back to their home country. Others posted bond, remained in ICE custody or their cases haven't been resolved, sheriff's data shows." (Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas), June 16, 2020)

Waybourn defended 287(g) as giving more structure to local engagement with ICE. "Tarrant County Sheriff Bill Waybourn updated commissioners about the 287(g) plan that lets sheriff's deputies work as ICE agents. "For the last 30 years, ICE has been in Tarrant County jail," he said. In the past, without this program, any peace officer or detention officer could conduct an investigation and contact ICE if there was a concern. If there was a detainer on that person, ICE would fax over the information. "That was completely apart from 287(g)," Waybourn said. He also noted that if there was no 287(g) contract, the department would still have to honor ICE holds on inmates brought to the jail from other cities. Waybourn said 287(g) "gives us some discretion and a solidified policy" of how to proceed." (Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas), June 16, 2020)

In 2017, Waybourn agreed to have 12 deputies trained to act as local ICE. "In 2017, Waybourn agreed to have 12 deputies trained to act as local ICE agents under the federal program. Waybourn has said deputies perform ICE duties while also performing routine tasks. He said the deputies' salaries are paid by the county and the federal government pays for travel, boarding, meals and other expenses associated with ICE training. Sheriff department calculations show the program cost \$17,800 from June 1, 2019, to May 31, 2020." (Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas), June 16, 2020)

Waybourn claimed deputies "are not racially profiling or conducting raids for ICE." "Waybourn has said that sheriff's deputies are not racially profiling or conducting raids for ICE. His office said immigration checks are run on those arrested for Class B misdemeanor arrests or higher." (Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas), June 16, 2020)



Oathkeepers

Waybourn had “no comment” on militia group “oathkeepers” recruiting veterans to be law enforcement officers to prepare for “bloody civil war.” “A revolution-minded, conspiracy-bent militia group named the Oath Keepers is recruiting law officers in Hood County to take up arms in what the founder predicts will be a “bloody civil war” against the U.S. government. A national director of the Las Vegas-based Oath Keepers, John D. Shirley, moved to rural Hood County in 2015 and has been appointed by county commissioners as a constable, giving him both access to confidential information and a political platform to recruit more militia members... Tarrant County has no policy. Sheriff Bill Waybourn of Dalworthington Gardens had no comment.” (Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas), February 28, 2020)

- **Waybourn was quoted in story about bill to prioritize recruitment of military veterans into law enforcement in 2019.** “Tarrant County Sheriff Bill Waybourn agreed. ‘We are placing a lot of emphasis on hiring veterans,’ he said. One after another, Tarrant County and Fort Worth leaders voiced their strong support for the American Law Enforcement Heroes Act, a bill introduced by Cornyn and fellow Sen. Amy Klobuchar, D-Minn. Cornyn held a roundtable discussion about the bill Monday at the Bob Bolen Public Safety Complex with police and local leaders. The bill would encourage state and local law enforcement agencies to hire veterans by creating a statutory preference to prioritize the hiring and training of veterans.” (Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas), February 16, 2019)

Shooting accident and workers comp claim

Waybourn accidentally shot hand while teaching one on one gun safety class at a private gun range, claimed worker’s comp to pay for surgery to repair hand. “During one class in June 2013, Waybourn was accidentally shot in the right hand while teaching an Arlington doctor at a Tarrant County gun range. His injury required surgery that was paid for through a workers’ comp claim, a decision that city officials made.”⁹² (Fort Worth Star- Telegram, 2/18/16)

Waybourn claimed the class was part of a city approved outreach program as justification for worker’s comp claim. “Waybourn told the Star-Telegram that the accidental discharge occurred as he trained the doctor under a city-approved outreach program. Two days after the shooting, in which his right hand was injured, Waybourn checked “yes” on a city form that asked if he was doing his regular job. The form, called Employers First Report of Injury or Illness, is the first step toward filing a workers’ comp claim.”⁹³ (Fort Worth Star- Telegram, 2/18/16)

- **2013: Waybourn said he wanted to start a business with “American Sniper” subject Chris Kyle prior to his death teaching conceal carry.** “The Sandy Hook Elementary tragedy taught educators a harsh lesson about the vulnerability of their schools. On Saturday in Kennedale, area faculty and other staff members learned how they might play a direct role in making their campuses more secure... The idea for the class began with Dalworthington Gardens Police Chief Bill Waybourn in November. He had hoped to start a business to teach a licensing class for concealed weapons with

⁹² <https://www.star-telegram.com/article61168537.html>

⁹³ <https://www.star-telegram.com/article61168537.html>



famed Navy SEAL sniper Chris Kyle. But Kyle was killed in February at an Erath County gun range; a troubled fellow veteran has been charged in his death.” (Dallas Morning News, 4/7/13)

City attorney was unable to produce written policy or any documentation of a city outreach program that covered Waybourn’s claim. “Dalworthington Gardens City Attorney Jim Jeffrey confirmed that there had been an understanding — but no written policy — between the City Council and Waybourn that the chief could provide concealed handgun classes as a community service. ‘When the report of injury came in, the question of whether he was covered under workers’ compensation came up,’ Jeffrey said. ‘My position is if he was on an approved city activity and this was reported to the workers’ comp carrier, it would be up to the carrier to decide whether to provide workers’ comp coverage.’”⁹⁴ (Fort Worth Star- Telegram, 2/18/16)

Waybourn claimed he had taught close to 1,000 people over 15 to 20 years as part of the program including large classes and one on one sessions – Dalworthington Gardens is a city of 2,300 people. “Waybourn said that the outreach program was a public relations effort made by the city and that the outreach classes were separate from other concealed handgun license programs that he has conducted for profit. ‘Nobody was charged for them,’ he said. He said he’s taught “probably close to 1,000 people” over the last 15 to 20 years under the city’s outreach efforts. Some, he said, have been taught in large class settings and others, like with the Arlington doctor, were one on one.”⁹⁵ (Fort Worth Star- Telegram, 2/18/16)

Doctor being taught during accidental shooting said she did not pay Waybourn and her understanding was it was part of a city program though no other participants were cited. “Simmons said that while she has no knowledge of whether the city approved her training, she did not pay Waybourn for it nor was payment ever discussed. She completed the classroom portion of the training at the city’s Public Safety building. ‘He has offered this as a service to multiple groups and individuals to my knowledge,’ Simmons said.

Waybourn said he would still be open to teaching as part of an outreach program as Sheriff “though likely not as frequently.” “Waybourn said that if elected, he would “still be open” to teaching the “outreach” classes as sheriff, though likely not as frequently.”⁹⁶ (Fort Worth Star- Telegram, 2/18/16)

Accident occurred while attempting to clear “stovepiped” round from students gun – a round had not ejected properly and gun discharged shrapnel when Waybourn attempted clearance. “Waybourn said the shooting occurred after the doctor’s gun “stovepiped” — a term used for when a round does not completely eject, as the two trained at the Firearms Training Fort Worth gun range, south of Kennedale. He said he was preparing to demonstrate how to clear the gun when a brass piece suddenly popped out on its own and the gun’s slide slammed forward, loading a live round and discharging it. ‘I thought the gun had blown up in my hand because my hand was nowhere near the trigger,’ Waybourn recalled.”⁹⁷ (Fort Worth Star- Telegram, 2/18/16)

No report of the incident was retained by the city, nor records of how much the worker’s comp claim and Waybourn’s surgeries cost city taxpayers. “He said an incident report was

⁹⁴ <https://www.star-telegram.com/article61168537.html>

⁹⁵ <https://www.star-telegram.com/article61168537.html>

⁹⁶ <https://www.star-telegram.com/article61168537.html>

⁹⁷ <https://www.star-telegram.com/article61168537.html>



made but was unsure if it was still in Dalworthington Garden's computer system. He said he ultimately underwent two surgeries as a result of his injury but does not know the medical costs associated with those surgeries. A spokesman for the Texas Insurance Department said the agency could not confirm whether such a claim was made and how much was paid, citing confidentiality laws. Jeffrey said he has no knowledge of the city requiring concealed handgun trainees to sign liability waivers and wouldn't speculate if the city's sovereign immunity would have been in jeopardy if the student had been shot rather than Waybourn. He said the policy of allowing Waybourn to teach concealed handgun classes wasn't questioned after the accidental shooting. Motley said he had not previously considered, nor had the council discussed in his presence, whether Waybourn's classes could have posed a liability to the city."⁹⁸ (Fort Worth Star-Telegram, 2/18/16)

Waybourn was accused of circumventing legal procedure to obtain a warrant to find out who was behind a Facebook page critical of the worker's comp claim for his shooting accident. "In fact, the scheme by Waybourn and Driskell to use the Arlington Municipal Court to issue the warrant appears to have been an illegal effort to circumvent Article 18.20 of the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure.⁹⁹ That law, which governs how law enforcement may access "electronic customer data," specifically requires peace officers to obtain a search warrant from a state district court judge. District court judges are elected by the people and handle all types of civil and felony criminal cases. Municipal court judges are appointed by city councils and typically handle traffic tickets. As more information becomes available about this case, it is becoming more and more clear that Waybourn and his associates, including Driskell, may have violated several provisions of the Penal Code by abusing Tarrant County resources to target a political opponent. Abuse of the criminal justice system to accomplish political objectives is a scourge on the State of Texas. Tarrant County needs to investigate and prosecute Waybourn¹⁰⁰ for his actions in this case."¹⁰¹ (Texas Scorecard, 1/11/18)

2016 Campaign

Waybourn raised over \$178k in race for Sheriff. "As of the Feb. 1 campaign finance report filings, Waybourn had twice as much cash on hand with \$57,493.94 to Anderson's \$27,229.23. In the last two filing periods, Waybourn had raised \$178,680.12 to Anderson's \$24,812.90."¹⁰² (Dallas Morning News, 2/8/16)

Campaign finance filings: <https://www.tarrantcounty.com/en/elections/campaign-filings/waybourn--bill-e-.html>

⁹⁸ <https://www.star-telegram.com/article61168537.html>

⁹⁹ <https://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/CR/htm/CR.18.htm>

¹⁰⁰ <https://texasscorecard.com/local/botched-french-attack-waybourn-admits-official-oppression/>

¹⁰¹ <https://texasscorecard.com/local/waybourn-used-illegal-warrant-investigate-facebook-page/>

¹⁰² <https://www.dallasnews.com/news/politics/2016/02/08/tarrant-county-sheriff-s-race-a-contrast-in-styles/>



Contributions

Personal Contributions

According to federal, state, and local records, **Bill Waybourn** has made \$44,928.70 in political contributions.

REPNO	Filer Name	Contributor Name	Amount	Date	Employer	City
1328076	TARRANT COUNTY REPUBLICAN VICTORY FUND	WAYBOURN, BILL CHIEF	1500	2/16/2019 0:00	CITY OF DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS	DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS
1293482	TARRANT COUNTY REPUBLICAN VICTORY FUND	WAYBOURN, BILL CHIEF	60	8/31/2018 0:00	CITY OF DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS	DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS
100710774	Reagan Legacy Republican Women ,	Waybourn, Bill	71.70	05-19-2018	Self	Arlington
100710774	Reagan Legacy Republican Women ,	Waybourn, Bill	60.00	05-19-2018	Self	Arlington
100710774	Reagan Legacy Republican Women ,	Waybourn, Bill	75.00	05-19-2018	Self	Arlington
1311744	RON WRIGHT FOR CONGRESS	WAYBOURN, BILL	2000	3/6/2018 0:00	TARRANT COUNTY	ARLINGTON
1213213	TARRANT COUNTY REPUBLICAN VICTORY FUND	WAYBOURN, BILL CHIEF	1500	2/2/2018 0:00	CITY OF DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS	DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS
100650640	Republican Party of Texas ,	Waybourn for Sheriff,	1,500.00	11-03-2016		Arlington
100648444	Tarrant County Law Enforcement Association	Bill Waybourn for Sheriff Campaign ,	8,428.67	10-21-2016		Dalworthington Gardens
100640469	Tarrant County Law Enforcement Association	Bill Waybourn for Sheriff Campaign ,	20,000.00	06-01-2016		Dalworthington Gardens
1072242	JEB 2016, INC.	WAYBOURN, BILLY	-1000	2/22/2016 0:00	DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS	ARLINGTON
100640823	Cowtown Republican Women ,	Waybourn for Sheriff Campaign Fund,	250.00	02-02-2016		Arlington
100624628	Tarrant County GOP ,	Waybourn, Bill	600.00	01-30-2016	Dalworthington Gardens	Hurst

1057122	JEB 2016, INC.	WAYBOURN, BILLY	500	1/30/2016 0:00	DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS	ARLINGTON
100625152	Republican Women of Arlington ,	Waybourn for Sheriff Campaign Fund,	60.00	01-25-2016		Arlington
100620723	Tarrant County GOP ,	Waybourn for Sheriff Campaign Fund,	425.00	01-11-2016		Arlington
100640823	Cowtown Republican Women ,	Waybourn for Sheriff Campaign Fund,	100.00	01-02-2016		Arlington
1072235	JEB 2016, INC.	WAYBOURN, BILLY	500	12/30/2015 0:00	DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS	ARLINGTON
1072235	JEB 2016, INC.	WAYBOURN, BILLY	500	11/30/2015 0:00	DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS	ARLINGTON
100618385	Tarrant County GOP ,	Waybourn for Sheriff Campaign Fund,	1,250.00	09-17-2015		Arlington
1014957	PERRY FOR PRESIDENT INC	WAYBOURN, BILL	250	6/16/2015 0:00	CITY OF DALWORTHINGTON	ARLINGTON
100258736	True Texas Project PAC ,	Waybourn, Bill	40.00	04-10-2015	Dalworthington Gardens DPS	Arlington
632347	Tinderholt , Tony D.	Waybourn, Bill	100.00	10-12-2014	Dalworthington Gardens	Arlington
924648	TARRANT COUNTY REPUBLICAN VICTORY FUND	WAYBOURN, BILL CHIEF	4583.33	2/8/2014 0:00	CITY OF DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS	DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS
559052	Krause , Matthew H.	Waybourn, Bill	50.00	12-06-2012		Arlington
409954	REPUBLICAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE	WAYBOURN, BILLY MR.	400	11/3/2008 0:00		ARLINGTON
389657	Zedler , William W.	Waybourn for Sheriff Campaign Fund,	600.00	10-09-2008	Dalworthington Gardens	Arlington
377632	Tarrant County GOP ,	Waybourn for Sheriff Campaign Fund,	525.00	01-31-2008	Dalworthington Gardens	Arlington

Campaign Facebook

 **Sheriff Bill Waybourn** July 29 · 🌐

I would like to thank all the patriots who joined me last Saturday in our "March for America". It was truly inspiring seeing hundreds of citizens proudly standing up for the rule of law, the law enforcement community and our God given rights.

As I stated during my speech, what separates this country from the rest of the world is two fold. First, I believe the divine hand of God blessed this nation. Second, the wisdom of our founding fathers had them build this nation on the bedrock of the rule of law not the capricious rule of men.

For us to continue to be a successful and moral country, we must recommit ourselves to God and the rule of law! God bless you all and may God bless America! #MarchForAmerica #TarrantCounty #BackTheBlue #LawAndOrder

Also, thanks to my friend, Rick Irving, for all the photos of the march.





Sheriff Bill Waybourn

March 19 · 🌐



It was great to join Real Matt Locke today to discuss the state of #TarrantCounty and how we are responding to the #WuhanFlu. Together we can #FlattenTheCurve <https://americasvoice.news/video/5e73a86631ad3/>



Sheriff Bill Waybourn

AMERICASVOICE.NEWS

Guest Sheriff Bill Waybourn

Locke and Load With Matt Locke March 19 2020



Sheriff Bill Waybourn

February 20 · 🌐



It was a pleasure to sit down with Stephanie Hamill of The Daily Caller to discuss President Donald Trump, The New Way Forward Act, illegal immigration, Texas politics, the 2020 race and how to keep America safe!! #CombatCartels #EndHumanTrafficking <https://dailycaller.com/.../tarrant-county-sheriff-on-trump-.../>



DAILYCALLER.COM

EXCLUSIVE: Texas Sheriff Talks Trump, Immigration, 2020, 'The Beto Effect' And More

About this website





Sheriff Bill Waybourn

September 30, 2019 · 🌐



It was a pleasure to join Ben Shapiro earlier this month to discuss how to #KeepTexasRed and how to combat #Crime and #IllegalImmigration





Sheriff Bill Waybourn

September 6, 2019 · 🌐



I am so proud to support my friend Lt. Col. West! Support his campaign if you can! #KeepTexasRed #TarrantCounty



West4Texas

September 5, 2019 · 🌐

👍 Like Page

I cannot tell you how much it means to have Sheriff Bill Waybourn's support! Thank you, Sheriff Bill!

Read the full text of the endorsement here: <https://west4texas.com/endorsement/allen-stands-ready/>

To add your own endorsement of my candidacy:
<https://west4texas.com/endorsements/endorse/>

Truly humbled. Thank y'all!





Sheriff Bill Waybourn

August 1, 2019 · 🌐



It was great to talk to my friend, Chanel Rion, of One America News Network yesterday where we discussed the #DemocratDebates and their disastrous immigration policies. They want to end the border and #AbolishICE. We must #SecureTheBorder and #BackTheBlue
<http://ow.ly/Tmz850vkc1q>

OANN.COM



Sen. Sanders, Sen. Warren to decriminalize illegal border crossings if elected president | One America News Network

Breaking News, Latest News and Current News from OANN.com. Breaking news and video. Latest Current News: U.S., World, Entertainment, Health,...



Sheriff Bill Waybourn

July 14, 2019 · 🌐



I look forward to appearing on Fox & Friends tomorrow where we will discuss the #ImmigrationCrisis #SanctuaryCities and the responsibility Sheriff's across the country have when it comes to supporting ICE and deporting criminal aliens #SecureTheBorder #MAGA #SupportICE



Sheriff Bill Waybourn

July 10, 2019 · 🌐



Thanks Joe Kelley for allowing me to discuss how Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez is dead wrong when it comes to #HomelandSecurity and #ICE. There are no #ConcentrationCamps at the border #BorderCrisis #TarrantCounty #BuildTheWall <https://drive.google.com/open...>





Sheriff Bill Waybourn

May 20, 2019 · 🌐



It was a pleasure to join Brian Kilmeade on his radio program last week where we discussed #ArmingTeachers and the #BorderCrisis. To keep Texans safe we need to stop letting schools remain soft targets and we need to end the uncontrolled influx of illegal aliens across our border
#LawAndOrder #TarrantCounty #LibertyRingsHere
<http://ow.ly/BrZN50ujRzj>

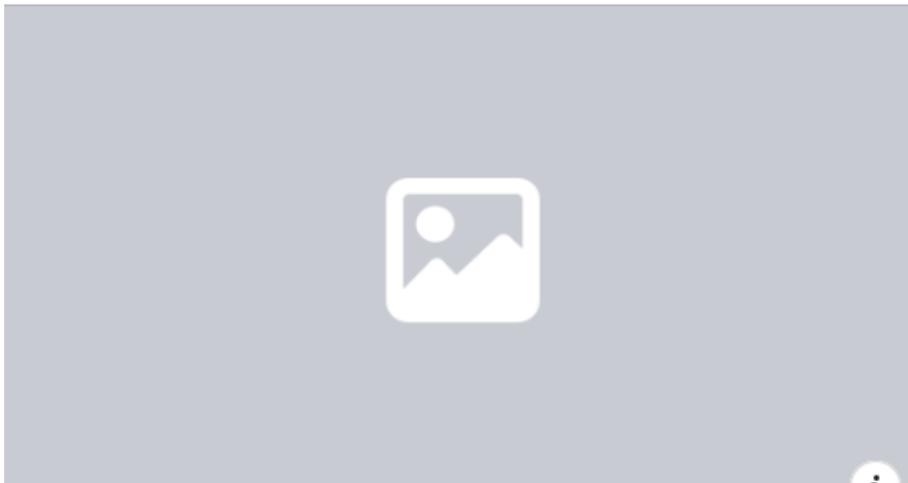


Sheriff Bill Waybourn

April 30, 2019 · 🌐



It was a pleasure to join Dana Loesch on NRATV where we discussed how arming teachers would protect students and fortify schools #gunrights #safetyfirst #secondamendment
<http://ow.ly/QeSe50tmXTP>



NRATV.COM



NRATV | Sheriff Bill Waybourn: Manatee County School Board Decides Against Arming Their Teachers



Sheriff Bill Waybourn

May 24, 2016 · 🌐

I am concerned and outraged by the reports I am receiving from the men and women who work in the sheriff's office. I am being told of threats and intimidation for people executing their constitutionally protected right to vote! One employee has stated, the administration has begun threatening employees that are supporting my campaign. Telling them to watch themselves, and that their Facebook page is being monitored - threatening retaliation and the loss of their jobs. This is horrific, and I am calling on Dee Anderson to publicly denounce these tactics!

[Bud Kennedy](#)

[Brandon Todd Fox 4](#)

[Jason Whitely](#)

[Jim Douglas](#)



Sheriff Bill Waybourn

April 28, 2016 · 🌐

I was honored have dinner with a good friend and true American Hero, Mr. Allen West!





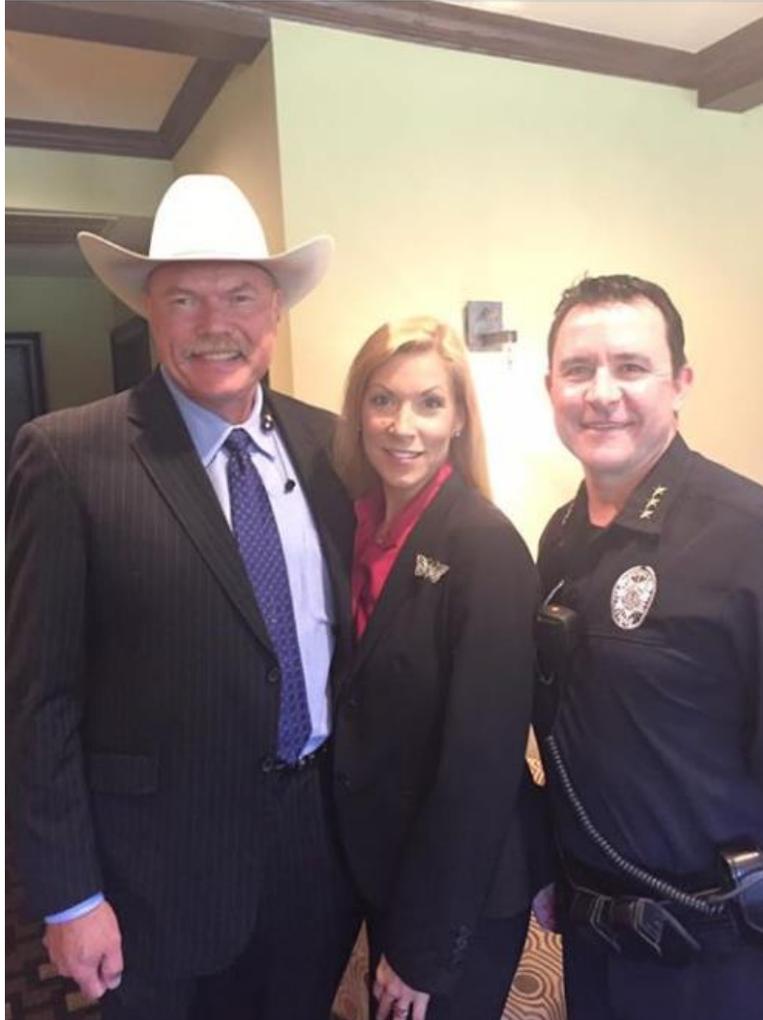
Sheriff Bill Waybourn

April 21, 2016 · 🌐

It was great to listen to, and hang out with Mayor Beth Van Duyne this afternoon! Great to see her and other strong republican women leading from the front!

#leadthewaybourn

Beth Van Duyne Mayor Beth Van Duyne





Sheriff Bill Waybourn



April 7, 2016 · 🌐

Great way to start the day off...at the County Prayer Breakfast.
With Tarrant County GOP Chair-Elect Tim O'Hare, Cary Moon Fort Worth
Council Member , and Raul Gonzalez! Three great men working to make
Tarrant County better!

#leadthewaybourn

#runoffmay24





Sheriff Bill Waybourn



March 13, 2016 · 🌐

It's great to be at Happy Birthday Texas with the one and only Governor Rick Perry!

#leadthewaybourn





Sheriff Bill Waybourn



March 12, 2016 · 🌐

Great time riding with Rep. Bill Zedler in the Mansfield Pickle Parade!
Amazing turn out from the residents of Mansfield!





Sheriff Bill Waybourn

February 25, 2016 · 🌐



Dear Friends and Supporters:

I have been asked several times why we have not responded to the personal attacks in this campaign. People close to us know we embarked on this calling with the forethought and understanding that we would not enter the gutter of politics. There has been no doubt in our minds that the fiery darts apostle Paul spoke of would be leveled at us. Never fear, we shall press on toward the prize, because we have the Armor of truth and honor on our side.

Lincoln, Patton, Washington, and Reagan are all iconic American leaders throughout our storied history. Even separated by decades and centuries, they have common traits that united them all in their tenants of leadership. They all believed when taking credit that encompassed the whole team you should say "we" and not "I". They also understood that, as the leader, they stand alone when taking the responsibility. The symptoms of failed leadership are often seen when the person in charge becomes defensive and displaces responsibility - when they point down to a subordinate to pass the blame. We do not need to look very far to see people who occupy leadership positions that often say "I" when taking credit, and are quickly point to others when trying to deflect the responsibilities of their decisions.

Throughout this campaign I have wanted to point out two things; my vision for the Sheriff's Office – which I take full responsibility for, and the issues with the current state of affairs within the Sheriff's office. I have talked about policy issues that have been of concern and that I disagree with. In those cases, I have been the final authority on those public questions. Each statement or fact I have asserted has been carefully researched and investigated to the absolute extent possible because we are committed to what is true. I can only hope that my opponent will take responsibility for his decisions instead of trying to direct blame onto one of the great men and women who serve the county so admirably. In no way have my comments been directed at anyone but the final decision maker in the Sheriff's office. Any statement to the contrary is disingenuous.

Looking forward, we must finish the race that has been set before us and must not be distracted by the darts that are intended to poison. I urge you to seek out what is righteous and do so with grace and humility. May we move with sound footing and not trip or stray while we can see the finish line. It is my hope that the fog will be lifting and the sun is rising on a new day of hope for the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office. Together we can share the victory and then sleep well as we review our own final decisions during this time.

At Your Service,
Bill E. Waybourn





Sheriff Bill Waybourn



February 25, 2016 · 🌐

Mansfield Mayor David Cook out supporting the campaign today.



Sheriff Bill Waybourn



February 21, 2016 · 🌐

It's been a great week of working all the voting locations throughout the county! This was our group in Mansfield! Tarrant County Tax Assessor Ron Wright & Constable Clint Burgess helped spread the word. We could use your help at the polls next week during early voting or on March 1st! Email: volunteer@billwaybourn.com to sign up.





Sheriff Bill Waybourn is with Dale Clark and 4 others.



February 10, 2016 · 🌐

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

I am humbled and honored to announce the endorsement of three highly respected Tarrant County Officials.

District Clerk Tom Wilder, Tax Assessor Ron Wright, and County Commissioner Andy Nguyen have all openly endorsed me for Sheriff of Tarrant County. They all believe Tarrant County needs a new Sheriff - a Sheriff who puts the residents and employees first. Please join with them, Gov. Perry, Congressman Joe Barton, and many others and vote Bill Waybourn for Sheriff!

#leadthewaybourn





Sheriff Bill Waybourn

January 24, 2016 · 🌐

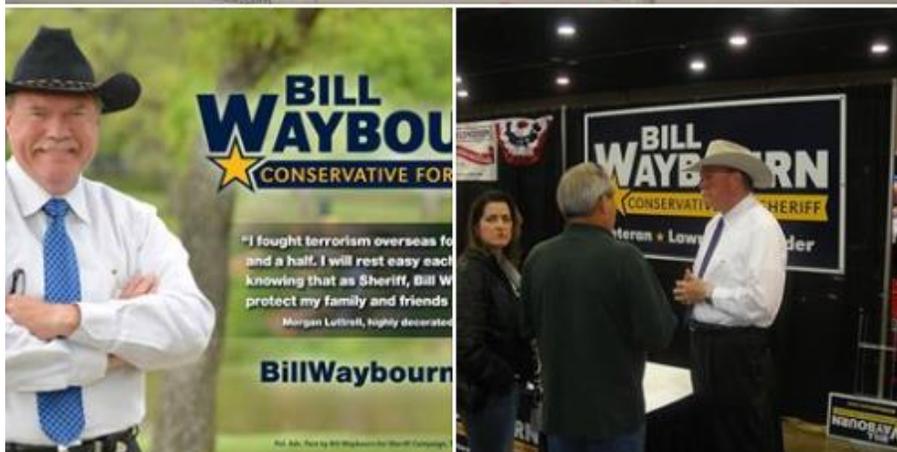


Good morning friends! We are so encouraged and humbled by the incredible showing of support yesterday! I am also excited to receive the Tarrant County Republican Assembly endorsement! However, we know we must never rest on our good work. We know the mountain is still high, and we are energized to make the climb! WE will not rest a moment during this campaign. We simply ask for your prayers, your vote, and your influence on your friends and family! Thank you, and God Bless.

Always at your service,

Bill Wayborn

#leadthewaybourn





Sheriff Bill Waybourn

January 6, 2016 · 🌐



I've been asked about the differences between Dee and myself. Here are the stats pulled from the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement, which is where police records are maintained for public record. I am humbly asking for your support, and I will always be at your service. Bill Waybourn #leadthewaybourn

Comparison Chart for Sheriff Dee Anderson and Chief Bill Waybourn			
Dee Anderson	Bill Waybourn		
Military Service None	Military Service United States Air Force - Active Duty 78-82 / Active Reserve 91-97		
Education Attended Tarrant County College Attended University of Texas - studied Journalism No record of degree completion listed in bio or online	Education Bachelor's Degree - Criminal Justice : Dallas Baptist University Master's Degree - Conflict Resolution : Trinity College & Seminary**		
Police Career Start Arlington Police Academy 03/1980	Police Career Start Texas A&M Police Academy 09/1980		
Police Officer Certification Master Police Officer effective date 06/2013	Police Officer Certification FBI National Academy Graduate 2007 Master Police Officer effective date 03/1997 Fire Arms Instructor effective date 05/1985 Police Instructor effective date 07/1987		
Police Service Record Arlington Police Department 1980-2001 21 Years Rank: Patrol Officer as PIO Sheriff, Tarrant County 2001 - Present Rank: Sheriff	Police Service Record Dalworthington Gardens Police Department 1980-2015 35 Years Rank: Chief of Police		
Total Police Training Hours 1278 as reported by TCOLE*	Total Police Training Hours 5179 as reported by TCOLE*		
Overall Comparison of Constables Endorsing Bill Waybourn for Sheriff			
Title	Name	Police Service	Total Training Hours*
Chief	Bill Waybourn	1980 35 years	5179
Constable	David Woodruff	1993 22 years	3934
Constable	Clint Burgess	1998 18 years	3862
Constable	Dub Bransom	1966 50 years	3541
Constable	Dale Clark	1975 40 years	3035
Constable	Darrell Huffman	2004 12 years	2038
Sheriff	Dee Anderson	1980 35 years	1278

*TCOLE Texas Commission on Law Enforcement where all police records are maintained for public record
 **Trinity College & Seminary is not accredited in Texas





Sheriff Bill Waybourn

December 14, 2015 · 🌐



Proud to receive an official endorsement from Julie White McCarty of the NETTP. "I'm excited about the integrity, experience and professionalism Bill E Waybourn will bring to the Tarrant County Sheriff's office once elected! Your sheriff is arguably the most important elected office you'll vote for."





Sheriff Bill Waybourn

December 3, 2015 · 🌐

My prayers go out to the victims and their families in California. I cannot fathom the loss those family members, friends and the surrounding community are bearing.

During prayer, I am thankful for those who sounded the alarm, the brothers and sisters in blue who responded immediately - regardless of their own safety. I am thankful for the first medical responders who ran into harms way to attend to the wounded though uncertain the threat was contained.

As policy makers respond to this situation, it is my hope we do not seek the safety of a government that will inevitably fail us, but rather defend our independence and liberty. As Benjamin Franklin famously wrote, "They that can give up essential liberty to obtain a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety."

At your service,

Bill E. Waybourn

#sanbernardino



Sheriff Bill Waybourn

November 19, 2015 · 🌐

Laura and I enjoyed being a part of the phenomenal luncheon hosted today by the Republican Women of Arlington featuring Allen West as the keynote speaker. We appreciate all these ladies do for Tarrant County! Constable David Woodruff, Tarrant Co. Pct 2



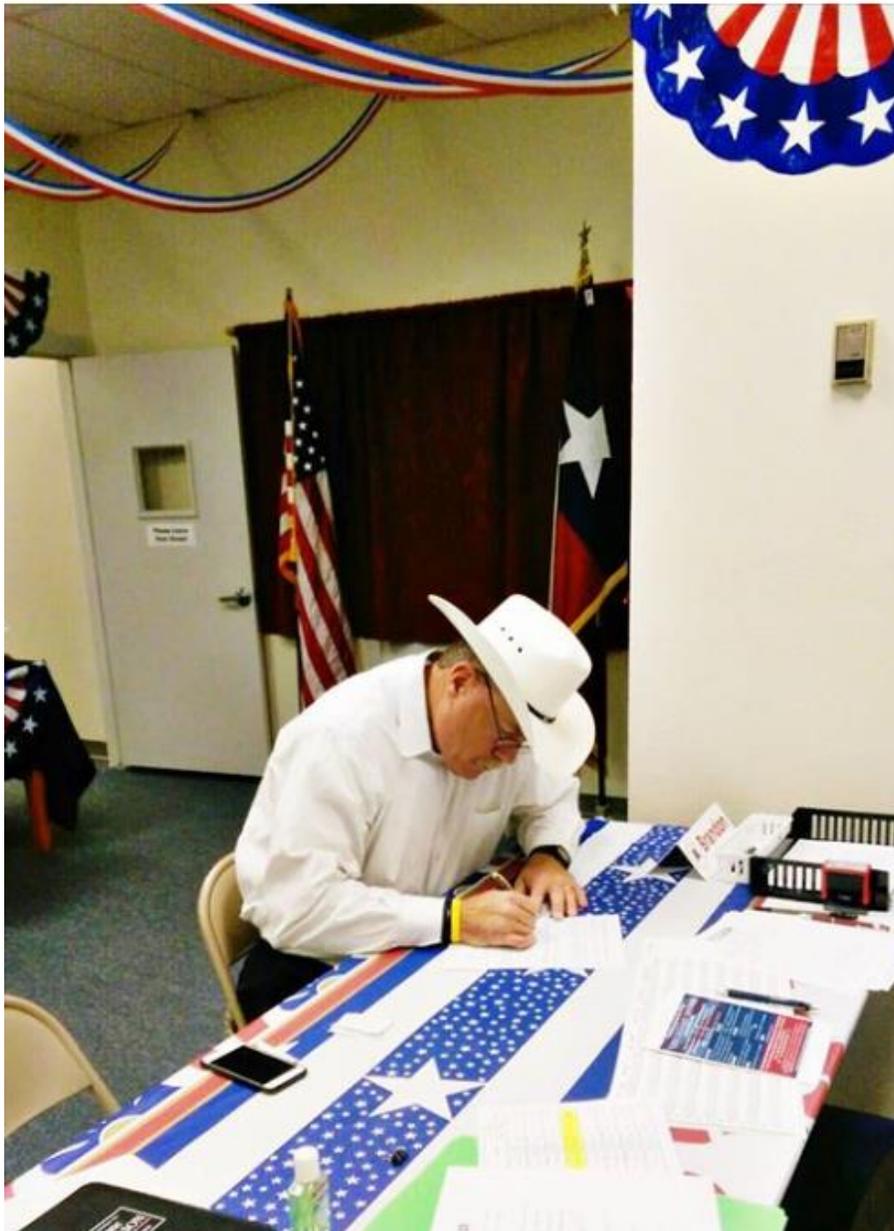


Sheriff Bill Waybourn

November 16, 2015 · 🌐



It's official! Today I filed to be on the Republican Primary ballot as a candidate for Tarrant County Sheriff. Since launching the campaign, I have been humbled and honored by the outpouring of support by those who believe in my ability to keep our families safe. Thank you for your support and encouragement. Together we win!





Sheriff Bill Waybourn



November 13, 2015 · 🌐

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: RICK PERRY ENDORSES BILL WAYBOURN FOR SHERIFF

In a written statement released today, former Texas Governor Rick Perry officially announced his endorsement of Bill Waybourn for Tarrant County Sheriff.

"I am honored to have Governor Perry's endorsement. I am proud to have helped Texas become a national leader in highway safety and as Sheriff I will continue the work needed to keep Tarrant County safe."



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE: November 13, 2015
CONTACT: Craig Murphy
PHONE: 817-845-0111
EMAIL: Craig@MurphyNasica.com

RICK PERRY ENDORSES BILL WAYBOURN FOR SHERIFF

In a written statement released today, former Texas Governor Rick Perry officially announced his endorsement of Bill Waybourn for Tarrant County Sheriff.

Former Police Chief Waybourn continues to collect key endorsements, adding Perry to an impressive list of supporters including celebrities and national heroes, Chuck Norris, Aaron Norris, Taya Kyle, Marcus Luttrell and Morgan Luttrell, and law enforcement organizations from around the County.

"I am proud to endorse Chief Bill Waybourn for Tarrant County Sheriff," said Perry. "Chief Waybourn is responsible for implementing the DWI NO REFUSAL Program, started in Texas which spread to 15 states and now the National Highway Transportation recommends this tool for training throughout the Nation."

Known as a dedicated law enforcement professional and leader, Bill Waybourn's "NO REFUSAL" program helped keep streets safer for Tarrant County families. Waybourn's conservative values and work ethic make him the natural choice to fight illegal immigration, defend the 2nd Amendment and protect our community from crime.

Governor Perry's endorsement follows close on the heels of announcements from across the field of local law enforcement leaders and organizations including the Tarrant County Law Enforcement Association, the Fort Worth Police Officers Association, the Arlington Police Association, and Tarrant County Constables Dale Clark, David Woodruff, Darrell Huffman, Dub Bransom and Clint Burgess.

"I am honored to have Governor Perry's endorsement," said Waybourn. "I am proud to have helped Texas become a national leader in highway safety and as Sheriff I will continue the work needed to keep Tarrant County safe."

30

P.O. Box 151305 • Arlington, Texas 76015 • 469-629-6648

BillWaybourn.com





Sheriff Bill Waybourn



November 6, 2015 · 🌐

Lt. Governor Dan Patrick tonight at the 40th Anniversary Celebration for the Arlington Republican Club.





Sheriff Bill Waybourn

October 25, 2015 · 🌐



Big Endorsement! I am proud to announce that Precinct Chairs Ed & Candy Speakmon have endorsed me! You might know him as Mr. Christmas! I am honored the Speakmon family has put their trust in me to be their next Sheriff of Tarrant County!





Sheriff Bill Waybourn

October 1, 2015 · 🌐



Yesterday was my last official day as Chief of Public Safety in the city of Dalworthington Gardens. I was humbled by the more than 200 residents, present and past employees, elected officials and friends who turned out to celebrate my retirement. I am grateful for the many fine men and women whom I've had the honor of serving alongside for the last thirty-four years, including police chiefs and fire chiefs of nearby cities, as well as the many officers who have worked with me every day to protect the city of Dalworthington Gardens. As I close this wonderful chapter in my life, I am proud to say we accomplished many great things. I am excited to enter the next phase. With the right leadership, the Sheriff's department and Tarrant County can become the leader in conservative values throughout the state of Texas and the whole country. I am now a full-time candidate for Sheriff of Tarrant County, but I am still and always will be...

At your service,
Bill E Waybourn

Many thanks to the following who were in attendance:

Taya Kyle - American Wife

State Senators Konni Burton and Brian Birdwell

State Representative Tony Tinderholt

Constable David Woodruff, Tarrant Co. Pct 2 and Constable Clint Burgess

And to the officers from surrounding cities: Arlington Chief Will Johnson, Kennedale Chief Tommy Williams, UTA Deputy Chief Glenn Cole, Pantego Deputy Chief Barry Reeves, Capt. Mike French – Arlington Fire Dept., Lt. Jason Whitmire – Arlington Fire Dept., Deputy Chief Chuck Hatley – Constable's Office, Deputy Chief Jeff Mathews – Arlington PD, Deputy Chief Ed Addison – Dart PD, Dallas Fire Marshal Robert Delossantos



Sheriff Bill Waybourn

September 18, 2015 · 🌐



Laura and I enjoyed visiting with Governor Greg Abbott and Senator Brian Birdwell last night at the Lincoln Council Meeting for the Tarrant County Republican Party.





Sheriff Bill Waybourn



September 16, 2015 · 🌐

I am ALL IN ! After prayerful consideration and support of my wife and family, tonight I announce my retirement as DWG Chief of Police in order to dedicate 100% of my energy to be your next Tarrant County Sheriff. I'm honored to have the support of many of the conservative state representatives, the majority of constables, and several mayors including Arlington Mayor Jeff Williams. They and many other community leaders across the county are supporting my campaign 100%, so I owe it to them and the citizens of Tarrant County to dedicate 100% of my time for the honor of being your next Sheriff. #letsroll!





Sheriff Bill Waybourn

September 15, 2015 · 🌐



This morning I was honored to receive the endorsement of Pastor Dwight McKissic of Cornerstone Baptist Church in Arlington.



Sheriff Bill Waybourn

May 25, 2015 · 🌐



As Memorial Day fades for another year I think back to May of 1968. In the small town of Jal, New Mexico, where I grew up, we began to mourn for the loss of one of our own. The news came that twenty-one year old SSGT Jackie Leisure was killed in action on his last mission in Vietnam. Jackie was due to rotate home in June. As my thoughts wander I think of all of the Jackie's who have given all for you and me. Thinking of some Gold Star family members whose loved ones left behind are my friends...Jimmy Mathis, Johnny Campbell, and Wieland Norris, as I know today those families are thinking back to the day when the news came by telegram or white-topped military staff car pulling in their drive. While that news was horific, it should give all of us hope for tomorrow. But for today in the quietness I reflect on the great cost of that hope. God bless those Gold Star families and may we never forget.

Personal Facebook

 **Bill E Waybourn**
July 25 · 🌐

**REP LOUIE GOHMERT STUNS
NANCY PELOSI & THE LEFT BY**

LIVE



S. HOUSE **REP. LOUIE GOHMERT**
R-Texas, 1st District
Tyler, Longview, Nacogdoches



**INTRODUCING RESOLUTION BANNING DEMOCRATIC
PARTY DUE TO HISTORICAL TIES TO SLAVERY**

637,072 Views

ACT for America ✓
July 24 · 🌐 Like Page

This is GREAT STUFF by Louie Gohmert!



Bill E Waybourn

July 13 · 🌐



Vasquez for Congress
Virtual Fundraiser

Fabian C. Vasquez
Republican Candidate District 33

Facebook LIVE

Facebook Live: Friday, July 24th @ 7pm-8pm
www.FCV2020.com

Fabian Cordova Vasquez is with Donny Nevels and 3 others.

July 13

*** MARK YOUR CALENDARS ***

"You are invited to join us for our Vasquez for Congress Virtual Fundraiser! We will be on Facebook Live on Friday evening, July 24th, 2020 at 7pm - 8pm. We hope that you would join us as we raise funds to finish strong! We still have a Nation to fight for! Nobody has ever worked as hard as we have for District 33. Please join me for needed support, prayers and donations live. Thank you Patriots!" -FCV

Checks Payable:
Vasquez Campaign Committee
P.O. Box 1563
Fort Worth, TX 76101-1563

Please DONATE Here:
<https://secure.anedot.com/vasquez-campaign-committee/donate>

Official Campaign Website:
www.FCV2020.com

#RighteousRoadTo2020 #WeGetToServe #VoteVASQUEZ #TXCD33





Bill E Waybourn

June 21 · 🌐



Tarrant County Sheriff's Office ✓

June 21 · 🌐

WOW! We tested 4444 inmates and employees for COVID-19.

Recently, TCSO put out a press release and social media post about upcoming COVID testing in our facilities. The opportunity was made available for us to test everyone and we were glad to do it, but concerned about possible results. We quickly began to make lists of staff from other divisions that could fill holes in the event of mass employee COVID cases. We brainstormed contingency plans to prepare....just in case. Prior to the tests being conducted we were warned that on average, in the type of environment being tested, we could expect about 3.5% of the tests would come back positive. That would have meant about 155 people would have COVID inside our facilities.

RESULTS....LESS THAN 1% (.6%) in our jail. We had 19 inmates and 7 jail team members test positive for COVID. That is about .6% of those tests returning positive in Tarrant County Jail. Though we hate that anyone has this illness, we are glad it is so few. All of those individuals have been quarantined and are being cared for and precautions to prevent further spread continue.

We know these numbers are a direct result of the cleanliness of our facilities and the COVID protocols put in place soon after the pandemic began. Keep up the good work!



Bill E Waybourn

May 29 · 🌐

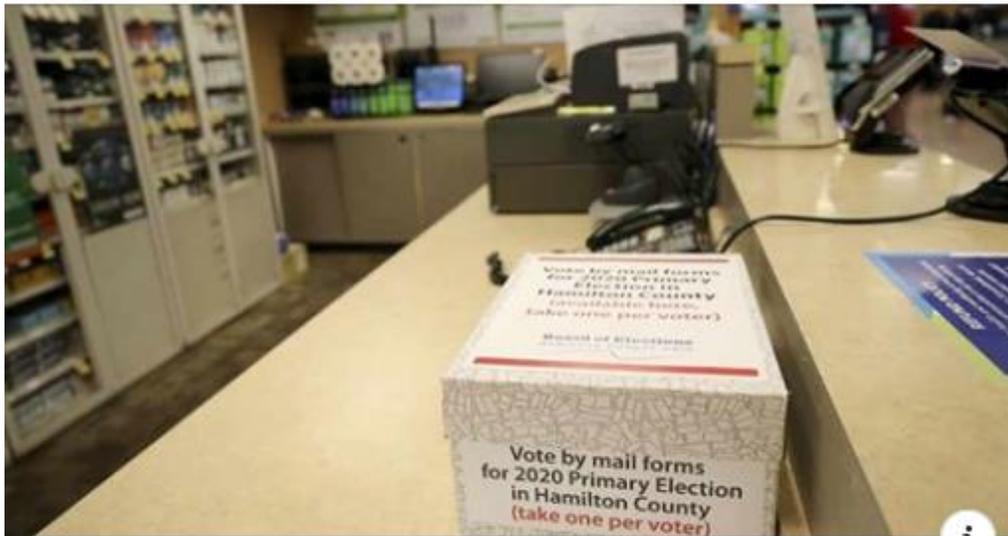


In breaking news, former Minneapolis PD Officer Derek Chauvin has been arrested and charged with murder. The wheels of justice are turning. Chauvin, from all accounts, quite clearly went from being a peace officer to an outlaw on the streets of Minneapolis when he chose to keep his knee on Mr. Floyd's neck. Law Enforcement, both rank and file, have publicly voiced their condemnation of Chauvin's actions. The Law Enforcement community has made it known that they want justice for Mr. Floyd as rapidly as possible. As most Americans do, we also want to see peace and order. The very people defending the streets across America agree with the outrage of protestors. However, when this evolves from peaceful protest into rioting, plunder, and outlawry – the victims of such actions also deserve justice. For those that have traveled to Minneapolis or LA to help cause this dissent, you also need to be held accountable for your actions. The system is well underway and working. While difficult, we need to be patient and await the outcome. In all cases, all person's constitutional rights and due process are to remain protected. In the meantime, will you please join me in praying for Mr. Floyd's family, the citizens of Minneapolis , and all effected by this tragedy?



Bill E Waybourn

May 27 · 🌐



REALCLEARPOLITICS.COM

28 Million Mail-In Ballots Went Missing in Last Four Elections | RealClearPolitics



Bill E Waybourn

February 27 · 🌐



What a honor to meet Dr. Carson and always ready to stand with Beth Van Dyne

This content isn't available right now

When this happens, it's usually because the owner only shared it with a small group of people, changed who can see it or it's been deleted.





Bill E Waybourn

July 6, 2019 · 🌐



LIFESITENEWS.COM

I'm black and conceived in rape. Planned Parenthood was founded to kill people like me



Bill E Waybourn is with Laura Waybourn.



June 8, 2019 · 🌐

Celebrating the recent nuptials of mutual friends, Laura and I were excited to meet conservative commentator Candace Owens. What an inspiration and what a passionate young woman for the great cause of keeping America free! (Laura would have been in this picture too, but she was eating cake and felt like Candace would understand.)
It was so great to get to know her!





Bill E Waybourn

April 25, 2019 · 🌐



Dave has been a great servant to the country as a member of the US Air Force, also as a servant to the community...A strong conservative that we need in place to continue the success we have enjoyed!



David Almand Southlake Carroll ISD School Board Trustee Place 7



April 24, 2019 · 🌐

In addition to endorsements by the Dallas Morning News and Representative Giovanni Capriglione, I can now add Tarrant County Sheriff Bill Waybourn!
Thank you, Sir!



Bill E Waybourn

April 1, 2019 · 🌐



THEBLAZE.COM | BY THEBLAZE



Border crisis hits unprecedented, 'staggering' territory as Border Patrol forced to release families



Bill E Waybourn

October 28, 2018 · 🌐



As this Sunday slips away and the World Series does the same, I find my mind drifting to Pittsburgh. I cannot help but think of all the lives that were shattered on what started out as a beautiful Saturday morning. While my prayers and thoughts are with our neighbors in Pittsburgh, I would be remiss if I didn't point out we, as Americans, are on such great footing in so many areas.

We live in a generation that has so many opportunities, and in a country that allows us to pursue them. We must never forget our commitment to insuring we are a civil people. We must recommit to civil debate instead of hate speech. We must start with thinking the best of each other, instead of attacking each other. We must decide to denounce violence instead of encouraging evil on others. We must come together and debate with civility and honor as ladies and gentlemen. We, as Americans, can do better today than we did yesterday. We must stay vigilant about not letting our ego come in the room before our character. We CAN do this! Republican or Democrat...man or woman...we can come together as civil Americans. God Bless America, and may we all rise to the nobility in which we have been blessed!





Bill E Waybourn

September 8, 2018 · 🌐



Scott Bagg is with John Laudenslager and 20 others.

September 7, 2018

Congressman Marc Veasey doesn't have the integrity and intestinal fortitude to keep his word and debate Willie Billups.....he backed out. Politics as usual in CD-33. Time to send someone to Washington who actually represents the black and latino community. Billups For Congress



Bill E Waybourn

June 7, 2018 · 🌐



For the 4th time this year I had the privilege to Vote! When entering the booth the two names came to mind during this runoff:

Guy Snodgrass DWG City Council

Amy Putnam GCISD

Early voting through Tomorrow!

Have a great Thursday.



Bill E Waybourn

May 22, 2018 · 🌐



KIMBERLY
FITZPATRICK
 FOR 342ND DISTRICT COURT
 CONSERVATIVE FOR JUDGE



PROUDLY SUPPORTED & ENDORSED BY:



SHERIFF BILL WAYBOURN



ARLINGTON
POLICE
ASSOCIATION



MANSFIELD
POLICE OFFICERS
ASSOCIATION



FORT WORTH
POLICE OFFICERS
ASSOCIATION



TARRANT CO. LAW
ENFORCEMENT
ASSOCIATION

Kimberly Fitzpatrick Judge 342nd District Court

May 11, 2018 · 🌐

👍 Like Page

Election Day is Tuesday, May 22nd! You can vote from 7 am to 7 pm. I would be so grateful to have your vote!





Bill E Waybourn
August 16, 2017 · 🌐



Bill Waybourn
Tarrant County Sheriff
Proudly Endorses
ALEX KIM
FOR TARRANT COUNTY 323RD DISTRICT COURT

"We need a Judge who is compassionate, understands mercy and grace, but also believes in justice. Alex combines those qualities and is that man. If we get Alex's experience and education, his perseverance, his intelligence, and his love for children...we win. We all win!"
—Bill Waybourn

Pol Ad, Paid for by Alexander Kim for Judge in compliance with the voluntary limits of the Judicial Campaign Fairness Act

Judge Alex Kim is with Bill E Waybourn at Tim Curry Criminal Justice Center.
August 16, 2017 · Fort Worth, TX · 🌐



Proud to have the good Sheriff, Bill Waybourn, supporting Alex become the next Judge of the 323rd District Court of Tarrant County!

Like this page to stay informed!



Sheriff Bill Waybourn
November 9, 2016 · 🌐

👍 Like Page

What an incredible night! I am overwhelmed by your support, trust and well wishes. It is something that I will never take for granted. I am hopeful for our county and our country because I saw men and women turn out in droves to participate in our election process. All of you stepped out to make sure your voice was heard.

First, let me thank my wonderful wife, Laura, and all of my children for their unwavering support and love. There are no words.

Thank you to everyone who endorsed me. From police and fire associations, to local and state officials, to celebrities who have come out to show their support.

To all the volunteers who worked polls, walked neighborhoods, called residents, and talked to you friends. Your help and support means more than you can possible imagine. You saw the vision we had for the sheriff's department and that vision will be put in place because of you and your support!

Taya Kyle is truly the American Wife. She didn't hesitate when I asked for her support and she has gone above and beyond throughout this entire campaign. I cannot say enough wonderful things about her, and am honored to call her my friend.

Chuck, Aaron, and Gina Norris are simply great Americans. They have a love for this country that is unmatched by anyone. I was humbled by their support and invigorated by their warrior spirit.

Morgan and Marcus Luttrell. True heroes that we should all aspire to be like. These two men are warriors serving to protect us all, while at the same time showing compassion and love for family, friends, and all Americans. Gentleman: thank you for being who you are and doing what you do.

Jay and Amy Novacek - I have seen your servant hearts working for good in so many people's lives. You are amazing people. Thank you for your support and friendship.

Gov. Perry, Congressman Barton, Ron Wright, Tom Wilder, Andy Nguyen, all the State Representatives, Constables, Mayors, and local elected officials that endorsed me and volunteered with our campaign. You boldly stepped out to endorse and help a challenger and for that I thank you. I will try to live up to the expectations and examples you have set out before me with your leadership.

Tank - Your passion for America and being a voice for military men and women is inspiring. Thank yo for doing what you do.

Sonny & Jolie, Coffey, Austin Allsup, and Chad Prather. You all volunteer your time for so many people and causes. You are great friends, and I cannot thank you enough for your support! You are excellent role models for thousands of people!

To the citizens of Tarrant County – Thank you. Thank you for your trust. Thank you for your support. And thank you for allowing me to serve you in the way I feel called to serve. I, and the rest of the Sheriff's Office, will work tirelessly to earn your support everyday. We will work to build relationships with all of Tarrant County, and we will always be willing to serve you.

At Your Service,
Sheriff Elect Bill Waybourn

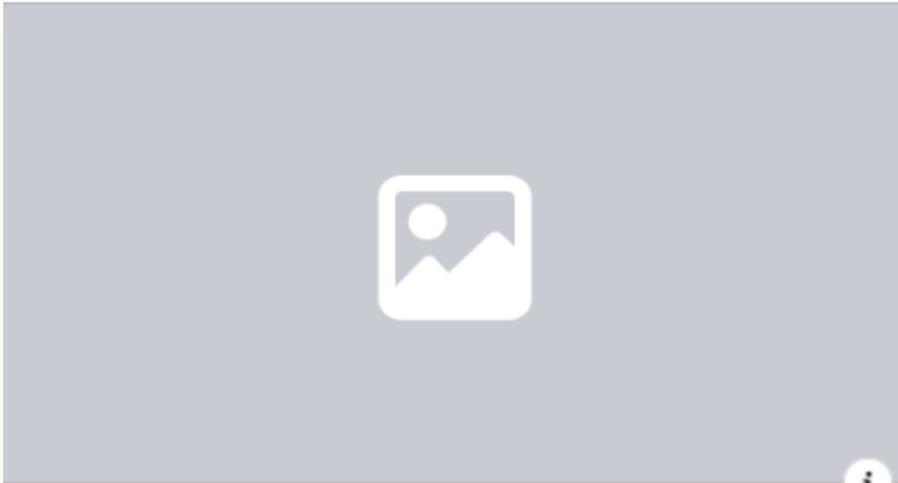
Chuck Norris Taya Kyle - American Wife Jay Novacek Amy Bradley Novacek
Rick Perry Ron Wright Andy H. Nguyen Marcus Luttrell Jeff Williams For Arlington Mayor
Mayor David L. Cook Mayor Kimberly Fitzpatrick Kim N Jeff Halstead Bill Zedler Matthew
Krause Rodney Anderson Tony Tinderholt Jonathan Stickland Clint C Burgess David
Woodruff Darrell Huffman Dale Clark Tan Parker Craig Goldman Tank Machine Coffey
Anderson Jolie Holliday Austin Allsup





Bill E Waybourn

October 25, 2016 · 🌐



MRCONSERVATIVE.COM

Navy Seal Confronts Hillary Clinton – ‘You Are An Ignorant Liar’

Mr. Conservative is the top website for news, political cartoons, breaking ne...



Bill E Waybourn

July 31, 2016 · 🌐



58,648 Views

Dan Patrick July 29, 2016 · 🌐

Like Page

Lt. Governor Dan Patrick: Hillary's speech and the November election.





Bill E Waybourn

May 6, 2016 · 🌐



I am **BILL WAYBOURN**

and I support [#MainStreetBackstheBlue](#)

Main Street Backs the Blue
May 6, 2016 · 🌐

👍 Like Page

Thank you, Bill Waybourn for Sheriff for your support! #MainStreetBackstheBlue





Bill E Waybourn is with Andrew Piel and Tony Tinderholt.



May 5, 2016 · 🌐

Both Tony Tinderholt and Andrew Piel ran tough campaigns. However, both men have the best interests at heart for Arlington, Mansfield, and the greater Tarrant County area. In fact, they agree on most things. I am honored that one of those things is supporting me for Sheriff of Tarrant County.

We all need to be building relationships throughout our city, county, and state. Isolationism is never the answer.

#leadthewaybourn

State Representative Tony Tinderholt



Bill E Waybourn



May 1, 2016 · 🌐



Sid Miller

April 29, 2016 · 🌐

Like Page

All I can add is a very loud AMEN!!!



Bill E Waybourn

March 15, 2016 · 🌐



191,524 Views

TheBlaze

March 14, 2016 · 🌐

👍 Like Page

Reports indicate that there are ISIS-inspired jihadis in the United States:



Bill E Waybourn

January 18, 2016 · Arlington, TX · 🌐



Good Morning,

As I sit here planning the week ahead, my thoughts keep returning to everything that has happened in the past week. I am humbled by it all - humbled by the number of blessings, the encouragement from everyone, and grassroots momentum to this campaign - it is absolutely incredible. This last week we have been all over the county and we have found nothing but positive reinforcement on what we are doing.

We have enlisted hundreds, if not thousands, of votes this week. We have seen our volunteer numbers significantly increase. I have received tons of emails, text messages, notes and pieces of mail giving us great encouragement. We have been greeted by as few as 2 and as many as 600 folks this week, all in resounding support! My point is this, for the next six weeks we are in sprint mode. We need you! We need your neighbor and all of your friends and family to continue this blessed momentum!

As I have a few moments to reflect, I am comforted and encouraged by the words of Paul - run the race set before us. Let's run, and run hard! I strongly believe this is my calling and I cannot thank you enough for your support. Evil will show up and cause trouble...it never seems to consult my calendar. But remember if we were not in the race, then evil's job is already done.

Again all of your support is incredible and we have made contact with well over a thousand people this week who have all been so supportive! Please know, I could not do this without my family and you! I do not believe in coincidence, I believe in destiny! We shall rise up and take up the task before us with our eyes on the great prize! Let us press forward with a great sense of urgency, always maintaining the nobility of the cause before us. Be of good cheer, because the reports are great! Numerous people from all over the county are joining the cause each day! There is electricity, and a buzz, in the campaign! We shall prevail! God Bless you, and I am so humbled by your support.

As always, I am at your service.

Bill Waybourn

[#leadthewaybourn](#)

Bill Waybourn for Sheriff





Bill E Waybourn

December 4, 2015 · 🌐



See Photo

National Association for Gun Rights

December 4, 2014 · 🌐

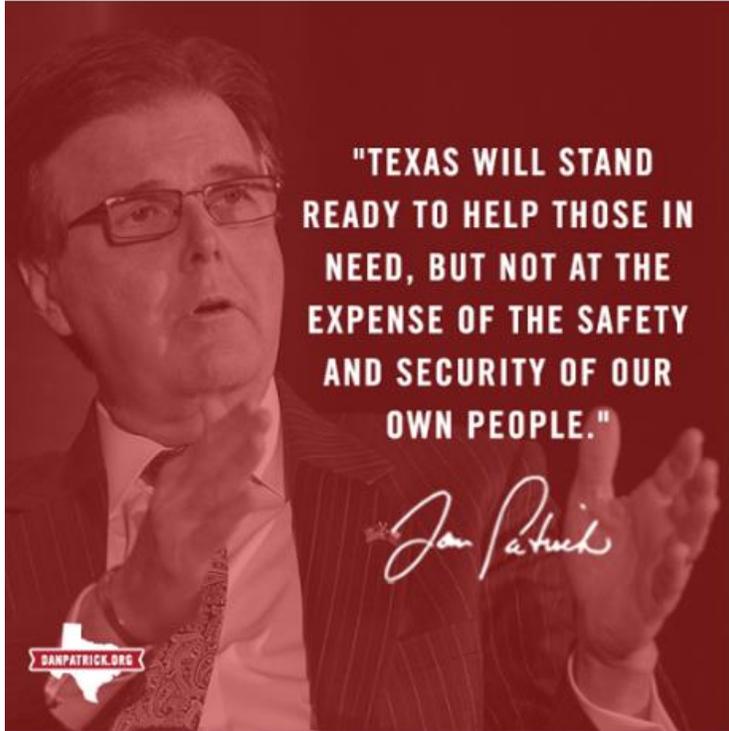
Like Page

Do you think our government mistrusts its citizens with guns?



Bill E Waybourn

November 20, 2015 · 🌐



Dan Patrick ✓

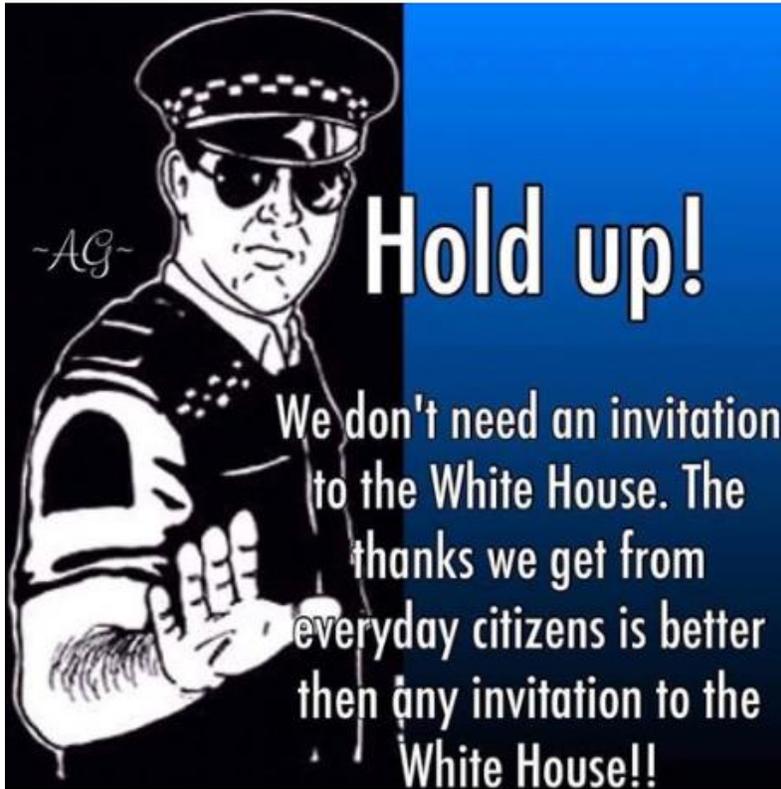
November 18, 2015 · 🌐

👍 Like Page



Bill E Waybourn

September 20, 2015 · 🌐



Texas Sheriff's Deputies

September 19, 2015 · 🌐

👍 Like Page

When I stumbled upon this, I thought it was spot on.

We will never be able to express how thankful we are for each and every one of your support.

YOU are why we do this, day in and day out, and risk not coming home to our families. Fame, glory and gratitude mean nothing to us. YOU mean the world.

Thank you, from all of Texas Sheriff's Deputies.

-CTS





Bill E Waybourn

September 4, 2015 · 🌐



Way too many times in my career I have worn the mourning badge for fallen officers. It has been said by some, what can we do in these chaotic times? Others stated they did not know what to do. I say while the yoke is heavy and the walk is hard, we must press on to do the next right thing. The right thing in this case started well before sunrise this morning while DWG peace officers, along with thousands of other officers, headed toward Houston. These officers volunteer on their own time to go stand with fellow officers today to make up what we call the thin blue line. You can show solidarity with them today by wearing blue. As we press through the day I know we will all think of the fatherless children left behind, the widow, and the "why" about this senseless death. By just being there and standing in solidarity we hope those children will see the great legacy of their father. These same officers that stand there will fellowship for a short while then return to their respective jurisdictions. Then the next time they hit the street they will be pressing toward the next right thing. They will suit up, stand up, and be ready to give everything for the next right thing. As they hit the streets they will drive through the neighborhoods, talk to the guy edging his yard, throw a football to a kid in a pick up game in the street, change a tire on an elderly couple's car, answer calls from dogs barking to loud music, step into harm's way in human crisis and mediate an agreement everyone can live with, make traffic stops on speeders who didn't think they were speeding, stop in and check on the guy struggling with bipolar issues, rush to the next emergency and pray that they get there on time, hopefully not get hit by a drunk, pray the suspect stops resisting before the need to escalate to higher force, hope their gun stays in its holster unless evil gives them no other choice. At the end of the shift as they look over their shoulder at their day's work they realize the next right thing was about building honest relationships in all corners of their community. My prayer for these peace officers is that they get home safely and be able to hug their kids and spouse one more time. While I hope you wear blue today, please tie a blue ribbon around your heart by praying daily for these guardian warriors. Matthew 5:9 Blessed are the peacemakers. God bless you all.



Bill E Waybourn is with Laura Waybourn.



August 22, 2015 · 🌐

Great to be with our friend Col. Allen West at Andy Nyugen's fundraiser this evening.



Bill E Waybourn



August 16, 2015 · 🌐



3,552,319 Views

The Five 
May 11, 2015 · 🌐

 Like Page

"The White House and this administration have created a war against police officers in this country with their allegations [and] false assertions that there is widespread and pervasive racism in the United States of America that lives in the heart and minds of the men and women in blue." –Kimberly Guilfoyle

See more from tonight's discussion here: <http://bit.ly/1cqYcKM>



Bill E Waybourn



June 21, 2015 · 🌐

Yesterday we had a wonderful celebration of my youngest grandson's fourth birthday. He favors his great-grandfather, my father. I lost Dad when I was 8 years old. But yesterday, I saw his legacy in the eyes of my four year old grandson. As a young man he battled through the depression, stepped into uniform, marched with Patton, came home, and built the greatest country that has ever been with a million more dads just like him. They handed it over to us to persevere through our trials. We wonder why...what is this all about? Well, yesterday, when I looked into the innocent eyes of the four year old and saw my father, the answer was clear. And as he told me, the mission is simple. Learn what is right and good, live by it, expect to fight for it, be ready to die for it. So we, too, can pass this great country on to those that come after us. Thank you Dad for my liberty and freedom, and for passing down your faith in Christ.



Bill E Waybourn



May 1, 2015 · 🌐

**Most black Americans are good people.
Most white Americans aren't racist.
Most cops are good guys doing a tough job.**



"LIKE" if you agree!

Bill E Waybourn
March 16, 2015 · 🌐



ForAmerica ✓
March 14, 2015 · 🌐

👍 Like Page

ISIS terrorists have now captured Christians in Syria and told them that if they don't deny their faith they will be decapitated and their children "burned alive in cages." We must stop the ISIS terrorists!



Bill E Waybourn
August 18, 2014 · 🌐

👍❤️ 2

1 Comment

🔄 Share

Vickie Waybourn McCormick Great picture!! Gov. Perry is doing an awesome job in Texas & I know he will prevail against these ridiculous charges!!
5y



Bill E Waybourn updated his cover photo.



April 13, 2014 · 🌐



👍 68

16 Comments 2 Shares

↪ Share



Bill E Waybourn Circa 1992 ole USAF war games. Good times

👍 2

6y



Bill E Waybourn is in Dalworthington Gardens, Texas.



March 1, 1984 · 🌐 · 📍



Started New Job at Dalworthington Gardens DPS

March 1984 — Chief of Public Safety (Retired)

Dalworthington Gardens, Texas

The honor of directing the fire, police, and EMS services

Facebook Ads

No Facebook Ads could be found affiliated with Bill Waybourn.

Instagram

No Instagram account could be found affiliated with Bill Waybourn.

Twitter

Bill Waybourn Retweeted

 **Anthony White** ✓
@AnthonyWhiteTX

Labeling all law enforcement officers in a bad light and refusing to sell them bicycles to do their job is not a good look @MellowJohnnys Austin! Terrible business decision. @CLEAT @NAPOpolice @NatPoliceAssoc @lancearmstrong 🇺🇸

Christopher Carlisle
1h

For the past eight years I have had then fortune of buying and purchase equipment for the Down Town Area Command (DTAC) Bike Patrol and our Bicycle Public Order Team. We have 158 bike officers in DTAC and have been purchasing our bikes from Mellow Johnny's Bike store in downtown Austin, a local business.

Today I received a call the sales manager I have worked with for years at MJ'S, he informed me that they have three employees who work for them that are complaining about providing bikes to the police department in this time of social unrest in protest and disturbances. They stated to ownership that they did not like the fact that we use bicycles to help us manage crowds and crowd movement.

The ownership of MJ'S has decided to listen to three employees and is sending APD an email canceling the four years left on the contract because three employees do not like police officers and did not like us in the store.

I am not going to put the dollar amount out there of the contract but we at APD we're a great customer and bought 50 TREK police bikes a year from them, you can do the math on the bike at TREK.com but you will be short of the actuate dollar amount because of add ons.

So now a owner of a business choose to use loose one of his biggest contracts and listens to three hourly employees, they were not management. The employees I always talked too at MJ'S were great and we never had a problem so I don't know why MJ'S choose this path to go down.

If anyone knows of a bike store that would like to serve the police I would love to talk to them about doing our next APD contract.

Craig Casaday, Dawn Hanson, Bill Hanson, Chris Juusola, Dustin Lowe, Frank Creasey Jr, Valejandra Ators, Jack Tripper, Greg Young, Matthew Greer, Joey Cucui, Michael A. Telles

3:40 PM · Aug 5, 2020 · [Twitter for iPhone](#)

Bill Waybourn Retweeted



Manny Ramirez @MannyRamirez_TX · Jul 25

What an amazing show of support for #America today in #TarrantCounty, Texas.

Fort Worth Backs the Blue!

@FWPOA @NatPoliceAssoc @realDonaldTrump

#UnitedWeStand 🇺🇸



Bill Waybourn and 4 others

Bill Waybourn Retweeted



Beth Van Duyne ✓ @Bethvanduyne · Jul 6

🏠 US House candidate, TX-24

We don't have to imagine what life would look like under Democratic leadership - just look around the country as cities burn, innocent children are murdered, death tolls rise and law enforcement officers are vilified by law makers. Nothing to see here! [facebook.com/1627084453/pos...](https://www.facebook.com/1627084453/pos...)

Bill Waybourn Retweeted



Beth Van Duyne @Bethvanduyne · Jun 24

US House candidate, TX-24

Everyone should spend 30 mins & listen to this speech by [@SenatorTimScott](#). He explains that Democrats stopped negotiating on a police reform bill not b/c they have major disagreements but b/c they don't want to allow Republicans to be leaders on the issue



Senator Tim Scott on Senate Floor after Senate Dem...
U.S. Senator Tim Scott (R-SC), leader of the JUSTICE Act taskforce, took to the Senate Floor after the ...
[youtube.com](#)



Bill Waybourn @BillWaybourn · Jun 17

I'll be joining [@DLoesch](#) to discuss the state of policing in America in the next minute or two please tune in! [#LawAndOrder](#)



Bill Waybourn Retweeted



Beth Van Duyne @Bethvanduyne · Jun 10

US House candidate, TX-24

The Democrat primary in the 24th District has become a despicable race to the bottom for who can be the most extreme, most radical, and most destructive to our neighborhoods, state, and nation.



Democratic House candidate Kim Olson: 'If people loot, so what? Burn i...
A leading Democratic candidate in a closely watched House race brushed off looting and arson that occurred during nationwide unrest during ...
[washingtonexaminer.com](https://www.washingtonexaminer.com)



Bill Waybourn @BillWaybourn · Jun 8

I talked to @STEPMHAMILL of @TheDailyCaller last week about how we cannot let the "Defund the Police" movement gain any more ground! It will lead to total chaos! #BackTheBlue #BlackLivesMatter #BlueLivesMatter



'Total Chaos': Texas Sheriff Bill Waybourn Responds To The 'Defund Polic...
Tarrant County Sheriff Bill Waybourn joined the Daily Caller's Stephanie Hamill to discuss the growing movement to 'defund police', the Floyd ...
[dailycaller.com](https://www.dailycaller.com)



Dana Loesch @DLoesch · Jun 2

Earlier today I spoke with Texas's Tarrant County Sheriff @BillWaybourn on policing during riots: [youtube.com/watch?v=SYj4PN...](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SYj4PN...)



Dana Loesch @DLoesch · Jun 2

"If someone breaks into my home, I'm going to shoot them and I'm going to shoot them a lot." FL @PolkCoSheriff Grady Judd on the violence, assaults, and arson from rioters. Full segment: [youtube.com/watch?v=9U04lh...](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9U04lh...) #DanaRadio



16 117 401



RTB @Snorkelrick · Jun 3

Sheriff Judd is a great Sheriff. @PolkCoSheriff

1 2 8



Bill Waybourn @BillWaybourn · Jun 3

Sheriff Judd is a great sheriff and a good friend!

1



Jewish Deplorable (Parler: TrumpJew) @TrumpJew · May 10

I'm strongly considering moving out of New York. What's the best red state to live in?

9.5K 3.5K 14.8K



Bill Waybourn @BillWaybourn · May 11

Texas of course



Bill Waybourn @BillWaybourn · May 6

Always a pleasure to join my friend @DLoesch to discuss how to open up Texas and how we can support small businesses!

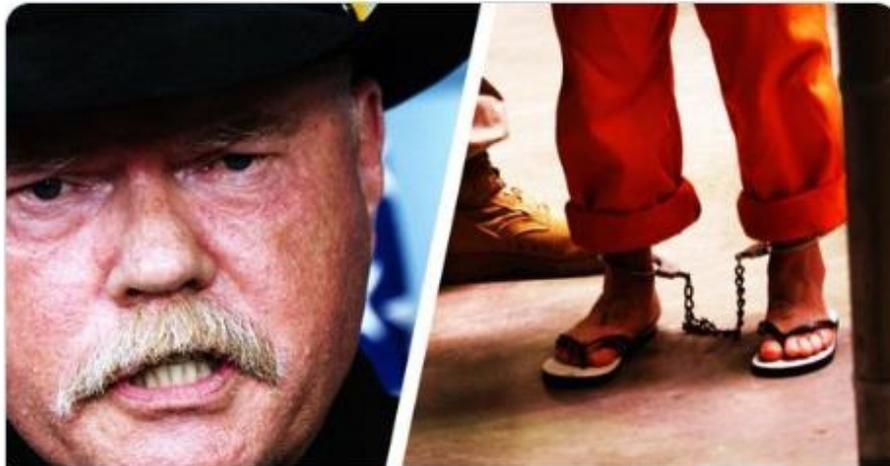


FREEDOM ARRESTED: Tarrant Co. Sheriff on recent ar...
Dana (@DLoesch) is joined by Tarrant County, TX Sheriff, Bill Waybourn (@BillWaybourn) on the recent...
youtube.com



Bill Waybourn @BillWaybourn · Apr 29

Thank you @STEPMHAMILL and @TheDailyCaller for having me on to discuss how #TarrantCounty and Texas are keeping our citizens safe!
#LawAndOrder



'This Is A Law And Order State': Meet The Texas Sheriff Who Didn't Rele...
Tarrant County Sheriff Bill Waybourn joined the Daily Caller to discuss how his county is handling inmates during the coronavirus and the ...
dailycaller.com



Bill Waybourn @BillWaybourn · Apr 17

I will be joining my friend @DLoesch today at 1:30pmCST to discuss how #TarrantCounty is working to #FlattenTheCurve. Hope y'all can tune in!



Bill Waybourn
@BillWaybourn

Great job Govenor Abbott! We will not release nor did we plan to release dangerous criminals in the name of Coronavirus! Good to be in Texas.

4:01 PM · Mar 29, 2020 · [Twitter for iPhone](#)

Bill Waybourn Retweeted



West4Texas
@West4Texas

I sat down with Sheriff [@BillWaybourn](#) to discuss life and law enforcement during the [#COVID19](#) global pandemic. [#coronavirus west4texas.com/2020/03/26/all](#)



9:49 PM · Mar 26, 2020 · [Blog2Social APP](#)



Bill Waybourn
@BillWaybourn

It was great to join my constituent [@RealMattLocke](#) today on [@AVoiceNews](#) to discuss how the [#ChineseVirus](#) is affecting [#TarrantCounty](#). Lets be safe and smart! Together we can [#FlattenTheCurve](#)



Video - America's Voice News
[americasvoice.news](#)

7:33 PM · Mar 19, 2020 · [Hootsuite Inc.](#)



Bill Waybourn
@BillWaybourn



I'm looking forward to joining [@RealMattLocke](#) on [@AVoiceNews](#) at 11:30amCT to discuss how [#TarrantCounty](#) is addressing the [#WuhanVirus](#) [#FlattenTheCurve](#)

11:13 AM · Mar 19, 2020 · [Hootsuite Inc.](#)

Bill Waybourn Retweeted



Konni Burton
@KonniBurton



Great stuff here as [@DLoesch](#) talks w/ Tarrant County Sheriff [@BillWaybourn](#) regarding their response to the [#Coronavirus](#).



The First @TheFirstonTV · Mar 16

.@DLoesch is joined by Sheriff @BillWaybourn to discuss the public safety and how the #coronavirus could impact the Second Amendment.

"If we keep our eyes on the prize, we will do just fine." - Sheriff Waybourn



8:28 PM · Mar 16, 2020 · [Twitter Web App](#)



Bill Waybourn @BillWaybourn · Mar 16

I will be joining my friend @DLoesch at 2:35pmCT today to discuss the #CoronaVirus. Everyone please engage in #socialdistancing! Only by being responsible citizens can we protect our countrymen and family members! Let's #FlattenTheCurve



Bill Waybourn
@BillWaybourn

Excited to work with Chris Putnam at Hi Piont Elementary in Ft worth. Great voting day!

10:20 AM · Mar 3, 2020 · [Twitter for iPhone](#)

Bill Waybourn Retweeted



Chris Putnam ✓
@putnamfortexas

.@BillWaybourn understands why it's so important we elect someone to Congress who will help President Trump finish the border wall. Watch and found out why he supports our campaign to fix Washington!



3:56 PM · Feb 29, 2020 · [Twitter Web App](#)



Bill Waybourn
@BillWaybourn

Bloomberg says the military is better prepared today than a long time... hummm [@realDonaldTrump](#)

10:39 PM · Feb 25, 2020 · [Twitter for iPhone](#)



Bill Waybourn
@BillWaybourn

Joe Biden just said 150 million people have died from gun violence since 2007! What world is he in!!

9:46 PM · Feb 25, 2020 · [Twitter for iPhone](#)

Bill Waybourn Retweeted



Chris Putnam ✓
@putnamfortexas

I'm running for Congress to stand with President Trump and fight for you in Washington. The political establishment doesn't want you to hear this message. Will you help us keep this advertisement running by pitching in \$10 today? bit.ly/2Va2X5g



9:32 AM · Feb 20, 2020 · [Twitter Web App](#)



Bill Waybourn
@BillWaybourn

It was a pleasure to join @alexsalvinews on @OANN to discuss President Trump's State of the Union and the importance of appointing judges! #StateOfTheUnion #Constitutionalists #TarrantCounty



After Hours: Bill Waybourn (Impeachment Fallout)
After Hours catches up with Bill Waybourn -- Sheriff of Tarrant County -- to discuss the ramifications of the impeachment tri...
[youtube.com](#)

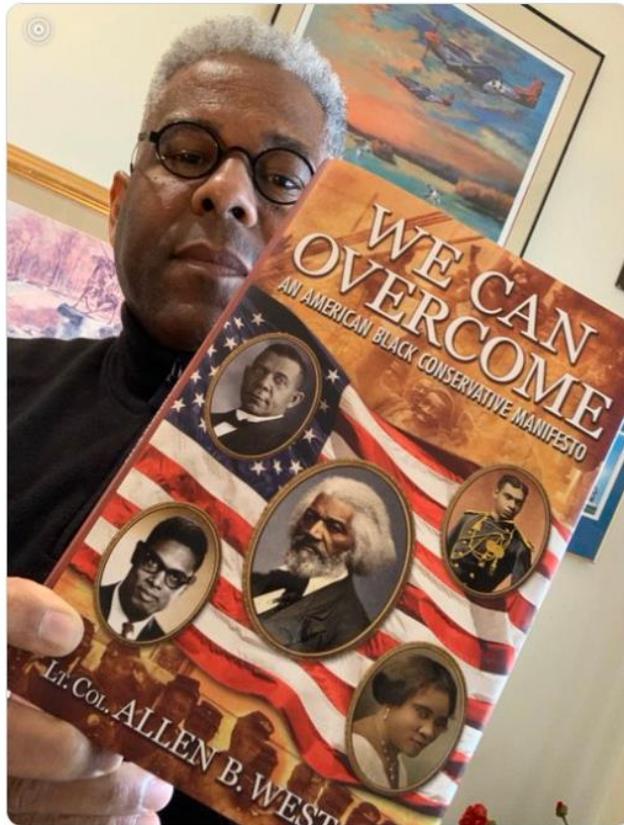
12:30 PM · Feb 6, 2020 · [Hootsuite Inc.](#)

Bill Waybourn Retweeted



Allen West ✓
@AllenWest

My latest book drops on Friday -- my birthday -- for Black History Month. Let's set the record straight on Black conservatism! #bcot #AACONS #BlackTwitter #newbooks



6:14 PM · Feb 4, 2020 · [Twitter for iPhone](#)





Beth Van Duyne @Bethvanduyne · Jan 22

US House candidate, TX-24

If a lawyer showed up on the day of the trial and asked the judge to wait because they need to issue more subpoenas, find more facts, and invent new evidence they would be laughed out of the courtroom and sent home.

10

26

67



Bill Waybourn @BillWaybourn · Jan 23

Especially if it is the State! They must be ready day 1! Speedy trial, due process, discovery all done day 1! They missed the mark...

Bill Waybourn Retweeted



Catalina Lauf @CatalinaLauf · Jan 21

The current Democratic Party, the same one that over-spends, over-taxes and over-regulates isn't even enough for Marxist cheerleader @AOC. When is left, left enough for you? When we're under complete control? Give me a break!



AOC declares Democrats a 'center-conservative' party: We don't have a ... Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, D-N.Y., concluded on Monday that the Democratic Party is a "center or center-conservative" party and how the... [foxnews.com](https://www.foxnews.com)

Bill Waybourn Retweeted



Beth Van Duyne @Bethvanduyne · Jan 18

US House candidate, TX-24

How many more innocent lives lost because of liberal elitist sanctuary city policies? Enough is enough.

bit.ly/363b9Gb

#TX24 #BethForTexas



Bill Waybourn @BillWaybourn · Dec 13, 2019

It was great to join @alexsalvinews on @OANN earlier this week. Below are a couple snippets from that interview. #GunControl #SecondAmendment



After Hours: Bill Waybourn (Gun Debate)
After Hours catches up with Bill Waybourn -- Sheriff of Tarrant County -- to discuss the gun control ...
youtube.com

Bill Waybourn Retweeted



Candace Owens @RealCandaceO · Dec 4, 2019

If somebody had told me 10 years ago that @taylorswift13 would come to further division, hate, and lies, and @kanyewest would come to champion unity, love, and Jesus Christ—I would have deemed them clinically insane.

And yet here we are America.

Wow.



Bill Waybourn
@BillWaybourn

I'm looking forward to joining @alexsalvinews on @OANN this evening at 9:15pmCT. We will be discussing the #BorderCrisis, how to handle #RepeatOffenders, and the current situation of #ICE #KeepTexasRed



1:15 PM · Nov 15, 2019 · Hootsuite Inc.



Bill Waybourn
@BillWaybourn



It was an honor to meet with @ICEgov at the White House today where we discussed how we will stop and deport criminal #IllegalAliens and work to end the #BorderCrisis



Acting ICE Director Matt Albence speaks to press
White House Press Briefing with Acting ICE Director Matt Albence. FOX News operates the FOX News Channel (FNC), F...
[youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com)

2:30 PM · Oct 10, 2019 · [Hootsuite Inc.](#)

Bill Waybourn Retweeted



Anthony Cruz
@anthony_cruz45



Great having @tarrantcountys0 Sheriff @BillWaybourn at the @WhiteHouse today.



2:12 PM · Oct 10, 2019 · [Twitter for iPhone](#)





CSPAN ✓ @cspan · Sep 20, 2019

Candace Owens (@RealCandaceO) to @kathleen_belew: "The audacity of you to bring up the Christchurch shooting manifesto and make it seem as if I laughed at people that were slaughtered by a homicidal maniac is in my opinion absolutely despicable."

More: cs.pn/30g3eHN



4:54 4.1M views 5.3K 16.7K 36.9K



Bill Waybourn
@BillWaybourn

Replying to @cspan @RealCandaceO and @kathleen_belew

Spot on Candice! As always

9:36 PM · Sep 20, 2019 · Twitter for iPhone

Bill Waybourn Retweeted



Allen West ✓
@AllenWest

I cannot tell you how much it means to have Sheriff [@billwaybourn](#)'s support! Thank you, Sheriff Bill!

Read the full text of the endorsement here:
west4texas.com/endorsement/al...

To add your own endorsement of my candidacy:
west4texas.com/endorsements/e...

Truly humbled. Thank y'all!



12:36 PM · Sep 5, 2019 · [TweetDeck](#)



Bill Waybourn
@BillWaybourn

It was great to talk to my friend, [@ChanelRion](#) of [@OANN](#) yesterday where we discussed the [#DemocratDebates](#) and their disastrous immigration policies. They want to end the border and [#AbolishICE](#). We must [#SecureTheBorder](#) and [#BackTheBlue](#)
oann.com/sen-sanders-se...

2:47 PM · Aug 1, 2019 · [Hootsuite Inc.](#)



Bill Waybourn Retweeted



Ricky Rebel
@RickyRebelRocks

it's going to be great to see Sheriff @BillWaybourn , @AllenWest and @WatchChad Looking forward to this event! #tcot#tcot working to #KeepTexasRed" #MAGA #KAG2020Landslide #GOP #RNC come on my rebels buy your tickets and retweet !

SUNDAY, AUGUST 11TH
5:00 - 8:00 PM
MOP&C Event Center - 1615 Rogers Rd.
Fort Worth, TX 76102

BILL WAYBOURN
CONSERVATIVE FOR GREAT

Come join us for a FUNDRAISER for Sheriff Bill Waybourn

Host Chad Prather, Special Guests: Sonny & Jolie Burgess, Lt Col (Ret) Allen B. West, Former ICE Director Tom Homan and more!

Tickets \$100.00 ★ VIP tickets \$150.00
VIP access will be from 5 pm - 6 pm

Purchase your tickets at www.billwaybourn.com

★ Complimentary beer, wine and hors d'oeuvres

Email: sherri@billwaybourn.com or call Sherri Aaron @817-793-1146

HOST LEVELS:

- ★ CHAIR \$5,000
- ★ GOLD \$2,500
- ★ SILVER \$1,000

FEATURING SOME SURPRISE GUESTS YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS!

Li Col (Ret) Allen B. West

1:42 PM · Jul 31, 2019 · Twitter for iPhone



Bill Waybourn @BillWaybourn · Jul 23, 2019

I will be on @EveningEdit today at 5:35pmCT to discuss the #BorderCrisis and how #DNATesting will help us protect the children crossing the border from #DrugCartels #Prostitution #HumanTrafficking

LIVE FOX BUSINESS 6:58 P ET

THE EVENING EDIT

TRUMP SET TO MAKE ANNOUNCEMENT ON NEW IMMIGRATION PROPOSAL TOMORROW

DOW FUTURES
25,650.00
24.00 0.09%

DOW 25648.02 ▲ 115.97 S&P 2850.96 ▲ 16.55 NAS 7822.15 ▲ 87.65

62.22 ▲ 0.20 HEAT OIL (HO/M9) 2.094 ▲ 0.007 NAT GAS (N





Bill Waybourn @BillWaybourn · Jul 15, 2019

It was a privilege to appear on @foxandfriends this morning. I had a great chat with @kilmeade about the failure of duty that all sanctuary cities are engaged in. We don't let that stand in #TarrantCounty #LawAndOrder #SecureTheBorder



Sanctuary city mayors push back against ICE's planne...
The Los Angeles mayor and police force say they will not get involved in a federal matter.
video.foxnews.com



Bill Waybourn @BillWaybourn · Jul 10, 2019

Thanks @talkradiojoe for allowing me to discuss how @AOC is dead wrong when it comes to #HomelandSecurity and #ICE. There are no #ConcentrationCamps at the border #BorderCrisis #TarrantCounty #BuildTheWall drive.google.com/open?id=0BwdDI...





Bill Waybourn @BillWaybourn · Jul 10, 2019

I will be joining @talkradiojoe later this morning to discuss the #BorderCrisis as well the importance of ICE. We need to #SupportICE not #AbolishICE



Bill Waybourn Retweeted



BlazeTV @BlazeTV · Jun 11, 2019

Sheriff @BillWaybourn examines the tactics used by @realDonaldTrump to jumpstart negotiations with Mexico and clamp down on illegal immigration. He says the potential deal could be a "game-changer."

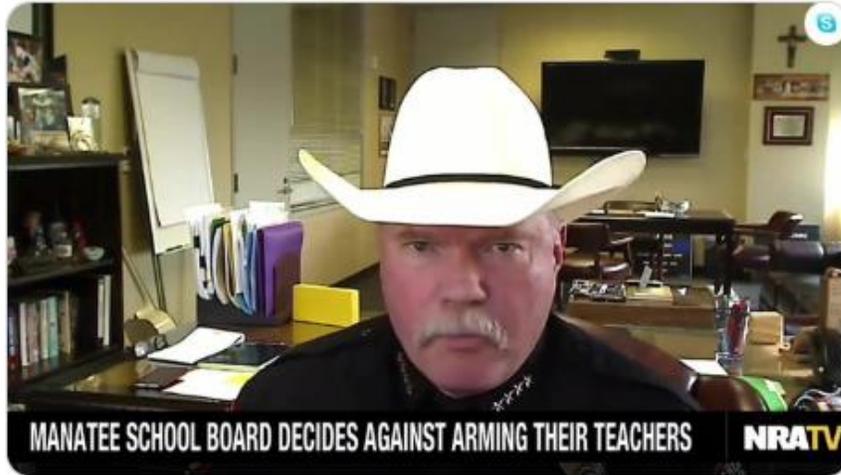
Full episode: [youtube.com/watch?time_con...](https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_con...)





Bill Waybourn @BillWaybourn · May 1, 2019

It was a pleasure to join @DLoesch on @NRATV where we discussed how arming teachers would protect students and fortify schools #gunrights #safetyfirst #secondamendment ow.ly/k2eD50tzBB2





Bud Kennedy / #ReadLocal ✓ @BudKennedy · Apr 28, 2019
 Shetiff @BillWaybourn says if every church would adopt a foster child, Texas wouldn't need CPS and we might deter hundreds of young people who wind up in jail or as trafficking victims. Sun 9a on Cronkite Award-winning @WFAA "Inside Texas Politics" w/@JasonWhitely



16 23 54



Tony Perez, MBA @tony4re · Apr 28, 2019
 From what my wife told me (who adopted 2 wonderful 2 y.o. children from Russia when it was still possible), current adoption laws leave too much risk of birth parents suing to regain parental rights. Nice thought about churches adopting but it sounds more like an academic theory.

1 1



Bill Waybourn @BillWaybourn · Apr 28, 2019
 Far as the kids ready to adopt here, their parents rights have been completely terminated. Not that difficult and cost very little.

2



guruscotty @guruscotty · Apr 28, 2019
 Replying to @BudKennedy @BillWaybourn and 2 others
 Children under the care of priests... what could go wrong?

1 8



Bill Waybourn @BillWaybourn · Apr 28, 2019
 Specifically want families inside the church to adopt, giving them a home forever. After back ground check of course.

Bill Waybourn Retweeted



Frederick Douglass Republicans of Tarrant County @.. · Feb 14, 2019

Thank you President Trump for promoting adoption! So many amazing people were adopted and so many parents make great adoptive moms and dads, just like our Sheriff [@BillWaybourn](#), who became a father to so many suffering children! [#Adopt](#) [#ValentinesDay](#)



President Trump Meets With Woman Who Survived ...
President Donald Trump today met with a woman who survived an abortion and also with a boy who was ...
[lifeneews.com](#)



Bill Waybourn
[@BillWaybourn](#)

It was great to meet and talk with new AG Barr.
[@tarrantcountys](#)



7:41 PM · Feb 14, 2019 · [Twitter for iPhone](#)



Bill Waybourn
@BillWaybourn



Looking forward to a great day of campaigning with great conservatives. First stop Ted Cruz Rally!

10:38 AM · Nov 2, 2018 · [Twitter for iPhone](#)

Bill Waybourn Retweeted



Kaya Jones  @KayaJones · Oct 31, 2018
because the news won't show you this we will 🙏🇺🇸



Bill Waybourn Retweeted



Judicial Watch @JudicialWatch · Oct 22, 2018

In a startling revelation, Guatemala's President announced that ~100 ISIS terrorists have been apprehended in the Central American nation. But why should Americans care about this? A caravan of Central American migrants is currently making its way north.



100 ISIS Terrorists Caught in Guatemala as Central American Caravan He...
In a startling revelation, Guatemala's president announced in the country's largest newspaper that nearly 100 ISIS terrorists have been ...
[judicialwatch.org](https://www.judicialwatch.org)



TDCAA @TDCAA · Sep 28, 2018

Not following the siren call of the "experts" in the 1980s-90s to adopt "model" federal-style sentencing guidelines was one of the smartest things #txlege has ever done in criminal justice.



CJ Ciaramella @cjciaramella · Sep 27, 2018

In the latest issue of the University of Missouri-Kansas City Law Review, federal judge Mark Bennett has a piece on federal sentencing guidelines, and he doesn't mince any words:

I. INTRODUCTION

Federal sentencing is a tragic mess. Thirty years of conflicting legislative experiments began with high hopes but resulted in mass incarceration.²

I am a small-town Iowa-country federal judge, but I have sentenced more than 4,000 offenders to federal prison.³ Federal sentences, especially in drug cases, are all too often bone-crushingly severe. That is especially true for most of the endless drug offenders I see: non-violent, low-level, long-term and severe drug addicts. These folks stand before me for sentencing in sharp contrast to the super violent drug cartel kingpins we read about and see on television, Netflix, and in the movies. I can count on one hand the number of kingpins I have sentenced, and each received a very severe sentence, including affirming a sentence of death imposed by a jury after a three-month trial.⁴ In contrast, ninety-five percent or more of those I sentence in drug cases cannot afford to hire counsel, pay their rent or mortgage, or adequately provide for their children because of their severe addiction. Their sole focus in life becomes snorting, smoking, or injecting drugs.

1 2 15 ↑



The Locke Law Group @EILockeLawGroup · Sep 28, 2018

Agreed. Federal sentencing guidelines are engines for injustice. Every person accused or victimized by a crime deserves their case to receive individualized treatment.

1 ↑ ♥ ↑



Bill Waybourn @BillWaybourn · Sep 29, 2018

I get there is some lack of discretion, but look at the rap sheet of the shooter that killed Officer Hull in Ft Worth. 17-20 felonious acts and many robberies. So what do you think is the solution?



Bill Waybourn @BillWaybourn · Sep 15, 2018

I choose @tedcruz for #TXSen because he has our veterans' backs and he fights for them in the United States Senate. RETWEET if you do too! #TXSen #KeepTexasRed

TED CRUZ	BETO O'ROURKE
ON VETERANS	
SUPPORTS OUR VETERANS 100% AND BELIEVES VETERANS SHOULD BE ABLE TO GET THE QUALITY HEALTH CARE THEY'VE EARNED	SAYS HE SUPPORTS VETERANS BUT HAS VOTED AGAINST HOLDING INEPT BUREAUCRATS AT THE VA ACCOUNTABLE
#CHOOSECRUZ	
Click to Tweet!	
<div style="border: 1px solid #00a0e3; border-radius: 15px; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> Tweet #ChooseCruz </div>	

Bill Waybourn Retweeted



Dana Loesch @DLoesch · Sep 7, 2018

You spied on their reporters, seized phone records and personal emails and declared James Rosen an enemy of the state. Holder himself signed the secret search warrant application.

NBC News @NBCNews · Sep 7, 2018

Former President Obama: "I complained plenty about Fox News, but you never heard me threaten to shut them down, or call them 'enemies of the people.'"

[Show this thread](#)



Bill Waybourn Retweeted



Sharen Wilson, CDA
@SharenWilson4DA

I'm honored to have the support of Tarrant County Sheriff [@BillWaybourn](#). Sheriff Waybourn and I have worked together for years to keep Tarrant County families and communities safe while bringing criminals to fair justice. I'm proud to have his endorsement.



4:45 PM · Sep 4, 2018 · [Twitter Web Client](#)

Bill Waybourn Retweeted

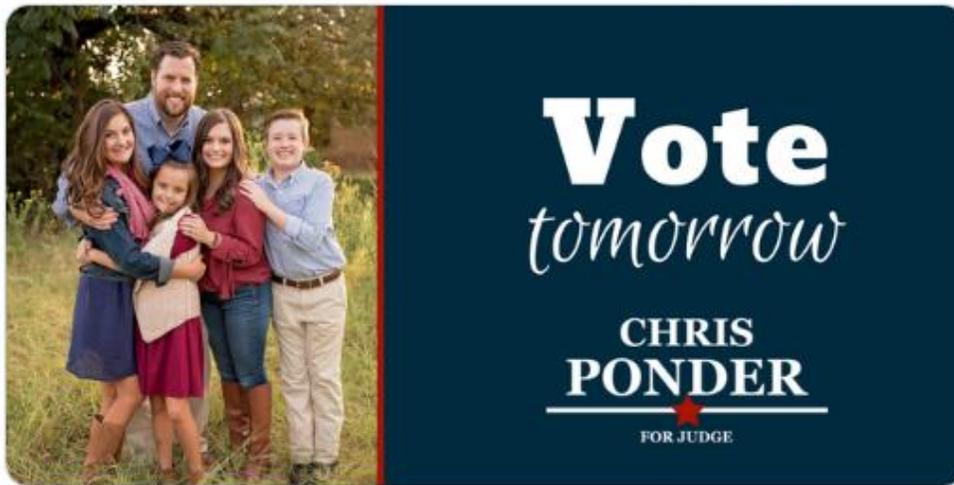


Chris Ponder
@ponderforjudge



Thank you to everyone who has supported our campaign, offered encouragement, voted, made donations, volunteered, and helped make this campaign such an incredible ride.

To find your polling location, visit: bit.ly/2GB0jKP



10:30 AM · May 21, 2018 · [TweetDeck](#)

Bill Waybourn Retweeted



Tarrant County SO ✓
@tarrantcountysso

AG @jeffsessions briefing attendees at @MCSheriffs Conference. @BillWaybourn #mcsa18 #LeadingTheWay



Jeff Sessions

12:37 PM · Feb 15, 2018 · Twitter for iPhone

Bill Waybourn Retweeted



Fox News ✓
@FoxNews

Happening Now: President [@realDonaldTrump](#) speaks at the Major County Sheriffs' Association and Major Cities Chiefs Association meeting



9:19 AM · Feb 8, 2017 · [Twitter Web Client](#)



Sarah Palin ✓ @SarahPalinUSA · Feb 4, 2018

What are you folks going to do? Are you watching the Super Bowl or boycotting? fb.me/ss68eVyV

894

226

720



Bill Waybourn
@BillWaybourn

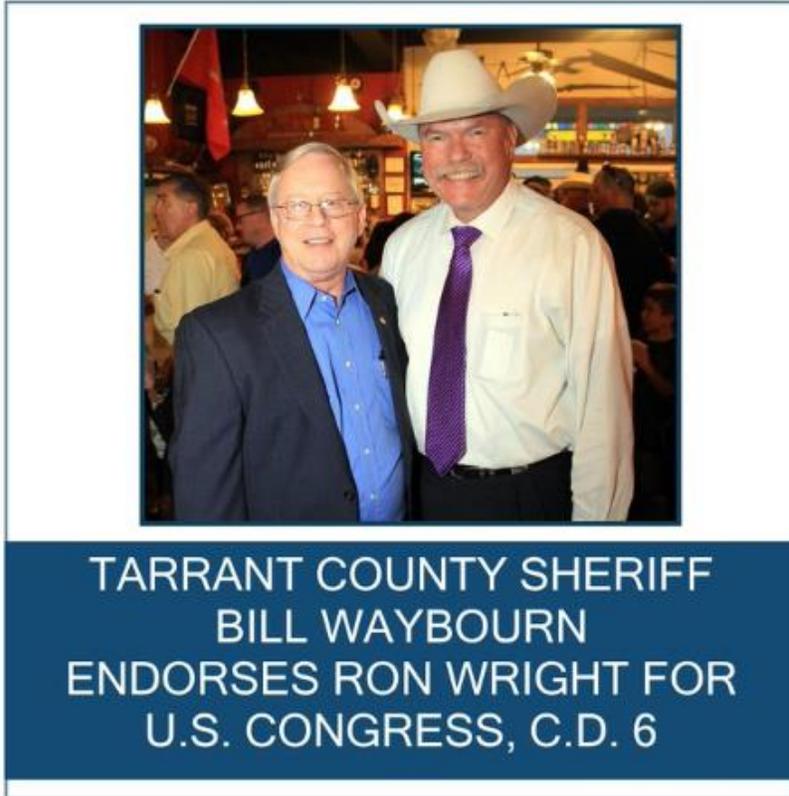
Replying to [@SarahPalinUSA](#)

Boycotting

8:59 PM · Feb 5, 2018 · [Twitter for iPhone](#)

Bill Waybourn Retweeted
Ron Wright ✓
@ron4congress
US House candidate, TX-6

I am honored to have the endorsement of the most popular Sheriff in Texas, my friend @BillWaybourn!
[#backthebowtie](#) [#wright4congress](#)



2:04 PM · Feb 5, 2018 · [Twitter Web Client](#)

Bill Waybourn Retweeted



Allen West ✓
@AllenWest

What happened to this policeman at Starbucks is one more reason to have coffee somewhere else
allenwest.com/2015/09/16/wha...



11:16 AM · Oct 14, 2017 · [Twitter Web Client](#)



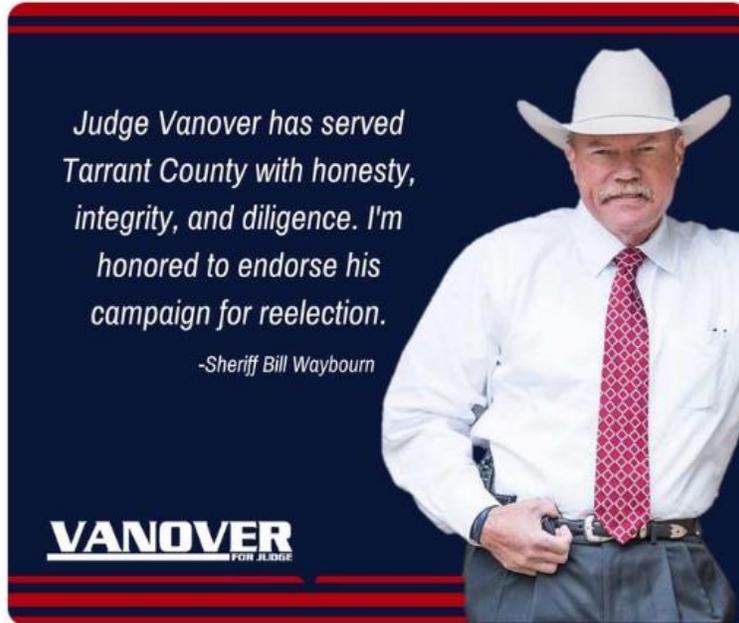
Bill Waybourn
@BillWaybourn

[@ainsleyearhardt](#) the Good Dr has his facts wrong on cost and immigration issues..

7:34 AM · Aug 8, 2017 · [Twitter for iPhone](#)

Bill Waybourn Retweeted
Judge Chuck Vanover
@JudgeVanover

Thanks for your support, Sheriff [@BillWaybourn!](#)



3:03 PM · Jul 19, 2017 · [Twitter for iPhone](#)

Bill Waybourn Retweeted
Kellyanne Conway ✓
@KellyannePolls

[#MadeInAmericaWeek](#) at 6-month mark shows impact
[@POTUS](#) and [@VP](#) are having on USA. Beef to China,
increase in manufacturing & mining jobs.

Yahoo News Photos ✓ @yahoophoto · Jul 17, 2017
PHOTOS: [@POTUS](#) unveils [#MadeInAmericaWeek](#) [Pablo Martinez Monsivais](#),
[@alexbrandon](#), [@ReutersBarria](#) on [@YahooNews](#) > [yhoo.it/2tySK0E](#)



5:09 PM · Jul 17, 2017 · [Twitter Web Client](#)

Bill Waybourn Retweeted



Sen. Brian Birdwell
@SenatorBirdwell

Always good to see my friend, Tarrant County Sheriff [@BillWaybourn](#), who was here for the Senate Finance Committee this morning. [#txlege](#)



10:31 AM · Feb 28, 2017 · [Twitter for iPhone](#)



Bill Waybourn
@BillWaybourn

At medal of honor dinner - during the national anthem no one saw the need to take a knee! A few couldn't stand due to sacrifices they made

10:41 PM · Oct 20, 2016 · [Twitter for iPhone](#)



Bill Waybourn
@BillWaybourn



Amazing the great recall when talking of
[@realDonaldTrump](#) sins but when investigated in
whitewater and recent scams she doesn't recall

9:58 PM · Oct 19, 2016 · [Twitter for iPhone](#)

Bill Waybourn Retweeted



Bill Zedler
@Bill_Zedler



Trump has had 400 + business accomplishments-
Hillary Clinton has had zero

10:25 PM · Oct 9, 2016 · [Twitter SMS](#)

Bill Waybourn Retweeted



Firearms @realFirearms · Oct 9, 2016



Reminder, Hillary Clinton said the Supreme Court is wrong on the Second
Amendment. [#debate](#) [twitter.com/GunOwners/stat...](#) [#2A](#) [#Guns](#) [#Freedom](#)



Gun Owners of America @GunOwners · Oct 6, 2016

Register to vote to protect the Second Amendment:
[gunowners.org/vote.htm](#)



Bill Waybourn Retweeted



Matt Lewis ✓
@mattklewis



If you're a wavering Republican, Hillary's Supreme Court answer just made a good argument for voting Trump.
[#debate](#)

10:26 PM · Oct 9, 2016 · [Twitter Web Client](#)



Bill Waybourn
@BillWaybourn



Honored to be emcee for [@andynguyennow](#) American Dream Dinner! The commissioner is proof that dream is real! [#America](#)

6:01 PM · Aug 25, 2016 · [Twitter for iPhone](#)

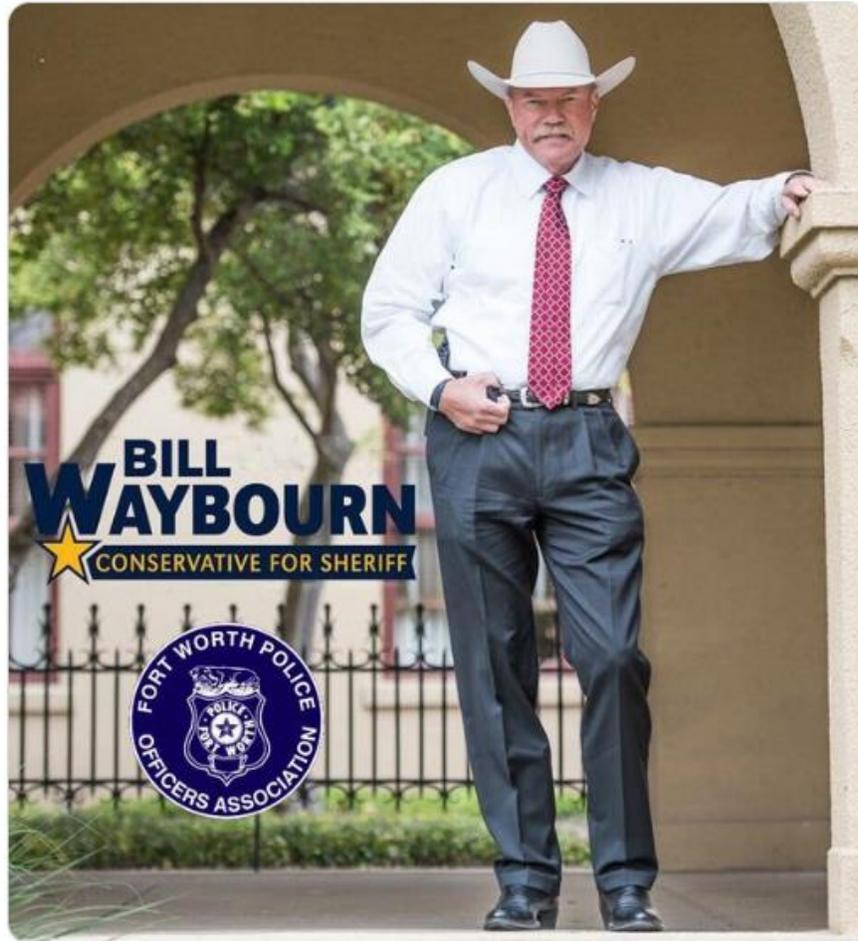


Bill Waybourn Retweeted



Fort Worth Police OA ✓
@FWPOA

Voted yet? @FWPOA Committee For Public Safety endorsed @BillWaybourn for @TarrantCountyso Sheriff. ✓ Election2016



3:30 PM · May 17, 2016 · Twitter for iPhone



Bill Waybourn
@BillWaybourn

Congrats @GovernorPerry - cleared of all charges! Like always, you stood on your principals & did what was right for Texas! #leadthewaybourn

10:36 AM · Feb 24, 2016 · Twitter for iPhone



Bill Waybourn Retweeted



Roll Call
@rollcall



Scalia, in his own words. cqnow.co/1PKPjZs

5 Scalia Opinions for the History Books



Justice Antonin Scalia, known for his fiery opinions in agreement and dissent, in his own words.

1. 2015 Dissenting Opinion in *Obergefell v. Hodges*: The court ruling effectively legalized same-sex marriage throughout the country.

"So it is not of special importance to me what the law says about marriage. It is of overwhelming importance, however, who it is that rules me. Today's decree says that my Ruler, and the Ruler of 320 million Americans coast-to-coast, is a majority of the nine lawyers on the Supreme Court."

2. 2015 Dissenting Opinion in *King v. Burwell*: The court ruled in favor of upholding Obamacare.

"The Court's next bit of interpretive jiggery-pokery involves other parts of the Act that purportedly presuppose the availability of tax credits on both federal and state Exchanges."

3. 2010 Majority Opinion in *Citizens United v. FEC*: The ruling that opened the floodgates of political spending in campaigns.

"The Amendment is written in terms of 'speech,' not speakers. Its text offers no foothold for excluding any category of speaker, from single individuals to partnerships of individuals, to unincorporated associations of individuals, to incorporated associations of individuals — and the dissent offers no evidence about the original meaning of the text to support any such exclusion."

4. 2008 Majority Opinion in *D.C. v. Heller*: The ruling struck down a handgun ban.

"Undoubtedly some think that the Second Amendment is outmoded in a society where our standing army is the pride of our nation, where well-trained police forces provide personal security, and where gun violence is a serious problem," Scalia wrote. "That is perhaps debatable, but what is not debatable is that it is not the role of this court to pronounce the Second Amendment extinct."

5. 1992 Dissenting Opinion in *Planned Parenthood of Southeastern Pennsylvania v. Casey*: A ruling where *Roe v. Wade* was upheld.

"The Court's description of the place of *Roe* in the social history of the United States is unrecognizable. Not only did *Roe* not, as the Court suggests, resolve the deeply divisive issue of abortion; it did more than anything else to nourish it, by elevating it to the national level where it is infinitely more difficult to resolve."

Graphic by Gillian Roberts/CQ Roll Call

Sources: U.S. Supreme Court, Cornell University and University of Missouri-Kansas City

12:35 PM · Feb 14, 2016 · [TweetDeck](#)



Bill Waybourn Retweeted



Bud Kennedy / #ReadLocal ✓
@BudKennedy

The 3rd candidate for @TarrantCountySO, John Garris, has endorsed @BillWaybourn over @SheriffAnderson /via @FWHanna



11:30 AM · Feb 4, 2016 · [Twitter Web Client](#)

Bill Waybourn Retweeted



Laura Waybourn
@laura_waybourn

Listening to [@GovAbbott](#) at [@TC_GOP](#) Lincoln Day Dinner with [@BillWaybourn](#) [#leadthewaybourn](#)



9:43 PM · Jan 30, 2016 · [Twitter for iPhone](#)

Bill Waybourn Retweeted



Franklin Graham ✓
@Franklin_Graham

We need to vote for candidates uphold biblical principles—those who believe in the sanctity of human life. [#SanctityofLife](#)

2:30 PM · Jan 17, 2016 · [Sprout Social](#)





Bill Waybourn
@BillWaybourn



Honored to speak to the largest tea party in TX
[@NETarrantTea](#) A wonderful group of great Americans!
[#leadthewaybourn](#)



9:21 PM · Jan 11, 2016 · [Twitter for iPhone](#)



Bill Waybourn
@BillWaybourn



Check out our campaign treasurer [@TayaKyle](#) on CNN taking on the President on gun control! Way to go Taya!
[#2ndAmendment](#) [#leadthewaybourn](#)

8:29 PM · Jan 7, 2016 · [Twitter for iPhone](#)



Bill Waybourn
@BillWaybourn



Great spending time with friend and Christian brother
[@thejoshhamilton](#) I'm honored to have his support
[#TexasRangers](#)



5:03 PM · Jan 7, 2016 · [Twitter for iPhone](#)





Bill Waybourn
@BillWaybourn



With the great patriot @AllenWest at @ArmedForcesBowl today. #LMAFB



5:58 PM · Dec 29, 2015 · [Twitter for iPhone](#)



Bill Waybourn
@BillWaybourn

I'm honored to have the endorsement of retired Fort Worth Police Chief Ralph Mendoza. [#leadthewaybourn](#)



1:00 PM · Dec 17, 2015 · [Twitter for iPhone](#)

[Retweet](#) Bill Waybourn Retweeted



James Woods ✓
@RealJamesWoods

Cower in the middle, is more like it. Pres Reagan and [@SenTedCruz](#) are the only conservatives unafraid to be proud. [twitter.com/usfreedomarmy/...](https://twitter.com/usfreedomarmy/)

This Tweet is unavailable.

8:48 PM · Nov 30, 2015 · [Twitter for iPhone](#)



Bill Waybourn Retweeted



Greg Abbott ✓
@GregAbbott_TX

Well said [@TedCruz](#). Pro-Life means supporting life & condemning killers: Cruz Condemns Planned Parenthood Shooting



Cruz Condemns Colorado Shooting but Pushes Back on Anti-...
U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz is condemning the fatal shooting of three people at a Planned Parenthood location in Colorado but also...
[texas Tribune](http://texastribune.org)

2:19 PM · Nov 29, 2015 · [Twitter Web Client](#)



Bill Waybourn
@BillWaybourn

Great being with [@NovacekAmy](#) & [@JayNovacek84](#) last night at the event for [@SenatorBirdwell](#) featuring [@GregAbbott_TX](#)



2:55 PM · Nov 24, 2015 · [Twitter for iPhone](#)

Bill Waybourn Retweeted



Greg Abbott ✓
@GregAbbott_TX



Texas leads the nation with the toughest border security law of any state ever. #tcot @TexasGOP #txlege oaa.com/editorial/colu...

3:40 PM · Nov 14, 2015 · Twitter Web Client



Bill Waybourn
@BillWaybourn



Great turnout out at the @NETarrantTea meeting tonight where @RickSantorum gave a very informative Q&A session.



9:34 PM · Oct 12, 2015 · Twitter for iPhone

Bill Waybourn Retweeted



Bill Zedler
@Bill_Zedler



The mayors & city councils of sanctuary cities should be held legally responsible for the deaths of U.S. Citizens by illegal immigrants

10:51 AM · Aug 12, 2015 · [Twitter SMS](#)

Bill Waybourn Retweeted



Lee Strobel ✓
@LeeStrobel



Biologist in TEDx Talk: Life's Complex Interacting Molecular Machines Appear Built by an Engineer -



Biologist in TEDx Talk: Life's "Complex Interacting Molecular ...
I don't think that Stephen Larson is pro-intelligent design, which makes his descriptions of biology all the more striking.
[evolutionnews.org](#)

9:53 PM · Jun 10, 2015 · [Hootsuite](#)

Bill Waybourn Retweeted



Jay Novacek ✓
@JayNovacek84



[@BillWaybourn](#) is a great man dedicated 2 serving community fam friends. Amy & I know him personally he gets r vote [facebook.com/HonorChrisKyle...](#)

6:18 PM · May 19, 2015 · [Twitter for iPhone](#)

Bill Waybourn Retweeted



Laura Waybourn
@laura_waybourn

@BillWaybourn we testified today in favor of Rep Tony
Tinderholt HB 2514 pro adoption legislation #txlege
#adoption



Laura Waybourn and Bill Waybourn

10:03 PM · Apr 29, 2015 · Twitter for iPhone



Bill Waybourn
@BillWaybourn

A great evening at AIPAC with congressman Sessions.
Always standing with Israel.



12:23 AM · Apr 27, 2015 · Twitter for iPhone

Bill Waybourn Retweeted



Donna Campbell ✓
@DonnaCampbellTX



Funny how Democrats are FOR vouchers in every instance (food stamps, housing) except when children are stuck in failing government schools.

6:05 PM · Apr 20, 2015 · [Hootsuite](#)



Bill Waybourn
@BillWaybourn



[@AllenWest](#) NE Tarrant County Tea Party event tonight what a great patriot



12:26 AM · Apr 12, 2015 · [Twitter for iPhone](#)

Bill Waybourn Retweeted



Bill Zedler
@Bill_Zedler



Some of main stream media continue the lie of "Hands Up, Don't Shoot"

9:32 PM · Mar 23, 2015 · [Twitter SMS](#)

Bill Waybourn Retweeted



Texas GOP ✓
@TexasGOP



SB-17 has passed, allowing the open carry of handguns with a CHL. Thank you Senate Republicans for your leadership! [#txlege](#)

7:26 PM · Mar 16, 2015 · [Twitter Web Client](#)



Megyn Kelly ✓ @megynkelly · Feb 18, 2014

'Hillary Clinton Is the War on Women': Kathleen Willey, Alleged Bill Clinton Sex Assault Victim Says: tinyurl.com/kk585uk



105

101

84



Bill Waybourn
@BillWaybourn



Replying to [@megynkelly](#)

[@megynkelly](#) simply stated she was truthful..

1:04 AM · Feb 19, 2014 · [Twitter for iPhone](#)



Bill Waybourn
@BillWaybourn



844 just got me a m1a1 wow

4:04 PM · Aug 19, 2009 · [Twitter Web Client](#)

All Tweets – Text Only

- @TPWDnews Horrible sad news, lifting up in prayers Aug 10, 2020 📍
- RT @AnthonyWhiteTX: Labeling all law enforcement officers in a bad light and refusing to sell them bicycles to do their job is not a good I... Aug 06, 2020 📍
- @abirdincosplay @carmenbest Just checking average pay is \$69, 000. With a pay range up to \$73k.. Aug 06, 2020 📍
- Waller County Sheriff dies after apparent heart attack. It is with heartfelt prayers for Sheriff Smith family as this sad news about losing a great Texas Sheriff's . A good and kind man. God's speed my friend. <https://t.co/a69Y97iBtF> Aug 02, 2020 📍
- RT @DLoesch: fyi Jul 29, 2020 📍
- RT @MannyRamirez_TX: What an amazing show of support for #America today in #TarrantCounty, Texas. Fort Worth Backs the Blue! @FWPOA @Na... Jul 25, 2020 📍
- RT @BlueWalkPoconos: Completely 100% unacceptable that our #NYPD Officers are being assaulted while the mayor @billdeblasio is busy politic... Jul 16, 2020 📍
- RT @tarrantcountys0: DO YOU KNOW THIS BURGLAR? On 07/11/2020 this male burglarized a home in the 00-99 block of Drover Dr. in Ft Worth. If... Jul 15, 2020 📍
- Thoughts and prayers are McAllen Pd and the loss of 2 heroes today. A senseless Ambush.. Jul 12, 2020 📍
- RT @Bethvanduyne: DPD Senior Cpl. Lorne Ahrens, DPD Officer Michael Krol, DPD Sgt. Michael Smith, DART Officer Brent Thompson, and DPD Offi... Jul 07, 2020 📍
- @RepMattKrause Great american moment Jul 07, 2020 📍
- RT @Bethvanduyne: We don't have to imagine what life would look like under Democratic leadership - just look around the country as cities b... Jul 06, 2020 📍
- RT @HerschelWalker: I don't want to defund the police. I don't want to tear down statues. What about my freedom of speech? I want to be uni... Jul 04, 2020 📍
- RT @MannyRamirez_TX: Thank you @OneRepublic for the moving tribute to law enforcement. We are in this together. @FWPOA @CLEAT @NatPoliceAss... Jul 03, 2020 📍
- RT @MannyRamirez_TX: #Texas police departments do a great job providing fiscally conservative public service, and @fortworthpd is leading t... Jun 29, 2020 📍
- RT @MannyRamirez_TX: Recent poll shows 81% of voters surveyed believe @fortworthpd has done a good job keeping them safe. The media narra... Jun 28, 2020 📍
- RT @MannyRamirez_TX: The @fortworthpd is a national leader in community policing. We are proud of the men and women who put it on the line... Jun 27, 2020 📍
- RT @HerschelWalker: Shame. Shame. Shame. A republican @SenatorTimScott put a police reform bill on the floor and we had black democrat sena... Jun 27, 2020 📍
- RT @Bethvanduyne: Everyone should spend 30 mins & listen to this speech by @SenatorTimScott. He explains that Democrats stopped negotiating... Jun 25, 2020 📍
- @MansfieldChief Great dog! Sorry for your loss Jun 22, 2020 📍
- I'll be joining @DLoesch to discuss the state of policing in America in the next minute or two please tune in! #LawAndOrder <https://t.co/mwjthVbLpm> Jun 17, 2020 📍
- RT @MannyRamirez_TX: Officer Brazeal needs our thoughts and our prayers right now. He was critically injured by a fleeing felon. And he is... Jun 17, 2020 📍
- RT @Bethvanduyne: The Democrat primary in the 24th District has become a despicable race to the bottom for who can be the most extreme, mos... Jun 11, 2020 📍
- I talked to @STEPHMHAMILL of @TheDailyCaller last week about how we cannot let the "Defund the Police" movement gain any more ground! It will lead to total chaos! #BackTheBlue #BlackLivesMatter #BlueLivesMatter <https://t.co/sA0WCjHrJ> Jun 08, 2020 📍
- RT @FDRofTC: Listen to this important message from Chaplain Rich Stoglin regarding the current situation in this country. Please #RETWEET!... Jun 04, 2020 📍
- @Bethvanduyne Spot on! We have an opportunity to move forward or to fail. Jun 04, 2020 📍
- @Snorkelrick @DLoesch @PolkCoSheriff Sheriff Judd is a great sheriff and a good friend! Jun 03, 2020 📍
- I will be joining my friend @DLoesch shortly! Please tune in! Jun 02, 2020 📍
- RT @tarrantcountys0: Today is Police Memorial Day to recognize and remember Law Enforcement Officers who have lost their life in the line o... May 15, 2020 📍
- @TrumpJew Texas of course May 12, 2020 📍
- RT @MannyRamirez_TX: 5 of our @CityofFortWorth citizens are gunned down on Mother's Day. Where is the outrage? This behavior is despicabl... May 12, 2020 📍

- Always a pleasure to join my friend @DLoesch to discuss how to open up Texas and how we can support small businesses! <https://t.co/lxSsDafVK2> May 06, 2020 📎
- Deputy Hamil Scott's end of watch was May 1, 1907. He was shot in line of duty. It was reported all of Tarrant County offices and most businesses shut down to attend what would be a very large funeral. RIP sir and thank you for your service. #NeverForget @tarrantcountys0 May 02, 2020 📎
- Thank you @STEPHMHAMILL and @TheDailyCaller for having me on to discuss how #TarrantCounty and Texas are keeping our citizens safe! #LawAndOrder <https://t.co/vehYozXEZN> Apr 29, 2020 📎
- Evil continues to strike this weekend! Praying for 2 dart officers that were wounded. Apr 19, 2020 📎
- RT @MannyRamirez_TX: Please keep San Marcos in your prayers tonight. One officer has been killed and two others wounded. Our nation has l... Apr 19, 2020 📎
- @ArlingtonPD God's speed! Thank you for your service. Apr 17, 2020 📎
- I will be joining my friend @DLoesch today at 1:30pmCST to discuss how #TarrantCounty is working to #FlattenTheCurve. Hope y'all can tune in! <https://t.co/gAfO4iOFgg> Apr 17, 2020 📎
- RT @660KSKY: The many layers of #coronavirus & update on Ft. Worth Law Enforcement with Sheriff @BillWaybourn. 🚗 Catch it in this 9am repla... Apr 17, 2020 📎
- RT @tarrantcountys0: Let's give them a hand and make some noise. Thank you, front line workers. Apr 17, 2020 📎
- I will be joining the @davidwebbshow tomorrow at 9:05amCST to discuss how #TarrantCounty and Texas is handling the Pandemic. #FlattenTheCurve #LawAndOrder Apr 15, 2020 📎
- I will be joining @MarkDavis tomorrow at 8:30amCT where we will discuss how #TarrantCounty is handling this Pandemic. Find me on 660am! #FlattenTheCurve #LawAndOrder Apr 15, 2020 📎
- Thank you to @TheTexanNews for writing an article that highlighted all the good work that we are doing here in #TarrantCounty! Together we can beat this Pandemic #LawAndOrder <https://t.co/ag6CVMazBI> Apr 15, 2020 📎
- RT @fwssr: Ranchers & farmers continues to work hard to provide a hungry world nutritious & healthy food! #springbranding <https://t.co/LuyT...> Apr 09, 2020 📎
- RT @MannyRamirez_TX: We are so proud of these two @tarrantcountys0 heroes! Another reason our @TarrantCountyTX law enforcement community is... Apr 08, 2020 📎
- I'll be going live with @RealMattLocke on @AVoiceNews at 11:15amCT to discuss how we can #FlattenTheCurve #WarRoomPandemic <https://t.co/mF8NaVLn1e> Apr 07, 2020 📎
- Great job Governor Abbott! We will not release nor did we plan to release dangerous criminals in the name of Coronavirus! Good to be in Texas. Mar 29, 2020 📎
- RT @GrandPrairiePD: Our thoughts and prayers are with @NevadaDPS who lost an officer in the line of duty today. Please keep them in mind to... Mar 28, 2020 📎
- RT @MansfieldChief: As a reminder, your pals at MPD are helping to educate residents and businesses on the stay home, work smart restrictio... Mar 27, 2020 📎
- RT @IrvingPD: We understand there has been some confusion about the shelter in place order & concerns that officers are stopping persons as... Mar 27, 2020 📎
- RT @West4Texas: I sat down with Sheriff @BillWaybourn to discuss life and law enforcement during the #COVID19 global pandemic. #coronavirus... Mar 27, 2020 📎
- Going live with @RealMattLocke of @AVoiceNews right now! #TarrantCounty #ShelterInPlace #FlattenTheCurve <https://t.co/mF8NaVLn1e> Mar 25, 2020 📎
- @S_TSTANFORD08 @akin_lane Great read Max is awesome Mar 23, 2020 📎
- It was great to join my constituent @RealMattLocke today on @AVoiceNews to discuss how the #ChineseVirus is affecting #TarrantCounty. Lets be safe and smart! Together we can #FlattenTheCurve <https://t.co/vCCXYdbOJo> Mar 19, 2020 📎
- I'm looking forward to joining @RealMattLocke on @AVoiceNews at 11:30amCT to discuss how #TarrantCounty is addressing the #WuhanVirus #FlattenTheCurve Mar 19, 2020 📎
- RT @MansfieldChief: Please keep the @TravisCoSheriff Office in your thoughts and prayers as they lost one of their own earlier this morning... Mar 19, 2020 📎
- RT @KonniBurton: Great stuff here as @DLoesch talks w/ Tarrant County Sheriff @BillWaybourn regarding their response to the #Coronavirus. h... Mar 17, 2020 📎
- RT @Bethvanduyne: To all you nurses, medical assistants, PAs, physicians, EMTs, paramedics and healthcare workers - thank you for what you... Mar 17, 2020 📎
- RT @CharlieDaniels: The most disgusting commercial I've ever seen was shown twice on the debate last night it was Ron Reagan doing a spot... Mar 17, 2020 📎

- RT @TheFirstonTV: .@DLoesch is joined by Sheriff @BillWaybourn to discuss the public safety and how the #coronavirus could impact the Secon... Mar 17, 2020 📎
- I will be joining my friend @DLoesch at 2:35pmCT today to discuss the #CoronaVirus. Everyone please engage in #socialdistancing! Only by being responsible citizens can we protect our countrymen and family members! Let's #FlattenTheCurve <https://t.co/eClaOOfv51> Mar 16, 2020 📎
- RT @FWPOA: Tonight, Hot Springs (AR) Police Officer Brent Scrimshire was shot and killed during a traffic stop. We extend our prayers and... Mar 12, 2020 📎
- RT @AllenWest: Today, 184 years ago, March 6, 1836, 13 days of Glory ended with the fall of The Alamo. One hundred and eighty-five made the... Mar 07, 2020 📎
- @ToddNEWS @25NewsKXXV @EWScrippsCo Congratulations! Mar 03, 2020 📎
- Excited to work with Chris Putnam at Hi Piont Elementary in Ft worth. Great voting day! Mar 03, 2020 📎
- I joined @alexsalvinews of @OANN last week to discuss the terrible shooting in Milwaukee. Protecting our rights and protecting our citizens go hand in hand. They do not work against each other #MentalHealthIssues #Support2A #BackTheBlue <https://t.co/YIZc5JZtIW> Mar 02, 2020 📎
- Honored to be a part of raising awareness of human trafficking with Valiant heart today. It is right here! Mar 01, 2020 📎
- RT @putnamfortexas: .@BillWaybourn understands why it's so important we elect someone to Congress who will help President Trump finish the... Feb 29, 2020 📎
- RT @Bethvanduyne: Thank you for your support of my campaign, @GovernorPerry. I am honored to have earned your endorsement! <https://t.co/513...> Feb 29, 2020 📎
- RT @tarrantcountysos: We passed our Texas Jail Standards Inspection for the 26th year in a row! It's our team and their hard work that makes... Feb 27, 2020 📎
- Bloomberg says the military is better prepared today than a long time... hummm @realDonaldTrump Feb 26, 2020 📎
- RT @FDRofTC: #OTD in #History, Hiram Rhodes Revels became the first African American Congressman to be sworn into congress. And guess what.... Feb 26, 2020 📎
- Joe Biden just said 150 million people have died from gun violence since 2007!What world is he in!! Feb 26, 2020 📎
- RT @DougDeason: @JonDPonder @realDonaldTrump @hope4prisoners1 Congrats John, you have created a wonderful program that reduces recidivism d... Feb 25, 2020 📎
- RT @Bethvanduyne: <https://t.co/IMqBxfulRs> Feb 25, 2020 📎
- @JasonWhitely @ArtAcevedo Jason that was a great interview! Art was spot on, we are on a slippery slope.. Feb 24, 2020 📎
- RT @putnamfortexas: I'm running for Congress to stand with President Trump and fight for you in Washington. The political establishment doe... Feb 21, 2020 📎
- Thank you to @STEPHMHAMILL and @TheDailyCaller for letting me come on to discuss important issues such as ending #illegalimmigration, the "Beto Effect", and the 2020 election. #TarrantCounty #CombatCartels <https://t.co/8dl71Ybkxy> Feb 20, 2020 📎
- It was a pleasure to join @DLoesch on her program to discuss how we can end #HumanTrafficking and how to #CombatCartels! #TarrantCounty #KAG <https://t.co/8cfa963FKV> <https://t.co/VOLzq3CKD1> Feb 19, 2020 📎
- @putnamfortexas @karinleighdyer @WISECOSHERRIFF Happy birthday and nothing better than trigger time.. Feb 19, 2020 📎
- RT @IrvingPDChief: So excited to be a part of such a Distinguished group of police and fire professionals from North Texas supporting @Nanc... Feb 18, 2020 📎
- @ChiefGeron Congratulations Chief...God's speed Feb 16, 2020 📎
- RT @tarrantcountysos: 2/13/20 we arrested Brett Hall a W/M DOB 11/14/59 on allegation of Indecency with Child. He was a scoutmaster from 200... Feb 15, 2020 📎
- These criminals are in our state and in our county, and we will go after them with the gust of a hound dog!! #TarrantCounty #EndHumanTrafficking #SecureTheBorder <https://t.co/aUQOtx4vyK> Feb 12, 2020 📎
- RT @OneCommunityUSA: One Community| @IrvingPD Shop Talk program rebuilds of trust and bring our community closer together. Safer, more sec... Feb 07, 2020 📎
- It was a pleasure to join @alexsalvinews on @OANN to discuss President Trump's State of the Union and the importance of appointing judges! #StateOfTheUnion #Constitutionalists #TarrantCounty <https://t.co/vc6suy9MJo> Feb 06, 2020 📎
- @DLoesch Madam Speaker very disrespectful. Feb 05, 2020 📎
- RT @AllenWest: My latest book drops on Friday -- my birthday -- for Black History Month. Let's set the record straight on Black conservatis... Feb 04, 2020 📎

- Rodeo in Ft Worth and Coffey Anderson in one night! Incredible <https://t.co/AHuiKO39YH> Feb 04, 2020 📎
- Nothing like the rodeo! Dickies arena.. <https://t.co/FUvBcNizxo> Feb 04, 2020 📎
- RT @Bethvanduyne: Don't forget to register to vote in the primary. The deadline is Monday! <https://t.co/Olcvr9BDBY> <https://t.co/8gm9JQ7PKR> Feb 02, 2020 📎
- RT @FWPOA: 🚒 Please move over and slow down to keep our first responders safe! 🚒 Jan 26, 2020 📎
- @Bethvanduyne Expecially if it is the State! They must be ready day 1! Speedy trial, due process, discovery all done day 1! They missed the mark... Jan 24, 2020 📎
- RT @CatalinaLauf: The current Democratic Party, the same one that over-spends, over-taxes and over-regulates isn't even enough for Marxist... Jan 21, 2020 📎
- RT @Bethvanduyne: How many more innocent lives lost because of liberal elitist sanctuary city policies? Enough is enough. <https://t.co/S2...> Jan 18, 2020 📎
- Looking forward to riding Spirit in the great Ft Worth Stockshow Parade with the Sheriff's Posse! Rodeo Time in Tarrant County! Jan 18, 2020 📎
- RT @BlazeTV: Texas Sheriff @BillWaybourn exposes the horrifying details about human trafficking and the Cartel's connection at the border t... Jan 17, 2020 📎
- My interview with @ericbolling will air on @theblaze at 7pmEST! We focused on how to combat #cartelviolence and how to end #humantrafficking! #SecureTheBorder #TarrantCounty Jan 16, 2020 📎
- RT @edgray1906: #wristband worn in memory of my cousin Sgt. Shepherd who died on duty at @tarrantcountyso @BillWaybourn , I wore this while... Jan 16, 2020 📎
- @edgray1906 @tarrantcountyso A Goodman that we dearly miss! Jan 16, 2020 📎
- RT @akin_lane: Tracy Murphree was one of 32 Texas Rangers I had the good fortune to supervise. He was exactly what I imagined a Texas Range... Jan 12, 2020 📎
- RT @BudKennedy: The house where @TarrantCountySO Deputy Malcolm Davis was killed by the Barrow Gang may meet the wrecking ball @billWaybour... Jan 12, 2020 📎
- RT @tarrantcountyso: In December 2019, the two suspects pictured below used stolen credit cards at Walmarts in Azle and Lake Worth. Please... Jan 09, 2020 📎
- RT @tarrantcountyso: We're excited to announce that Chief Reyes begins the FBI National Academy tomorrow! We wish him well and know he'll m... Jan 06, 2020 📎
- I'll be on the @SamMaloneShow this morning at 8:45amCT! Hope you can tune in! #TarrantCounty #SecondAmendment #ConcealCarry Jan 03, 2020 📎
- RT @GregNorberg: The Old Guy Representing "Conservatives Party" - VS - Young Guy Representing the "Socialist Democrats Party". If you want... Jan 03, 2020 📎
- RT @Franklin_Graham: This prayer for the new year from my father @BillyGraham was provided to The Saturday Evening Post in 2008 but is just... Jan 01, 2020 📎
- @RepMattKrause Amen Dec 25, 2019 📎
- RT @tarrantcountyso: Friendly reminder.... Let's ensure that everyone gets to celebrate Christmas this week. #DontDrinkAndDrive <https://t.c...> Dec 23, 2019 📎
- RT @Bethvanduyne: I want you to see this video for yourself - it is almost too uninged to believe. @JoeBiden would readily destroy hundred... Dec 21, 2019 📎
- Always a blast to chat with my friend @alexsalvinews of @OANN where we discussed #BorderSecurity #GreenLightLaws and how to get into the #ChristmasSpirit <https://t.co/NJWdDmcvZ6> Dec 19, 2019 📎
- Looking forward to spending the day at Ft Worth Potter's house greeting the forgotten children of the incarcerated. Thank you to our partners! #Potter's house, #Mt Olive Baptist, and many many more! God bless you all Dec 14, 2019 📎
- It was great to join @alexsalvinews on @OANN earlier this week. Below are a couple snippets from that interview. #GunControl #SecondAmendment <https://t.co/bLy1d4ffnN> Dec 13, 2019 📎
- RT @tarrantcountyso: Stop by tomorrow morning at our Coffee with Sheriff @BillWaybourn event! Anyone is welcome to attend. We're looking fo... Dec 12, 2019 📎
- RT @ChiefDye: Presented this tribute to Sheriff [URL]@BillWaybourn[PDF] for his assistance and tremendous leadership following the death of [URL]@Grand... Dec 11, 2019 📎
- @GrandPrairiePD @ChiefScesney @ChiefDye @gp_tx Congratulations Daniel! Dec 11, 2019 📎
- I will be joining @alexsalvinews tomorrow on @OANN in the 9pmCT hour! Looking forward to discussing the news of the day! #TarrantCounty #BackTheBlue Dec 10, 2019 📎
- RT @ArtAcevedo: We know there is great interest across the Nation in attending Sergeant Christopher Brewster's services. Visitation is te... Dec 09, 2019 📎
- RT @CGilmore817: Congratulations to my chief, friend & mentor @chiefkraus on being appointed to THE CHIEF of POLICE for @fortworthpd As a... Dec 06, 2019 📎

- RT @RealCandaceO: If somebody had told me 10 years ago that @taylorswift13 would come to further division, hate, and lies, and @kanyewest w... Dec 05, 2019 🔄
- RT @Daystar: You don't want to miss #MarcusAndJoni today at 12pm ET as we hang out with Joel & Myriam Chernoff as well as Sherriff of Tarr... Dec 05, 2019 🔄
- Looking forward to riding Spirit in the parade of lights this evening! With Ryan Oaks on Chicol! <https://t.co/i24lZaX3kt> Nov 24, 2019 🔄
- @Bethvanduyne Happy belated birthday! Great pistol !! Nov 17, 2019 🔄
- I'm looking forward to joining @alexsalvnews on @OANN this evening at 9:15pmCT. We will be discussing the #BorderCrisis, how to handle #RepeatOffenders, and the current situation of #ICE #KeepTexasRed <https://t.co/e3jsuhP31z> Nov 15, 2019 🔄
- RT @CobernTrasa: Thanks to all who attended last night's "Harriet" event. We raised over \$1700 for @DeliverFund to help them in their work... Nov 13, 2019 🔄
- It was a pleasure to join @DomShow1210 today where we had a lot of fun discussing medals for canines as well as serious topics such as the Chris Kyle bill, the #BorderCrisis #CartelViolence and #VeteransDay <https://t.co/a08YLLuOYf> Nov 11, 2019 🔄
- Great parade in Ft Worth! Have a wonderful Veteran day and hear freedom ring! Nov 11, 2019 🔄
- RT @tarrantcountysos: Today is about honoring these heroes. Happy #VeteransDay! <https://t.co/8Ue2jQ5tYF> Nov 11, 2019 🔄
- RT @971FMTalk: Happy #VeteransDay2019! Today we honor our heroes & @MarcCox971 welcomes @HvonSpakovsky @jkushinka @BillWaybourn @JessieJan... Nov 11, 2019 🔄
- RT @KayaJones: By the way it was a complete standing ovation and cheers for our President and First Lady at the LSU/ Bama game. <https://t.c...> Nov 10, 2019 🔄
- Excited about filing for a second term as Tarrant County Sheriff. A privilege to serve and lots of good work still to do. Nov 09, 2019 🔄
- RT @FDRofTC: Watch this important special message from Sheriff @BillWaybourn. You do not want to miss this event. Buy your tickets here: (e... Nov 09, 2019 🔄
- Honored to be emcee this morning at the Arliington Heroes run! Live from Veterans Park... <https://t.co/zhXcc0quCl> Nov 09, 2019 🔄
- @HeroesandCops Be safe in your travels!! See you when you turn!! Nov 06, 2019 🔄
- RT @cvpayne: Breaking News Very Strong Jobs Report Americans returning to labor market Wages climbing Yes, we (Americans) are winning! Nov 01, 2019 🔄
- RT @tarrantcountysos: These two males tampered with the credit card readers on the fuel pumps at the Dixie Mart convenience store located at... Nov 01, 2019 🔄
- RT @FDRofTC: Our members, Helen Nelson and @CobernTrasa of @tarrantgop, are hosting a fundraiser to end #Humantrafficking at Hawkins Theatr... Oct 31, 2019 🔄
- RT @CobernTrasa: We're fighting human trafficking. Join us in Southlake November 12 and see the movie "Harriet" to understand how human tr... Oct 30, 2019 🔄
- RT @tarrantcountysos: This morning our thoughts and prayers are with our friends @DENTONPD. <https://t.co/PpecrQaOkn> Oct 30, 2019 🔄
- @ICEgov is fighting human traffickers & murderous cartel members! If you are mad at the border patrol and ICE, call your rep! Do not denigrate those men and women of service. Thank you for article @thejasonhopkins #LawEnforcement #BackTheBlue <https://t.co/1zOHmgfgyL> Oct 13, 2019 🔄
- I will be joining @GrahamLedger tonight on @OANN at 8pmET where we will discuss immigration, @ICEgov and how to address deportations and the #BorderCrisis #KeepTexasRed #BackTheBlue #LawAndOrder <https://t.co/XEyzqB0dbp> Oct 10, 2019 🔄
- RT @AnthonyCruzWH45: Great having @tarrantcountysos Sheriff @BillWaybourn at the @WhiteHouse today. <https://t.co/6apEZwjU6F> Oct 10, 2019 🔄
- It was an honor to meet with @ICEgov at the White House today where we discussed how we will stop and deport criminal #IllegalAliens and work to end the #BorderCrisis <https://t.co/pY7OGa1Q4s> Oct 10, 2019 🔄
- @TimCiescoNBC5 Congratulations and God's speed on this next season of life. Oct 08, 2019 🔄
- @emehlee Congratulations Oct 08, 2019 🔄
- Thank you Ft Worth Mason for always supporting first responders! Breakfast was outstanding... <https://t.co/widffH1321Z> Oct 05, 2019 🔄
- RT @MannyRamirez_TX: Mr. Jean gives us all a lesson in loving our brothers and sisters in Christ. Our true character is revealed in the tou... Oct 03, 2019 🔄
- RT @tarrantcountysos: Today's jail population is 4,180. <https://t.co/GeDOWfKeSj> Oct 02, 2019 🔄

- RT @971FMTalk: Happy morning! Watch @MarcCox971 & crew w/ @SpeakerTimJones @ToddPiro @BillWaybourn @chris_arms + Scott Turner #RealorFakeNe... Oct 01, 2019 📎
- RT @FWPOA: We are saddened to hear that Harris County Sheriff's Deputy Sandeep Singh Dhaliwal has passed away after being shot in the line... Sep 28, 2019 📎
- RT @MannyRamirez_TX: I am proud of our @TarrantCountyTX leadership and their continued prioritization of #publicsafety. Strong work @Tarran... Sep 27, 2019 📎
- RT @tarrantcountys: Today's jail population is 4,141. Pictured below is one of our original jail facilities built around 1882. <https://t...> Sep 26, 2019 📎
- @cspan @RealCandaceO @kathleen_belew Spot on Candice! As always Sep 21, 2019 📎
- RT @tarrantcountys: One week ago, Delta Class graduated from our Jail Academy. We're happy they're a part of our team! <https://t.co/3FOsFa...> Sep 19, 2019 📎
- RT @tarrantcountys: 22 years ago, Lt. Maurice Hendrix and Deputy T.J. Smith made the ultimate sacrifice while carrying out their mission t... Sep 17, 2019 📎
- So thinking about where to have dinner tonight? Let me suggest Ol'South pancake house in Ft Worth! All proceeds from 5-8 tonight go to erase kids cancer and directly support the kids at Cooks hospital! See you there!! Sep 14, 2019 📎
- RT @AllenWest: I cannot tell you how much it means to have Sheriff @billwaybourn's support! Thank you, Sheriff Bill! Read the full text of... Sep 06, 2019 📎
- @CGilmore817 @AmericanHatCo @FWPOA @CLEAT @FWfirefighters @CityofFortWorth @tarrantcountys @DallasNLLEO Love best hats! That is what I wear. Sep 03, 2019 📎
- Praying for West Texas, evil strikes again ! Aug 31, 2019 📎
- RT @DLoesch: Oh my gosh. <https://t.co/JWO7DWC9eB> Aug 31, 2019 📎
- @wfaaloren Congratulations! Aug 19, 2019 📎
- It was great to join @KerbyAnderson on his show @PointofViewRTS to discuss #Immigration #HumanTrafficking and #DrugCrime. We need to fight these terrible human tragedies at every step! #TarrantCounty #LawAndOrder #BackTheBlue <https://t.co/t2GzNUuG27> Aug 14, 2019 📎
- I will be at North Pointe Baptist Church today with @TayaKyle speaking for Sheepdog Seminars about being a father and the #FatherCrisis. This event is completely FREE and doors open at 4pm. I come on at 6pm. I hope to see you there! #SheepDog #BackTheBlue <https://t.co/SHZsWygd2f> Aug 13, 2019 📎
- RT @tarrantcountys: Happy Monday! We hope everyone has a great week. Pictured is South Patrol Midnight Shift. #MondayMorning <https://t.co/...> Aug 13, 2019 📎
- It was a pleasure to join my friend and constituent, JD Wells, on the @TheWellsReport where we discussed the #SecondAmendment #ConcealedCarry and the #BorderCrisis as well as my upcoming fundraiser! #TarrantCounty <https://t.co/AkXKs1CaAI> Aug 08, 2019 📎
- It was a pleasure to appear on @ChrisSalcedoTX where we discussed #RedFlagLaws #TheSecondAmendment #MassShootings & #DueProcess. My interview starts around the 14 minute mark <https://t.co/QjXyGur1od> <https://t.co/LJK3tLsQLm> Aug 07, 2019 📎
- @HeroesandCops Your the best! Aug 05, 2019 📎
- Praying for El Paso, absolutely heartbreaking. Aug 04, 2019 📎
- It was great to talk to my friend, @ChanelRion of @OANN yesterday where we discussed the #DemocratDebates and their disastrous immigration policies. They want to end the border and #AbolishICE. We must #SecureTheBorder and #BackTheBlue <https://t.co/JUxJmM3NHH> Aug 01, 2019 📎
- RT @RickyRebelRocks: it's going to be great to see Sheriff @BillWaybourn , @AllenWest and @WatchChad Looking forward to this event! #tco... Jul 31, 2019 📎
- RT @AllenWest: Looking forward to this event with @BillWaybourn! #cot <https://t.co/DOM9gS6p21> Jul 31, 2019 📎
- RT @tarrantcountys: On 7/13/2019, a white male and an unknown accomplice driving a dark colored and older model Honda Accord stole multipl... Jul 31, 2019 📎
- RT @ChadRobo: Ive been asked if we tried "Muslim" in lieu of "Christian" for our @YouTube @Google veteran ministry ad that was denied for @... Jul 23, 2019 📎
- RT @ChadRobo: We ran a @YouTube ad for our veterans ministry outreach for those in need & it was denied for the word "Christian". Insane!... Jul 23, 2019 📎
- I will be on @EveningEdit today at 5:35pmCT to discuss the #BorderCrisis and how #DNATesting will help us protect the children crossing the border from #DrugCartels #Prostitution #HumanTrafficking <https://t.co/t5zb3ycj9U> Jul 23, 2019 📎
- RT @FWPOA: We are very proud of our @FWPOA officers today. So thankful that the citizens who were held hostage and all officers involved w... Jul 19, 2019 📎

- It was a privilege to appear on @foxandfriends this morning. I had a great chat with @kilmeade about the failure of duty that all sanctuary cities are engaged in. We don't let that stand in #TarrantCounty #LawAndOrder #SecureTheBorder <https://t.co/9MXdDTHQgJ> Jul 15, 2019 📌
- I look forward to appearing on @foxandfriends tomorrow where we will discuss the #ImmigrationCrisis #SanctuaryCities and the responsibility Sheriff's across the country have when it comes to supporting ICE and deporting criminal aliens #SecureTheBorder #MAGA #SupportICE Jul 15, 2019 📌
- RT @GrandPrairiePD: *SILVER ALERT* Grand Prairie Police are currently searching Mr. Rock Tang. He was last seen walking near the RNS con... Jul 14, 2019 📌
- Correction: I will be on @EveningEdit today at 5:35 PM! Jul 10, 2019 📌
- I will be on @EveningEdit today at 5:35amCT to discuss the #BorderCrisis and how local law enforcement can support #ICE and the #BorderPatrol #TarrantCounty #LawAndOrder <https://t.co/W1ylwXQCET> Jul 10, 2019 📌
- Thanks @talkradiojoe for allowing me to discuss how @AOC is dead wrong when it comes to #HomelandSecurity and #ICE. There are no #ConcentrationCamps at the border #BorderCrisis #TarrantCounty #BuildTheWall <https://t.co/3bk3SJ0Ywm> <https://t.co/b7F9BuzenA> Jul 10, 2019 📌
- My friend @WatchChad will be attending my fundraiser on August 11th! He is a hilarious comedian and I had the privilege of joining him on his show last month. Where we discussed #GunRights #Immigration and how to #KeepTexasRed <https://t.co/RrDLcF4tLR> Jul 10, 2019 📌
- I will be joining @talkradiojoe later this morning to discuss the #BorderCrisis as well the importance of ICE. We need to #SupportICE not #AbolishICE <https://t.co/P3omzzgPCW> Jul 10, 2019 📌
- Please join me Sunday August 11th for a great event! My friend @WatchChad will be in attendance and it should be a wonderful evening. Hope to see you all there #KeepTexasRed #TarrantCounty <https://t.co/UF1lpvwJWp> Jul 09, 2019 📌
- @FWPOA @HPOUTX Thank God Jul 07, 2019 📌
- I wish you all the best 4th of July! Thank God for our Founding Fathers and especially to Betsy Ross for making our first great flag! #IndependenceDay #BetsyRoss #Flag <https://t.co/B9tx2tzOZN> Jul 04, 2019 📌
- 10-8 in the como Parade. With Deputy Gaston call sign Adam-12! I am not sure if I am Malloy or Reed! Jul 04, 2019 📌
- Looking forward to celebrating freedom in Como! It is an honor to be apart of the oldest JULY 4th parade in Texas. Jul 04, 2019 📌
- RT @DLoesch: Name him/them — badge numbers, etc. <https://t.co/6tWD692sPx> Jul 03, 2019 📌
- RT @tarrantcountyso: On June 16, 2019, two male subjects in a white SUV approached the main entry of Affordable Storage Facility on Highw... Jun 29, 2019 📌
- @greggutfield They just lie Jun 28, 2019 📌
- It was such a pleasure to join my friend @WatchChad on his program! It was great to discuss the future of #TarrantCounty as well as #GunRights and #Immigration! Also, Don't forget! Liberty lives here in Tarrant County! <https://t.co/RrDLcF4tLR> Jun 26, 2019 📌
- It was great to join @MarkDavis last Friday where we discussed the 287g program, which allows my deputies to work hand in hand with ICE. If we want to continue to combat #DrugCartels and #HumanTrafficking we need to #SupportICE #TarrantCounty <https://t.co/lkel32Jbw3> Jun 24, 2019 📌
- It was great to join @MarcCox971 on his show this morning where we dove into #SecondAmendment issues, California's leftist-backward politics, and the importance of #ArmingTeachers to protect schools. #TuesdayThoughts #NRA #CommonSense #SafetyFirst <https://t.co/2CMxz5BEKQ> <https://t.co/A2NYsST860> Jun 18, 2019 📌
- RT @BlazeTV: Sheriff @BillWaybourn examines the tactics used by @realDonaldTrump to jumpstart negotiations with Mexico and clamp down on il... Jun 18, 2019 📌
- RT @tarrantcountyso: Today we honor #Hero Officer Castaneda who made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty. Officer Castaneda's dedica... Jun 14, 2019 📌
- RT @BedfordTXPD: MISSING CHILD- Joseph has been missing since approximately 1230 from the 500 block of Bedford Rd. He was last seen wearing... Jun 13, 2019 📌
- It is always a pleasure to spend time with my friend @WatchChad! and it was a blast spending time with his team yesterday. @PartyFoulSteve was a hoot and @NatalieWoods22 was charming as ever #WatchChad #TheBlaze #TarrantCounty #LawAndOrder <https://t.co/0xvrTHlhuc> Jun 11, 2019 📌
- RT @realKrisCruz: I got to hang out w/@BillWaybourn who is the sheriff of tarrant county here in Texas ;) (I told him that @KeithMalinak ne... Jun 10, 2019 📌
- It was such a treat to join @SaraGonzalesTX, @jason_howerton & @RemiAdeleke on the New & Why It Matters today. We discussed #VoxAdpocalypse and #BigTechCesnsorship as well as the #BorderCrisis, @realDonaldTrump's leadership, and Remi's amazing story! <https://t.co/6pYzLnKwjp> Jun 10, 2019 📌

- I personally wish to extend my deepest sympathies to @GrandPrairiePD and the family of Officer Castaneda. <https://t.co/RUCGhBqxVW> Jun 07, 2019 📌
- I will be on @EveningEdit today to discuss the continued #BorderCrisis as well as Congress's failures. We need to #SecuretheBorder and Congress needs to fight #SanctuaryCities. It will help reduce the #DrugTrade and #HumanTrafficking Jun 07, 2019 📌
- @FWPOA She is awesome! May 26, 2019 📌
- @KHancock4TX Simply wow, so awesome! May 26, 2019 📌
- @ArtAcevedo @WestPoint_USMA @USArmy Congratulations! May 26, 2019 📌
- RT @ATXPOA: The #txlege may be cool with peeping Toms, but we aren't. This bill decriminalizes voyeurism by automatically dismissing the ca... May 23, 2019 📌
- I joined @ChrisSalcedoTX this morning on @newsmax to discuss the #BorderCrisis and how it is fueling #HumanTrafficking and other atrocities. We need to #SecureOurBorder to defend #HumanRights <https://t.co/lwpjSt1MzR> <https://t.co/tgPyUSfmjq> May 20, 2019 📌
- RT @ChiefMillerCPD: Honored to attend the ground breaking for the @tarrantcountysos Law Enforcement Memorial in Ft. Worth this afternoon. @T... May 20, 2019 📌
- It was a pleasure to join @kilmeade on his radio program last week where we discussed #ArmingTeachers and the #BorderCrisis. Congress needs to act #LawAndOrder #TarrantCounty #LibertyRingsHere <https://t.co/RRDzLnratm> <https://t.co/OAkyC0PvXe> May 20, 2019 📌
- RT @FWPOA: Incredible collaboration by our officers and the community to locate a missing 8 year old and capture a vicious individual from... May 19, 2019 📌
- RT @tarrantcountysos: Today is Peace Officers Memorial Day. Today is about remembrance and honoring those that made the ultimate sacrifice i... May 16, 2019 📌
- RT @FWPOA: Over 30,000 officers and their families attended the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial candlelight vigil last night to... May 15, 2019 📌
- RT @CGilmore817: Thank You to @tarrantcountysos Sheriff @BillWaybourn for attending our 2019 @fortworthpd Memorial Service. Your words were... May 14, 2019 📌
- RT @tarrantcountysos: This week's celebration of National Correctional Officers Appreciation week continued with a special delivery of cakes... May 11, 2019 📌
- @CGilmore817 @tarrantcountysos @fortworthpd @FWPOA @CLEAT It was a tremendous honor to be with the great Ft Worth PD! May 09, 2019 📌
- RT @tarrantcountysos: Over the weekend, our Midnight North #Patrol shift assisted the Tarrant Regional Water District with this boating acci... May 08, 2019 📌
- @HeroesandCops Proud of you brother! Keep the faith... May 08, 2019 📌
- RT @FWPOA: Reminder: Tomorrow is our annual Fort Worth Peace Officers' Memorial service that will be held at 6:00pm. We look forward to g... May 08, 2019 📌
- RT @tarrantcountysos: TCSO Chiefs manned the popcorn machine at today's Tarrant County Employee Appreciation! <https://t.co/T54KGXhjBT> May 08, 2019 📌
- Follow @tarrantcountysos to stay up to date on the accomplishments of our department as they continue to serve you #LawAndOrder #TarrantCounty #ServeAndProtect <https://t.co/dVie7U7To7> <https://t.co/DTB4j8tMkD> May 07, 2019 📌
- RT @tarrantcountysos: It's National Correctional Officers Week! At TCSO, our Detention Bureau is the largest department in the agency. Our a... May 06, 2019 📌
- It was an honor to welcome the largest national law enforcement narcotic dog-handlers convention to date! So dopers beware only 200 dog teams in town! <https://t.co/8g4f0B03fc> May 06, 2019 📌
- RT @GregAbbott_TX: Border Patrol reveals scam by illegal immigrants to recycle children back & forth across the border to pose as children... May 05, 2019 📌
- RT @CKFFdn: Each purchase at our store funds programs run by our Foundation to help strengthen military and first responder communities. Sho... May 04, 2019 📌
- It was great to join @MaryWalterRadio last week to discuss the #bordercrisis and #immigration. We need to support our #borderpatrol and fight back against #humantrafficking & the #drugtrade <https://t.co/Fay2FT9JjP> <https://t.co/9QhPRy4XqU> May 02, 2019 📌
- It was a pleasure to join @DLoesch on @NRATV where we discussed how arming teachers would protect students and fortify schools #gunrights #safetyfirst #secondamendment <https://t.co/wbijyveov3> <https://t.co/Jj7QTeLBYD> May 01, 2019 📌
- RT @tarrantcountysos: Our Human Trafficking Unit made some recent arrests. The three individuals below are charged with online solicitation... May 01, 2019 📌
- @tony4re @BudKennedy @JasonWhitely @wfaa Far as the kids ready to adopt here, their parents rights have been completely terminated. Not that difficult and cost very little. Apr 28, 2019 📌

- @guruscotty @BudKennedy @wfaa @JasonWhitely Specifically want families inside the church to adopt, giving them a home forever. After back ground check of course. Apr 28, 2019 📎
- RT @BudKennedy: Shetiff [redacted]@BillWaybourn[redacted] says if every church would adopt a foster child, Texas wouldn't need CPS and we might deter hundred... Apr 28, 2019 📎
- RT @tarrantcountysoc: This past Saturday, TCSO was honored to play in the Kids vs Cops Tournament. We don't normally like to brag, but we di... Apr 26, 2019 📎
- RT @KayaJones: Hundreds killed because of their faith today in Sri Lanka lk pray and speak up for your Christian brothers and sisters! 8 bo... Apr 21, 2019 📎
- RT @FMNewsTalk971: There's a crisis at our southern border. @TarrantCountyTX Sheriff @BillWaybourn works closely with @ICEgov to navigate t... Apr 18, 2019 📎
- RT @tarrantcountysoc: We're working with Benbrook PD to catch this burglary suspect! If you recognize the male subject in these photos, plea... Apr 12, 2019 📎
- I will be joining @Varneyco to discuss the #immigrationcrisis at the border and how Texas and the rest of the nation should handle it. Tune in now! #securetbborder #tarrantcounty Apr 10, 2019 📎
- RT @FWPOA: 'Never seen it as bad as it is now': Law enforcement leaders shine spotlight on police suicides. #mentalhealth <https://t.co/h92...> Apr 08, 2019 📎
- RT @tarrantcountysoc: How do we like to end our weeks at TCSO? With some leadership training. <https://t.co/3sLLxEaL7L> Apr 06, 2019 📎
- RT @tarrantcountysoc: Please join us on April 13th at the 11th Annual Marine Creek Health & Safety Fair. It's one of our favorite events of... Apr 04, 2019 📎
- RT @TayaKyle: Oh my gosh - I laughed out loud at this. Turn the volume up 🗣️. Pastor Donnie Davis - Air Force, then police officer and now... Apr 03, 2019 📎
- RT @tarrantcountysoc: TCSO is hiring Deputies, Detention Officers, Crime Scene Investigators and Office Clerks. If you are interested please... Apr 03, 2019 📎
- RT @jmmontes33: Heading to Huston to attend @SafeSchoolsOrg national summit on school safety. I will present on implementing @nfpa 3000 and... Mar 28, 2019 📎
- RT @tarrantcountysoc: TCSO passed the Texas Commission on Jail Standards jail inspection for the 25th year in a row. Way to go TCSO! <https://...> Mar 28, 2019 📎
- Honored to be at Temple Baptist this morning celebrating 2 more fatherless children getting a home for ever! Only 398 kids left that need this in greater Tarrant County. Mar 24, 2019 📎
- At the Border in McAllen with several Sheriffs, Border Patrol, and the Secretary of Homeland Security. Eye opening at the crisis that is on the border. 93% crossing in this sector are not from Mexico! Facilities are full. #US Congress <https://t.co/mlyqLwMuvm> Mar 21, 2019 📎
- RT @tarrantcountysoc: TCSO is looking for a large utility trailer with the license plate 864524J that was stolen on March 17th. A suspect is... Mar 21, 2019 📎
- RT @tarrantcountysoc: We kicked off the week by celebrating recent promotions in our Detention Bureau. Congratulations to everyone on their... Mar 19, 2019 📎
- RT @CGilmore817: Check this out! It's going down @FWC4K next Friday Night! I wonder if we can get some friendly Top Cop competition going?... Mar 19, 2019 📎
- RT @FWC4K: Everyone is Invited! Everyone! Yes, you! Y'all come to Fort Worth! All police families in the State of Texas come on! Like 👍... Mar 17, 2019 📎
- RT @tarrantcountysoc: After enough green beer you need a sober ride! We hope you have a fun and responsible St. Patrick's Day Weekend. #dont... Mar 17, 2019 📎
- RT @tarrantcountysoc: @ScottGordonNBC5 stopped by our Veteran's Pod this week. Tune in to @NBCDFW at 10pm tonight to see the story. @BillWay... Mar 15, 2019 📎
- RT @TayaKyle: Exclusive opportunity - in association with HarperCollins and Bookends Bookstore, you can pre-order SIGNED COPIES of Taya's n... Mar 15, 2019 📎
- RT @tarrantcountysoc: TCSO is hiring Deputies. Apply online here: <https://t.co/Ea3XFlyjBK> <https://t.co/qumCKPDsDg> Mar 13, 2019 📎
- RT @tarrantcountysoc: It's #InternationalWomensDay! At TCSO we are surrounded and represented by so many strong women. And we wouldn't have... Mar 09, 2019 📎
- RT @tarrantcountysoc: Here are a few snapshots from one of the three Tactical Life Saver courses that our Training Academy is putting on thi... Mar 07, 2019 📎
- Honored to be at the Rise graduation. Redemption is beautiful thing. @judge Brent Carr @NET @Cherylvoice <https://t.co/VYiZKV4rQZ> Mar 06, 2019 📎
- RT @tarrantcountysoc: Please help us pay our respects to our #ThinBlueLine family by being courteous during this escort. <https://t.co/Uk3OGN...> Mar 05, 2019 📎

- @JasonWhitely Congratulations! Plan on tuning in...God's speed Mar 02, 2019 📎
- RT @JudgeVanover: Happy Texas Independence Day! On this day in 1836, Texas declared its independence from Mexico and became an independent... Mar 02, 2019 📎
- RT @tarrantcountysos: Sheriff @BillWaybourn attended UnBound's Restoring Innocence Luncheon today. He introduced special guest Elizabeth Sma... Feb 28, 2019 📎
- RT @leachfortexas: Enjoyed a great visit today with these two leaders - Collin County's very own Sheriff @JimSkinnerTX & Tarrant County She... Feb 27, 2019 📎
- RT @tarrantcountysos: Last week, TCSO worked with Texas DPS, Hurst and Fort Worth Police Departments, and the FBI, and conducted a Joint Onl... Feb 27, 2019 📎
- @FWPOA @SenatorBirdwell @RepMikeLang God bless the Hull family! Feb 26, 2019 📎
- As we head toward 2020, we're going to have a great time at our first fundraiser! Get your tickets at <https://t.co/y2BhKWkeDv> Hope to see you there! <https://t.co/eanXNWjZn0> Feb 22, 2019 📎
- RT @tarrantcountysos: We held our first Victory Run of 2019 this morning. Later tonight Alpha Class will graduate from our first Jail Academ... Feb 21, 2019 📎
- RT @SheriffMurphree: 2011 to 2018 Texas booked 186,000 illegal aliens. Police charged them with a total of 292,000 crimes. Those included 5... Feb 17, 2019 📎
- @RealBBeeecake @tarrantcountysos American Hats atbest hat company in Ft Worth Feb 15, 2019 📎
- RT @FDRofTC: Thank you President Trump for promoting adoption! So many amazing people were adopted and so many parents make great adoptive... Feb 15, 2019 📎
- It was great to meet and talk with new AG Barr. @tarrantcountysos <https://t.co/ZGi8UmTF5Q> Feb 15, 2019 📎
- RT @FWPOA: A #NYPD Detective was shot and killed in the line of duty after responding to a robbery call this evening. Another officer was... Feb 13, 2019 📎
- RT @tarrantcountysos: Director Grantham of our Intelligence Department is currently speaking at a National Press Club panel in Washington, D... Feb 12, 2019 📎
- Tune into Fox Business tonight to hear Liz MacDonald and I on @EveningEdit talk about border security! Feb 11, 2019 📎
- RT @tarrantcountysos: We're happy to announce that Lieutenant Richardson is now Captain Richardson. With more than 20 years experience at ou... Feb 05, 2019 📎
- RT @TayaKyle: Watch this beautiful video tribute to Mikey Monsoor as Gary Senise narrates. Chills. Love. Respect. us ❤️ <https://t.co/RfW2Ps...> Feb 04, 2019 📎
- Honored to be with Mansfield PD at their annual awards banquet! Recognizing good Police work.. Feb 03, 2019 📎
- RT @CKFFdn: Today, we pay tribute to Chris Kyle, the inspiration behind everything at CKFF. Chris lived his life by focusing on GOD, Countr... Feb 02, 2019 📎
- @MannyRamirez_TX @Shield616_ @GatewayPeople It has been an incredible outpouring of generosity and community support! Jan 31, 2019 📎
- Praying for Houston's 5 officers. Heartbreaking event again. Jan 29, 2019 📎
- At the rodeo, with Joel Glynn, Sheriff's Kenny Lemmons, Lane Atkins, Marshal Thomas, Lane Atkins, Larry Fowler, and Fire Chief Jim Davis! Great night <https://t.co/5qLvtls0bb> Jan 28, 2019 📎
- Many wreckers an law enforcement join together to bring attention to move over! It's the law!! Come on help keep them safe.. <https://t.co/sqVaeaRDBP> Jan 27, 2019 📎
- Great to ride with the posse tonight on Grand Entry at the Stock Show. This is the final year at Will Rogers! <https://t.co/BSaFQtfMoR> Jan 25, 2019 📎
- RT @FDRofTC: Members of Frederick Douglass Republicans: @shafitx @georgepbush @andynguyennow @BillWaybourn @Darl444 @CobernTrasa @seeponder... Jan 25, 2019 📎
- RT @tarrantcountysos: We wish everyone a safe and happy #MLKDay2019! <https://t.co/TC2BgnFr20> Jan 21, 2019 📎
- @tarrantcountysos It was great to be at the unavailing honoring MLK today on Main st. God Bless Dr King! Jan 21, 2019 📎
- RT @tarrantcountysos: It's a bit chilly today. TCSO and K-9 Kendo hope you have a safe and warm Saturday! <https://t.co/cQeAPNHki7> Jan 19, 2019 📎
- RT @tarrantcountysos: These two have been arrested! Thank you to everyone who sent us information! <https://t.co/5yJEJ7LsNO> Jan 15, 2019 📎
- Great to see my old friend today at the inauguration of our Governor. <https://t.co/2eWr9CxpP1> Jan 15, 2019 📎
- RT @tarrantcountysos: Today is #LawEnforcementAppreciationDay! We would like to thank our hard working team members that spend their time se... Jan 10, 2019 📎

- RT @tarrantcountysoc: 86 years ago, Deputy Malcolm Davis made the ultimate sacrifice. We have not and never will forget this sacrifice in th... Jan 06, 2019 📄
- RT @tarrantcountysoc: And he's off! Chief Cundiff is traveling to the FBI National Academy where he'll begin classes on Monday. Good luck, C... Jan 06, 2019 📄
- RT @tarrantcountysoc: TCSO made 411 DWI arrests in 2018. Help us make the first Saturday of 2019 safe by planning your sober ride now! https... Jan 06, 2019 📄
- RT @tarrantcountysoc: On January 3, 2019, around 9pm, the subjects below robbed a Dollar General in Haslet, Texas. The first suspect pointed... Jan 05, 2019 📄
- RT @tarrantcountysoc: Still looking for a New Year's resolution? How about signing up for our community newsletter, The Henderson, so you ca... Jan 04, 2019 📄
- RT @FWPOA: These six Fort Worth police officers were killed in the line of duty because someone made the decision to drive drunk. Plan you... Jan 01, 2019 📄
- RT @tarrantcountysoc: Sheriff @BillWaybourn is currently speaking at a press conference regarding the recent homicide of an infant. https://... Dec 28, 2018 📄
- @NovacekAmy Merry Christmas! Dec 26, 2018 📄
- RT @TayaKyle: Hey all, HANDS DOWN my favorite group to listen to during Christmastime ... ♡ ♡ ♡ Pentatonix ... 🎵 🎶 Here they are singing w... Dec 24, 2018 📄
- About to be with TCSO Deputies and Pastor Tatum at joy for toys! At the Pastor and his church take care of the fatherless. Is 1:17.. honor to be here.. Dec 22, 2018 📄
- RT @tarrantcountysoc: The Tarrant County Inmate Choir will be singing Christmas Carols tomorrow at noon. Please join us on Lamar Street outs... Dec 21, 2018 📄
- RT @FWPOA: Today, we remember the sacrifice that Officer Dwayne Freeto made for our city. Please don't drink and drive. 🇺🇸 <https://t.co/kFX...> Dec 19, 2018 📄
- RT @ChrisKyleFrog: 🎁 🎁 🎁 LAST CHANCE to grab a Christmas Gift with a Cause online! If you want to give that someone special their own piece of... Dec 19, 2018 📄
- RT @tarrantcountysoc: Happy Monday from our Greenbay Facility! <https://t.co/l9XSBRIUmX> Dec 18, 2018 📄
- RT @Franklin_Graham: Will you pray for the 137 families of fallen officers in these days leading up to Christmas, that God will comfort the... Dec 16, 2018 📄
- @DLoesch Just crazy! Dec 16, 2018 📄
- RT @AngelaPaxtonTX: Merry Christmas from the White House! <https://t.co/F9tp9pFPJm> Dec 16, 2018 📄
- RT @tarrantcountysoc: Last night we honored everyone who volunteers in our Chaplain's Office. These volunteers have spent hours of their tim... Dec 13, 2018 📄
- RT @mingoramirezjr: He still has not been arrested. @fortworthpd asking for help to ID this suspect who attacked a woman Sept. 29 in 4400 b... Dec 11, 2018 📄
- RT @tarrantcountysoc: You know what Santa hates the most? Drunk driving. Plan your sober ride now so everyone can enjoy the season! #DontDri... Dec 09, 2018 📄
- RT @tarrantcountysoc: Thank you for your service, Mr. President. May you rest in peace. #NationalDayOfMourning <https://t.co/cP42yxoa7H> Dec 05, 2018 📄
- RT @startelegram: 'It's amazing that they did this.' Johnson County family gifted with car full of food <https://t.co/1hYqX4UcmH> Nov 26, 2018 📄
- RT @tarrantcountysoc: Sheriff @BillWaybourn is currently being interviewed regarding the Little Country Daycare child abuse case. Catch him... Nov 19, 2018 📄
- Great to be at Logan Elementary celebrating scholarly works by these kids. @Fworthpd Nov 15, 2018 📄
- @wfaaloren @wfaa @LoneStarEMMY Congratulations! Nov 12, 2018 📄
- RT @brithume: From former top Biden economic adviser. <https://t.co/TIUPtlPRVQ> Nov 03, 2018 📄
- At Mansfield sub court house with several God fearing, freedom loving conservatives. Line is around the building. @WendyGBurgess @Matt Hayes , @Bill Zedler. Nov 02, 2018 📄
- Next stop is Vista Middle School to talk to Junior High students about veterans and first responders. Nov 02, 2018 📄
- At a great @tedcruz rally in Fort Worth! Let's keep the momentum and Senator Cruz! Go vote! I'll be in Keller with @SharenWilson4DA talking to voters later this morning! <https://t.co/esLpqWBetb> Nov 02, 2018 📄
- Looking forward to a great day of campaigning with great conservatives. First stop Ted Cruz Rally! Nov 02, 2018 📄
- RT @alliesyouth: 4 days left until we wear out our dancing shoes! Are you ready for the #AlliesRussianBall2018? <https://t.co/GB6uvX7a6H> Nov 02, 2018 📄
- RT @KayaJones: because the news won't show you this we will 🇺🇸 <https://t.co/vlY5Y0aqo8> Nov 01, 2018 📄

- RT @alliesyouth: On a dark DFW highway, cool wind in our hair the 🎸 autographed guitar was delivered! Don't miss out on your chance to... Oct 27, 2018 🔄
- Praying for Pittsburgh, active shooter in progress. 2 cops shot, according to breaking news. Oct 27, 2018 🔄
- RT @tarrantcountysos: Tomorrow is Drug Take Back. If you have any expired prescriptions drop them off at our North Patrol or at the Tarrant... Oct 27, 2018 🔄
- RT @AllisonFox4News: Arlington Police now say the suspect vehicle is believed to be a white or silver BMW hatch back with damage to the dri... Oct 23, 2018 🔄
- RT @startelegram: Man shot in head in front of wife, children on Interstate 20 in Arlington #readlocal <https://t.co/zN1opGSo9h> Oct 23, 2018 🔄
- RT @JudicialWatch: In a startling revelation, Guatemala's President announced that ~100 ISIS terrorists have been apprehended in the Centra... Oct 23, 2018 🔄
- RT @tedcruz: TEXAS: Early Voting starts MONDAY! If you want Texas to keep on booming, we need you to get out and vote! Make your plan to... Oct 20, 2018 🔄
- @BudKennedy @MarkDavis @tedcruz @BetoORourke Watching O'ROURKE it is clear he has and imitates President Obama very well. His diction and manners are just like the former President! Oct 17, 2018 🔄
- @JulieFineNBC5 @BetoORourke @NBCDFW Julie you did a great job as a moderator on the debate you dealt with. Held them accountable. Oct 17, 2018 🔄
- @MarkDavis The Senator is providing specifics, O'Rourke simple talks without substance. Oct 17, 2018 🔄
- @JulieFineNBC5 @tedcruz @BetoORourke @NBCDFW O'ROURKE will not answer any meaningful question.. Oct 17, 2018 🔄
- @BetoORourke Answer the questions! Oct 17, 2018 🔄
- @TwitterMoments Congressman O'Rourke will not answer a question. Anybody else see that? Oct 17, 2018 🔄
- RT @tarrantcountysos: Tarrant County is under a #FlashFlood warning. Please use caution this weekend as rain is forecasted to continue on. h... Oct 13, 2018 🔄
- RT @GregAbbott_TX: 104 violent gang members arrested in North Texas sting. #txlege #tcot <https://t.co/iwL2DlqJhz> Oct 13, 2018 🔄
- RT @alliesyouth: We're so excited to have @TayaKyle and @BillWaybourn as featured speakers at Allies' inaugural Russian Ball. You won't wan... Oct 12, 2018 🔄
- RT @tarrantcountysos: We've crunched the numbers and our Courtesy Patrol has already helped over 17,000 motorists in 2018. Well done, guys!... Oct 12, 2018 🔄
- RT @tarrantcountysos: We're very proud of Deputy Gallardo's life saving actions. read more about it here: <https://t.co/t0My87Ait0> Oct 11, 2018 🔄
- RT @tcjudgewhitely: Let's keep Tarrant County prosperous, safe, and on the roads smoothly! VOTE TO KEEP the conservative, Judge Glen Whitle... Oct 07, 2018 🔄
- RT @alliesyouth: The numbers are in: you all donated a total of 1,115 items during last month's #ColorTheirWorld2018 banquet! These goods w... Oct 03, 2018 🔄
- RT @tarrantcountysos: TCSO and @BillWaybourn enjoying #NationalNightOut <https://t.co/z451V2YJox> Oct 03, 2018 🔄
- RT @mollyday15: @210GOPTEJANA That's pretty much all of Texas supporting #TexCruz Vote @tedcruz <https://t.co/DpZPEZAxF2> Oct 02, 2018 🔄
- @wfaaizzy That is awesome ' Oct 02, 2018 🔄
- @EILockeLawGroup @TDCAA I get there is some lack of discretion, but look at the rap sheet of the shooter that killed Officer Hull in Ft Worth. 17-20 felonious acts and many robberies. So what do you think is the solution? Sep 29, 2018 🔄
- RT @tarrantcountysos: TCSO has made 23 DWI arrests so far this September. Don't add to that number tonight. Plan your sober ride now so that... Sep 23, 2018 🔄
- RT @alliesyouth: We are one day out from #ColorTheirWorld2018 banquet! This year's shirts will come in a vintage gray, vintage red, kelly g... Sep 22, 2018 🔄
- RT @JasonWhitely: Supporters of @tedcruz rallying outside before his debate with @BetoORourke at @SMU tonight. Kasundra Brown (in silver ha... Sep 22, 2018 🔄
- RT @alliesyouth: Ready for a vacation? We've got an amazing getaway trip to Lake Tahoe available at the #ColorTheirWorld2018 live auction o... Sep 22, 2018 🔄
- RT @tarrantcountysos: Sheriff Waybourn attended the MADD Salute the Heroes event where Deputy Soria was recognized. Last year he had 33 DWI... Sep 19, 2018 🔄
- I choose @tedcruz for #TXSen because he has our veterans' backs and he fights for them in the United States Senate. RETWEET if you do too! #TXSen #KeepTexasRed Sep 15, 2018 🔄

- RT @tarrantcountysoc: Our deepest condolences to @fortworthpd. Officer Garrett Hull and his family are in our thoughts and prayers. Sep 15, 2018 🔄
- Honored to be in the State Capital with the Governor honoring our fallen and serious injured first responders with The Star of Texas. #Mark Diebold Sep 11, 2018 🔄
- RT @DLoesch: You spied on their reporters, seized phone records and personal emails and declared James Rosen an enemy of the state. Holder... Sep 08, 2018 🔄
- RT @andynguyenow: Spending time with Tarrant County Sheriff Waybourn, Sue Phillips and members of the East Arlington Renewal. @ East Arlin... Sep 07, 2018 🔄
- RT @SharenWilson4DA: I'm honored to have the support of Tarrant County Sheriff @BillWaybourn. Sheriff Waybourn and I have worked together f... Sep 04, 2018 🔄
- RT @JudgeVanover: I am proud that we will have this court in Tarrant County. First one in the State of Texas and First in the United State... Aug 30, 2018 🔄
- RT @RepMattKrause: So what does a supposed articulate, fearless, "surging up the polls" candidate do-he cancels a debate? Really Beto? I'm... Aug 28, 2018 🔄
- RT @tarrantcountysoc: Here's a friendly reminder to plan your sober ride for tonight. <https://t.co/D3QznWwHB8> Aug 19, 2018 🔄
- RT @tarrantcountysoc: Thank you @MayorBetsyPrice for joining us for our Women's Empowerment series today. What an inspiration!!! <https://t.c...> Aug 10, 2018 🔄
- RT @tarrantcountysoc: TCSO is currently creating a women's empowerment training video starring our own amazing team members. <https://t.co/gH...> Aug 03, 2018 🔄
- RT @TheRealBuzz: I was on the Moon! #Apollo11 @NASA <https://t.co/6Nb2cQVU32> Jul 22, 2018 🔄
- RT @tarrantcountysoc: We're under a #heatadvisory. Temperatures will remain in the 100s all week. Limit activity outside and remember to sta... Jul 19, 2018 🔄
- RT @tarrantcountysoc: 🚓 TCSO needs your help! An armed robbery occurred 7/9/18 at the Briar Beer & Tobacco off of FM RD. If you have any info... Jul 14, 2018 🔄
- RT @DLoesch: Students for 2A speak out across the country. <https://t.co/Vfkn59O3VK> Jul 09, 2018 🔄
- RT @tarrantcountysoc: Tarrant Co. Commissioner's Ct. just approved & implemented a burn ban for Tarrant Co. It is in effect until rescinded.... Jul 04, 2018 🔄
- RT @tarrantcountysoc: It's a party foul to accidentally burn someone's house down, 4th of July or not. Read these safety tips so that you ca... Jul 03, 2018 🔄
- RT @TayaKyle: Im sharing this text from a friend of mine, with his permission, because I think it's a beautiful story of how God is in the... Jul 01, 2018 🔄
- RT @tarrantcountysoc: TCSO is looking for Peace Officers. Apply here: <https://t.co/gxUWiT9IKZ> <https://t.co/UnyiK15RVd> Jun 28, 2018 🔄
- RT @HotlineJosh: "Charles often insisted that when people stop believing in God, they will believe in anything—including totalitarianisms o... Jun 22, 2018 🔄
- RT @tarrantcountysoc: Wishing all dads a Happy Father's Day. A special thank you to all of our TCSO dads that are on duty today. <https://t.c...> Jun 18, 2018 🔄
- RT @tarrantcountysoc: It's gonna be a hot one today ☀️ Make sure to stay hydrated! <https://t.co/H2clz9PK3U> Jun 13, 2018 🔄
- RT @TayaKyle: In what is already an historic week for America, we will celebrate the 243rd birthday of the U.S. Army. Help us at the Chris... Jun 13, 2018 🔄
- RT @FWPOA: You are never alone, no matter how dark or lonely things may seem. If you're struggling, reach out: call 800-273-TALK (8255). #S... Jun 09, 2018 🔄
- RT @TayaKyle: My friend Coffey Anderson loves his wife and kids with fervor. He's generous with his time even when it's precious. He cares... Jun 08, 2018 🔄
- RT @TayaKyle: The whole concept of everyone suffering in this life was underlined for me this weekend and today. Watch the video for a sh... Jun 05, 2018 🔄
- RT @tarrantcountysoc: TCSO is holding an Autism and the Law Enforcement Response training course. For those interested take a look. <https://...> Jun 01, 2018 🔄
- RT @ponderforjudge: Thank you to everyone who has supported our campaign, offered encouragement, voted, made donations, volunteered, and he... May 21, 2018 🔄
- RT @AndyNguyenTC: TARRANT COUNTY EARNS SPOT ON FORBES LIST OF AMERICA'S BEST EMPLOYERS 2018! Tarrant County is one of only 500 employers to... May 19, 2018 🔄
- RT @TarrantCountyDA: Another scam used to target seniors is pretending to be from a contracting crew, such as a roofing company. Check ou... May 19, 2018 🔄

- RT @DLoesch: MS-13 are good guys, Hamas did nothing wrong, but law-abiding gun owners are "terrorists." Unreal. May 19, 2018 🔄
- RT @tarrantcountysos: Sheriff Waybourn and members of our Honor Guard are in Washington, D.C. today for #PeaceOfficersMemorialDay. It was ou... May 15, 2018 🔄
- RT @ArlingtonPD: We are searching for these 10 wanted fugitives. Our Top-10 Most Wanted for the Week. Help us find them, and @USACrimeStop... May 12, 2018 🔄
- RT @FWPOA: Do you recognize these individuals? Contact 214-747-6839 with information. <https://t.co/PeFPlyKWpu> Apr 29, 2018 🔄
- RT @DLoesch: A free people don't have to beg the government for permission to save their child. #AlfieEvans Apr 27, 2018 🔄
- RT @tarrantcountysos: Our hearts are heavy as we pray for our @DallasPD family. We send our most heartfelt sympathies to the family of Offic... Apr 27, 2018 🔄
- RT @tarrantcountysos: Our thoughts and prayers are with our friends at the Dallas Police Department this evening. @DallasPD We are here to a... Apr 25, 2018 🔄
- RT @tarrantcountysos: The calm before the storm. All #Patrol Deputies attend a briefing before their shift, this is one of our midnight shif... Apr 19, 2018 🔄
- RT @MayorBetsyPrice: Saddened to hear of the passing of Fire Lt. Mark Cone who passed away this morning. Mark has been a Fort Worth firefig... Apr 11, 2018 🔄
- RT @dallasnews: Man sought in slaying of ex-girlfriend, child in Fort Worth had assaulted her before, records show <https://t.co/OI05tTdmvc> Apr 08, 2018 🔄
- RT @CKFFdn: April is the month of the Military Child. "A strong relationship between the two of us has a ripple effect on creating a strong... Apr 06, 2018 🔄
- RT @tarrantcountysos: We're getting excited! Two weeks from today we'll be at the Marine Creek Health & Safety Fair. Mark your calendars now... Mar 31, 2018 🔄
- RT @Franklin_Graham: The Bible says, "But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the l... Mar 28, 2018 🔄
- RT @SarahPalinUSA: Some Californians are finally getting sick and tired of the dangerous "sanctuary city" laws... <https://t.co/tlF8tVmj8o> Mar 28, 2018 🔄
- RT @RepMattKrause: George Will had a powerful & poignant article about the "Down Syndrome Problem." Over in Iceland, the "problem" is descr... Mar 27, 2018 🔄
- RT @ArlingtonPD: Not cool. This suspect is seen stealing packages from the porch of a home in the 3900 block of Wentworth Drive. The suspec... Mar 23, 2018 🔄
- RT @ponderforjudge: Thanks for your support, Mona Bailey! Join Mona by adding your name to my list of supporters today! <https://t.co/THDu...> Mar 22, 2018 🔄
- RT @tarrantcountysos: We're not one to brag, but we do have a pretty awesome group in our Records Division. <https://t.co/6iNhL74agV> Mar 22, 2018 🔄
- RT @BrandonToddFOX4: Along a peaceful stretch of road in a quiet Johnson County city..a woman was attacked by a man who Police say was tryi... Mar 20, 2018 🔄
- RT @chief_manley: The total reward amount for information leading to the arrest & conviction of person/s responsible for #packagebombmurder... Mar 19, 2018 🔄
- RT @TayaKyle: We're so excited to have #OliverNorth join us in #Chicago - we would love to have you with us as well on April 14. Visit http... Mar 15, 2018 🔄
- RT @TheIACP: Driving #undertheinfluence of #drugs is having a serious impact on #roadwaysafety like never before. In the U.S., the involvem... Mar 14, 2018 🔄
- RT @BrandonToddFOX4: Happy National Pi Day!! Have you celebrated? I did. So what's your favorite Pie? <https://t.co/Bbpv6PIE8I> Mar 14, 2018 🔄
- RT @Franklin_Graham: It is my prayer that God will be honored and that many will hear the Gospel message and put their faith and trust in J... Mar 02, 2018 🔄
- RT @JudgeVanover: On this day in 1836, Texas declared its independence from Mexico and officially became The Republic of Texas. #TexasIndep... Mar 02, 2018 🔄
- RT @tarrantcountysos: AG @jeffsessions briefing attendees at @MCSheriffs Conference. @BillWaybourn #mcsa18 #LeadingTheWay <https://t.co/LVjA5...> Feb 15, 2018 🔄
- RT @tarrantcountysos: Our heart goes out to everyone in Florida. We're keeping everyone in our prayers! @browardsheriff Feb 15, 2018 🔄
- RT @FoxNews: Happening Now: President @realDonaldTrump speaks at the Major County Sheriffs' Association and Major Cities Chiefs Association... Feb 14, 2018 🔄
- RT @tarrantcountysos: Today the TCSO welcomed @ClintBruce_ to the offices for his excellent leadership presentation in our Servant Leadershi... Feb 10, 2018 🔄

- Great to be with the student council at Atherton Elementary, Arlington ! Feb 08, 2018 📎
- Praying for the Richardson officer who was shot this evening. Feb 08, 2018 📎
- RT @949KLTY: Sheriff @BillWaybourn of the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office stopped by today and @BonnieOnAir and @HudsonIsHere got to chat w... Feb 07, 2018 📎
- @SarahPalinUSA Boycotting Feb 06, 2018 📎
- RT @ron4congress: I am honored to have the endorsement of the most popular Sheriff in Texas, my friend @BillWaybourn! #backthebowtie #wrigh... Feb 05, 2018 📎
- RT @EnnisPD: US Polyco - 3100 S Kaufman. Boom as a result of an asphalt rail container blew its top causing the loud boom. There is a fire... Feb 03, 2018 📎
- RT @ChrisKyleFrog: #CKFrogTeam stand with us and salute today to #HonorChrisKyle - it was today he had his untimely meeting with... https://... Feb 03, 2018 📎
- RT @tarrantcountysos: On January 8, two unknown suspects burglarized Hoots Lounge. If you have any information please contact Det. Harwell a... Jan 30, 2018 📎
- RT @tarrantcountysos: Operation Move Over is underway! Sheriff @BillWaybourn joining the effort today to help educate the public about movin... Jan 28, 2018 📎
- RT @tarrantcountysos: Good morning Tarrant County! This morning Sheriff @BillWaybourn headed to Arlington for Operation Move Over. Always re... Jan 28, 2018 📎
- RT @CarrolltonTXPD: ALERT: Please be on the lookout forJXZ3983, blue 2007 Lexus 4 door . Just stolen from 7-Eleven at 2145 n Josey lane.... Jan 28, 2018 📎
- RT @tarrantcountysos: Sheriff @BillWaybourn riding with Sheriff's Posse today getting ready to be a part of the grand entry at the @fwssr! h... Jan 27, 2018 📎
- RT @tarrantcountysos: Per @TxDPS both westbound & eastbound I-20 and I-30 are now open. 820 at I-20 is now open in both directions as well. Jan 23, 2018 📎
- RT @fortworthpd: #CountryBoyBandit Please call 817-988-8563 immediately if you recognize is this bank robber. He is wanted for robbing th... Jan 23, 2018 📎
- RT @tcjudgewhitely: Please help! <https://t.co/0peOdtWgpD> Jan 20, 2018 📎
- RT @tarrantcountysos: TCSO is here to serve, so is anybody surprised that we're loving our Servant Leadership Training Series? We're not! Th... Jan 20, 2018 📎
- RT @ponderforjudge: Attending a valuable press conference with @BillWaybourn to hear the Governor's plan on limiting the ever-increasing p... Jan 17, 2018 📎
- RT @tarrantcountysos: It's always a good day to learn! Thank you to @Bannyrooster28 for being a part of our Servant Leadership training seri... Jan 12, 2018 📎
- RT @GregAbbott_TX: African American unemployment rate is now at an all time low. This follows last month's report showing Hispanic report a... Jan 05, 2018 📎
- @ToddWFAA8 We are on it.. at the moment backed up on calls but we will be checking on those animals.. Thanks for coping me.. Dec 31, 2017 📎
- RT @DFWscanner: Surface streets are very wet here in Arlington and across much of DFW. And the drizzle continues to fall along with the tem... Dec 31, 2017 📎
- Praying for deputies down in shooting in Colorado.. Dec 31, 2017 📎
- RT @GrandPrairiePD: If it's too cold for you, it's too cold for them! Remember to bring your pets inside. #dfwwx #txwx <https://t.co/X1Js7Ea...> Dec 28, 2017 📎
- We will be in Channle 8 at 10 tonight, talking about the inmate choir.. MerryChristmas! Dec 25, 2017 📎
- RT @ChiefDavidBrown: <https://t.co/FSVvZDwRpM> Dec 24, 2017 📎
- RT @ChrisKyleFrog: #CKFrogTeam ICYMI - a good friend of our team - Scooter Brown Band made Rolling Stone Magazine's top 10 Country... https... Dec 18, 2017 📎
- RT @AndyNguyenTC: Outdoor burning ban is in effect for all of Tarrant County starting today and for the next ninety (90) days. A violation... Dec 13, 2017 📎
- RT @tarrantcountysos: William Rich and Amber Moore are both now in custody. We have been searching for them in relation to the homicide in R... Dec 12, 2017 📎
- @IrvingPD Congratulations ! Dec 07, 2017 📎
- RT @fortworthpd: #HeadsUp Do you recognize this man? He smashed the window of a car in a store parking lot and stole a purse inside the... Dec 07, 2017 📎
- RT @tarrantcountysos: Had a great time attending @HopeFarmInc Christmas party where we were able to celebrate the season with approximately... Dec 07, 2017 📎
- RT @tarrantcountysos: Enrichment leadership training at the TCSO. Big thanks to Lt Col Allen West for working with our Lt's and Capt's to sh... Nov 30, 2017 📎
- @RealRonHoward @greta Prayers and thoughts for your family Nov 26, 2017 📎

- RT @ArlingtonPD: We are working an incident at Parks Mall involving an officer-involved shooting. One suspect involved. No suspects outstan... Nov 26, 2017
- RT @fortworthpd: Trooper Damon Allen @TxDPS was shot and killed on Thanksgiving day. He leaves behind his wife and 3 kids. #NeverForgotten... Nov 24, 2017
- RT @tarrantcountysos: Sheriff Bill Waybourn getting ready to ride Dandy in tonight's Parade of Lights! @Paradeof_Lights #2017ParadeOfLights... Nov 19, 2017
- RT @NovacekAmy: #VeteransDay #ThankYou <https://t.co/VUQEoF0OH0> Nov 12, 2017
- RT @texasuc: Tarrant County Sheriff @BillWaybourn: on a typical day 25% of jail population are mental health patients #txlege <https://t.c...> Nov 06, 2017
- RT @ChrisKyleFrog: Get out to Texas Motor Speedway for NASCAR tgis weekend and support our Chris Kyle Frog Foundation team and its... <http...> Nov 04, 2017
- RT @NBCDFW: .@CarrolltonTX names new chief of police: <https://t.co/eYjyMaL3c> @CarrolltonTXPD <https://t.co/3HeoSviwtr> Nov 04, 2017
- Great to be at the Police cycle motor rodeo in north Tarrant County Oct 28, 2017
- RT @TayaKyle: This movie comes from a heart I know well. Jason Hall wrote the screenplay for American Sniper. He turned in the... <https://t...> Oct 28, 2017
- RT @AllenWest: What happened to this policeman at Starbucks is one more reason to have coffee somewhere else <https://t.co/t9nj7CKBbr> <https://t.co/t9nj7CKBbr> Oct 15, 2017
- RT @FoxNews: .@mchooyah: "How about the police just stop going and let the @NFL shell out a few more million dollars for private armed secu... Oct 15, 2017
- RT @ponderforjudge: Make sure and join my email list to stay up to date on campaign events and volunteer opportunities! <https://t.co/THDupk...> Oct 14, 2017
- RT @QualityPolicing: RT @nseyby Sheriff @BillWaybourn, Officer Doss, and Corporal Nova - Tarrant County Jail's wonderful new comfort dog. h... Oct 12, 2017
- RT @AllenWest: Whoa: Budweiser makes HUGE move on NFL sponsorship...<https://t.co/y0n7eg2G79> <https://t.co/kqYC4N2nuj> Oct 03, 2017
- RT @BigStick2013: Budweiser considers ending their NFL sponsorship — and they want to hear from you ☑️Hotline: 1-800-342-5283 <https://t.co...> Oct 03, 2017
- RT @andynguyenow: Thanks to all who attended "Celebrating the American Dream" on 8/26th. Here are some highlights from the evening: <https://t.co...> Sep 27, 2017
- At the Masonic Lodge in Ft Worth where they are serving breakfast to first responders! Thank you for your support! Sep 23, 2017
- RT @ChrisKyleFrog: Into Golf and can get to Arlington, TX on November 6? Lock in the Chris Kyle Legendary Classic. The Chris Kyle... <https://t.co...> Sep 21, 2017
- RT @IvankaTrump: 2/2: We must all work together to end human trafficking and modern slavery in all its evil forms. #EndTrafficking Sep 15, 2017
- RT @ponderforjudge: I had the privilege of sitting on a panel w/ @BillWaybourn & @SharenWilson4DA at the 2nd Annual Mental Health and Law E... Sep 01, 2017
- RT @ArtAcevedo: To out of state LE partners, we're good & don't need out of state resources. Please check on our neighbors to the East in B... Aug 31, 2017
- RT @TayaKyle: Taya caught up with Dom Giordano today to talk everything Patriot Tour - where you can join her along with Marcus... <https://t.co...> Aug 30, 2017
- RT @ArtAcevedo: For the many asking how to help Sgt. Perez's family and our @houstonpolice officers: <https://t.co/0OIC53FNfi> or <https://t.co...> Aug 30, 2017
- RT @ArtAcevedo: Many of our local restaurateurs want to know where to take food to officers. Please coordinate with @HPOUTX located at 1200... Aug 29, 2017
- RT @JayNovacek84: Sending prayers for South Texas! #HurricaneHarvey Aug 29, 2017
- RT @atofortworth: If you have a boat or high water vehicle in #Houston, you are asked to call 713-881-3100. Harris County is recruiting you... Aug 28, 2017
- RT @ArtAcevedo: have reports of people getting into attic to escape floodwater do not do so unless you have an ax or means to break through... Aug 27, 2017
- Praying for our neighbors in south Texas! Standing by if there is something we can at TCSO do... @ArtAcevedo Aug 26, 2017
- RT @KenPaxtonTX: With a few good friends today -@Bill_Zedler, @BillWaybourn, @TimothyOHare, and @Glenn_Hegar. <https://t.co/Wwrv4M9q6C> Aug 20, 2017
- Waking up to more officers shot! Heart breaks and prayers for FI. And PA! May God be their strength.. Aug 19, 2017

- RT @kinguilfoyle: Praying 🙏 for the victims of terror attack in Barcelona that left 13 dead, 100 injured...reaction on @TheFive 9pmET @Fox... Aug 19, 2017 🔄
- RT @CharlieWTP: Boy missing in #barcelona after yesterday's terrorist attacks. Please #retweet if your reading this #BarcelonaTerrorAttack... Aug 19, 2017 🔄
- RT @AndyNguyenTC: Sgt. Allen Levi Stigler, Jr is a hero who gave his life to something bigger than himself. RIP & may we never forget to ho... Aug 18, 2017 🔄
- RT @edgray1906: Looking forward to talking to Sheriff @BillWaybourn on this Saturdays Commish Radio Show at 4pm #police #justice <https://t....> Aug 12, 2017 🔄
- @ainsleyearhardt the Good Dr has his facts wrong on cost and immigration issues.. Aug 08, 2017 🔄
- RT @FoxNews: Today is Purple Heart Day. The nation's oldest military award was introduced by General George Washington on Aug. 7, 1782. [htt...](http://t...) Aug 08, 2017 🔄
- RT @AllenWest: Whoa: Look who might be taking the Homeland Security spot NOW <https://t.co/u6lmAH2n8M> <https://t.co/ff4IKBLJct> Aug 05, 2017 🔄
- @Fehertwit my prayers are with you and my heart is breaking for you my friend.. Aug 03, 2017 🔄
- RT @Franklin_Graham: "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me." (Psalm 51:10) Aug 03, 2017 🔄
- RT @JudgeVanover: Thanks for your support, Sheriff @BillWaybourn! <https://t.co/iMOOoesinf> Jul 20, 2017 🔄
- RT @Franklin_Graham: Continue to pray for Charlie Gard & his parents as they await results of a brain scan. <https://t.co/4PrfDSvey> Jul 19, 2017 🔄
- RT @KellyannePolls: #MadeInAmericaWeek at 6-month mark shows impact @POTUS and @VP are having on USA. Beef to China, increase in manufactur... Jul 18, 2017 🔄
- RT @edgray1906: "A society that Honors violence and drugs over Values and God is destined to fall " Edward E. Gray <https://t.co/Eant66XpEn> Jul 05, 2017 🔄
- RT @GregAbbott_TX: Texas Flags To Be Lowered To Honor Slain San Antonio Officer. #BackTheBlue #txlege <https://t.co/bFlsMWzIQI> Jul 01, 2017 🔄
- RT @ChrisKyleFrog: Join @CKFFdn in supporting troops & 1st responders #July 4 with a new #HonorChrisKyle Patriot Shirt: <https://t.co/C7LKRA...> Jun 27, 2017 🔄
- RT @SarahPalinUSA: Just as we would place a light on a lamp stand to illuminate a room we should try to shine bright by our example. <https://t...> Jun 26, 2017 🔄
- RT @FoxNews: London Police: Two incidents are terrorism. <https://t.co/1Aauirsd6> <https://t.co/BCKj4vPIsp> Jun 04, 2017 🔄
- RT @AndyNguyenTC: Join us April 29th at Tarrant County College South Campus! <https://t.co/yaQL8bRzbW> Apr 04, 2017 🔄
- RT @GrapevinePolice: Prayers for family & coworkers at Harris County Pct. 3. Their Asst. Chief Deputy Constable Clint Greenwood was shot an... Apr 04, 2017 🔄
- RT @AndyNguyenTC: Tarrant County Fire Marshal's Office - EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY: MARCH 28, 2017, THE BURN BAN FOR TARRANT COUNTY HAS BEEN LI... Mar 29, 2017 🔄
- RT @DallasPD: Reminder: No Refusal DWI Initiative for St. Patrick's Day will take effect this Thursday, March 16, 2017 at 6:00... <https://t...> Mar 15, 2017 🔄
- RT @CKFFdn: Today National K9 Veterans Day - Taya & Norman want to thank military dogs & the countless other dogs serving us. #NationalK9Ve... Mar 15, 2017 🔄
- RT @SenatorBirdwell: Always good to see my friend, Tarrant County Sheriff @BillWaybourn, who was here for the Senate Finance Committee thi... Mar 05, 2017 🔄
- RT @TayaKyle: Chris's heart and spirit continue to inspire us. Like many warriors, Chris loved serving as much as he loved... <https://t.c...> Feb 01, 2017 🔄
- RT @FoxNews: BREAKING: One US service member killed, 3 injured in raid on Al Qaeda in Yemen <https://t.co/bhzPvF907G> #FOXNewsWorld <https://t...> Jan 29, 2017 🔄
- RT @CKFFdn: In 2015, Texas Gov. Greg Abbott declared Feb. 2 as "Chris Kyle Day" for Texas - watch for tributes as we approach that date #ho... Jan 29, 2017 🔄
- RT @CKFFdn: Learn how to get involved at <https://t.co/dF8rBb9Bug> <https://t.co/zdXKIKIK4P> Jan 21, 2017 🔄
- RT @GrapevinePolice: We are taking multiple reports about car burglaries for the 3rd week in a row. All of the cars were left unlocked. h... Jan 07, 2017 🔄
- RT @ArtAcevedo: Thank you. Can't assess the needs of the people we are privileged to lead (especially patrol) & the community we serve from... Jan 07, 2017 🔄
- RT @BrandonToddFOX4: Chief Fitzgerald: "The officer's words and actions in the video were rude, but not racist" @FOX4 <https://t.co/2H9I1ojq...> Dec 25, 2016 🔄

- RT @CKFFdn: Now through 12/19 - FREE #CKFFdn beanie with \$50 purchase (while supplies last)! Shop now <https://t.co/n9dxrKgcMZ> <https://t.co/...> Dec 25, 2016 🔄
- RT @BrandonToddFOX4: My story tonight..FWPD Chief on viral video: "a difference between rude and racism". @FOX4 <https://t.co/xO3jbseyC> Dec 25, 2016 🔄
- RT @LWFfutureBSW: @BillWaybourn @dR_cHiEf_FITz @HopeFarmInc Honored to meet the cities finest! #hopefarm #hope #mothersondatenight #FtWorth... Dec 17, 2016 🔄
- RT @FWPOA: Well, alright. Let's do this. #TexasWeather 🌞🌧️ <https://t.co/OfTK92zr9M> Dec 17, 2016 🔄
- RT @GregAbbott_TX: Presenting a Texas flag to the son & daughter of the San Antonio police officer assassinated last week. #SAPDStrong <http...> Nov 28, 2016 🔄
- RT @CKFFdn: We're counting down the hours til #GivingTuesday! Join us & organizations around the world tomorrow to give - anyone can make a... Nov 28, 2016 🔄
- RT @ChrisKyleFrog: Love to see people using the gifts they bring to the table to help lift up those who serve or have served in the... <http...> Nov 17, 2016 🔄
- @TheWellsReport love too have lunch... Text time and location Monday or Tuesday Nov 17, 2016 🔄
- <https://t.co/ukNybVw9ec> Nov 14, 2016 🔄
- RT @RepHughes: O soul, are you weary and troubled? No light in the darkness you see? There's light for a look at the Savior, And... <https://...> Nov 08, 2016 🔄
- RT @SarahPalinUSA: Happy 98th Birthday Rev. Billy Graham! You changed my mom's life with your crusades back in the 70's. This led... <http...> Nov 07, 2016 🔄
- RT @FWPOA: Make winning choices, don't drink & drive! 🚗🍷 @delconte @TCU @TCUCoachP <https://t.co/WtugTn7aLU> Oct 31, 2016 🔄
- RT @TarrantCountyDA: Tarrant County's No Refusal Halloween Weekend starts TONIGHT at 9:30pm, and runs until 5:30am, Tuesday, 11/1. Be safe... Oct 31, 2016 🔄
- RT @ArlingtonPD: These 10 faces could give you some extra holiday cash and us the suspects. Top-10 Most Wanted, \$1,000 for information lead... Oct 31, 2016 🔄
- At medal of honor dinner - during the national anthem no one saw the need to take a knee! A few couldn't stand due to sacrifices they made Oct 21, 2016 🔄
- RT @ChrisKyleFrog: This is really awesome. Chris has been announced as the recipient of the Great American Patriot Award for the... <https://...> Oct 20, 2016 🔄
- Amazing the great recall when talking of @realDonaldTrump sins but when investigated in whitewater and recent scams she doesn't recall Oct 20, 2016 🔄
- RT @FrankLuntz: Who had the greater positive impact on your voting choice tonight? • 21 say Trump • 9 say Clinton #Debate2016 <https://t.c...> Oct 10, 2016 🔄
- RT @Bill_Zedler: Trump has had 400 + business accomplishments- Hillary Clinton has had zero Oct 10, 2016 🔄
- RT @TexasGOP: "We're going to put a lot of coal miners and coal companies out of business." -#Hillary before yet again flip-flopping on coa... Oct 10, 2016 🔄
- RT @realDonaldTrump: Reminder, Hillary Clinton said the Supreme Court is wrong on the Second Amendment. #debate <https://t.co/RKVguKz3op> #2A #G... Oct 10, 2016 🔄
- RT @mattklewis: If you're a wavering Republican, Hillary's Supreme Court answer just made a good argument for voting Trump. #debate Oct 10, 2016 🔄
- RT @megynkelly: .@realDonaldTrump on #Benghazi: "Amb. Stevens sent 600 requests for help and the only one she talked to was Sidney Blumenth... Oct 10, 2016 🔄
- RT @andynguyenow: Hillary:"I want to select supreme court justices who understand how the world really works." Uh... What about the Consti... Oct 10, 2016 🔄
- RT @CKFFdn: Successful marriage takes work. <https://t.co/yPZbfexrK> #milspouse #firstresponderspouses Oct 10, 2016 🔄
- RT @SharenWilson4DA: October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month! I attended the @SafeHavenTC Legacy of Women Reception. #ENDDDV <https://t...> Oct 10, 2016 🔄
- RT @CKFFdn: Taya Kyle shares her story of forgiveness and moving forward with @jenriday <https://t.co/Q5xtSKabfV> <https://t.co/5uno0hOmV0> Oct 05, 2016 🔄
- RT @DentonCountyGOP: #SheriffShootout Sheriff elect @JimSkinnerTX, Sheriff Elect @BillWaybourn & Sheriff elect #TracyMurphree ! #Argyle <ht...> Sep 17, 2016 🔄
- Honored to be emcee for @andynguyenow American Dream Dinner! The commissioner is proof that dream is real! #America Aug 25, 2016 🔄
- RT @ChrisKyleFrog: Taya Kyle - American Wife, Norman and the Chris Kyle Frog Foundation team are sporting the awesome July 4 shirts... <http...> Aug 20, 2016 🔄

- RT @ArtAcevedo: Thoughts are with the Village of Hatch, NM PD on the loss of an officer from gunfire. May he rest in peace. <https://t.co/tb...> Aug 16, 2016
- RT @bhamiltonTV: Great event Sunday benefitting Families of our fallen & injured Heroes! Buy tickets @DFWstrong.com @JayNovacek84 <https://t.co/...> Jul 22, 2016
- RT @RepMattKrause: Have you seen this man? <https://t.co/JL0V2idE3A> Jul 22, 2016
- RT @PhilKingTX: Please pray today for the Texas family of Sean and Brodie Copeland, father and young son, murdered by an Islamic terrorist... Jul 15, 2016
- RT @BrandonToddFOX4: Incredible finale to a fantastic fireworks show in Fort Worth! Happy 4th of July everyone. <https://t.co/XHzeD0wvfU> Jul 05, 2016
- @daverdfw Sorry about the signs, thought we got them all. I would be great full if you send those locations to bill <https://t.co/y2BhKW2DeV> Jun 29, 2016
- RT @Bill_Zedler: We honor those who landed at Normandy 72 years ago today! God Bless their sacrifice to preserve FREEDOM for Europe. Jun 06, 2016
- RT @edgray1906: The Commish Radio's @edgray1906 calls for an end to violence @BillWaybourn in Tarrant County #stoptheviolence <https://t.c...> Jun 06, 2016
- RT @CKFFdn: We pause to memorialize those who gave the last full measure of devotion and reflect on the great cost of freedom. <https://t.co...> May 30, 2016
- RT @ToddWFAA8: @BillWaybourn campaigning last min. votes in Arlington. Tarrant sheriff's race decided tonight @wfaachannel8 <https://t.co/aP...> May 24, 2016
- RT @edgray1906: Backing my blue friends @Roywmsjr @DPDChief @GPPDChiefDye @ChiefSeverance @BillWaybourn May 22, 2016
- RT @FWPOA: Voted yet? @FWPOA Committee For Public Safety endorsed @BillWaybourn for @TarrantCountyso Sheriff. Election2016 <https://t.co...> May 22, 2016
- Chuck Norris doesn't have heroes...he has Bill Waybourn! <https://t.co/qcEUzx9Hu4> Vote today and tomorrow 7-7 or may 24th! #leadthewaybourn May 19, 2016
- RT @DFW_ALERTS: Via @CowntownNews: Vote for @BillWaybourn for Tarrant County Sheriff. It's the right thing to do. #dfwvx #dfw #dfwtraffic... May 17, 2016
- RT @FWPOA: @FWPOA Committee for Public Safety endorses @BillWaybourn for @TarrantCountySO Sheriff. Early Voting: May 16-20 <https://t.co/q...> May 15, 2016
- RT @ChiefFletcher: @ArtAcevedo & @Austin_Police, Austin Officer Carlos Lopez just received Top Cop award. He is as humble as he is brave an... May 15, 2016
- WOW, what an event! Thanks @theliveoak Randy Travis @JolieHolliday Sonny Burgess @ChadPratherFans & @CoffeyAnderson <https://t.co/Eae6qcl890> May 01, 2016
- RT @NBCDFW: Sunday 8:40am #NBC5: @BillWaybourn on #Tarrant sheriff race. #LoneStarPolitics <https://t.co/gV9V9GHRB9> <https://t.co/RGnRJ2jYD6> Apr 17, 2016
- RT @FWPOA: No other words are more inspirational than hearing Officer Matt Pearce say, "I'm coming back...I'll be back". <https://t.co/w...> Apr 14, 2016
- RT @DLoesch: Just a reminder to the anti-gun lobbyists, here is that study the president ordered from the CDC referencing DGU: <https://t.co...> Apr 12, 2016
- RT @foxandfriends: Ohio officer in critical condition after being shot serving warrant <https://t.co/ov7aR0Ulsv> Apr 11, 2016
- Honored to celebrate @ChrisKyleFrog birthday with some amazing people! Great night! #CKBirthdayBash #leadthewaybourn <https://t.co/X7OiO090GI> Apr 10, 2016
- Catch my interview with @JulieFineNBC5 tonight on the 5 o'clock news on NBC! #leadthewaybourn <https://t.co/FlhE2e1cg6> Mar 29, 2016
- Stay tuned to @JulieFineNBC5 over the next few days to hear about the campaign & runoff election! #leadthewaybourn <https://t.co/SxOwYukMva> Mar 23, 2016
- RT @AllenWest: Everyone's missing the point: Here's what Russia's pullout from Syria REALLY means...<https://t.co/nKHDOB5qJQ> <https://t.co/lb...> Mar 16, 2016
- Tune in to @660KSKY at 9:05 am to hear me on the @MarkDavis show talking about the sheriffs runoff election! #leadthewaybourn Mar 11, 2016
- RT @TexasGOP: RETWEET to wish @GovernorPerry a happy birthday! <https://t.co/83FKxSIWMr> Mar 05, 2016
- RT @AllenWest: Look what a scientific journal was FORCED to do simply for mentioning the Creator <https://t.co/iMOIQGYGxY> <https://t.co/nGwcp...> Mar 05, 2016
- Tune in @WBAP247NEWS in a few minutes to hear my talk with @haljaywbap. We are running full force towards the runoff! #leadthewaybourn Mar 03, 2016

- RT @ChiefSeverance: .@CleburnePD receives "Recognized Law Enforcement Agency" award from @TxTPCA <https://t.co/5BjDKSF7j9> via @ThePoliceNews... Mar 02, 2016 🔄
- RT @andersonDrLJA: A SALUTE TO NAVY SENIOR CHIEF EDWARD C BYERS JR. A TRUE AMERICAN #HERO FOR US TO LOOK UP TO! THANK YOU! <https://t.co/C9...> Mar 01, 2016 🔄
- RT @GilbertCipriano: @BillWaybourn We had a great time with Chief Waybourn today. Can't wait to be able to call him Sheriff!!!! <https://t.co...> Feb 29, 2016 🔄
- @edgray1906 we are doing great! We've got the momentum and are focusing on finishing the race strong on Tuesday! #commishup #leadthewaybourn Feb 28, 2016 🔄
- RT @1YCEU: Our hearts and prayers go out the Ofcr #AshleyGuindon family and the @PWCPoliceDept. God Bless and R.I.P Ashley. 🙏 <https://t.co/...> Feb 28, 2016 🔄
- #EarlyVoting ends today! Polling locations @ <https://t.co/SSpY4K9Ksv> #vote #TXPrimary #TX2016 #nettp #tcgop #billwaybourn #leadthewaybourn Feb 26, 2016 🔄
- RT @NovacekAmy: Out supporting our fav sheriff to be @BillWaybourn! @JayNovacek84 @TayaKyle I just ♡ these ppl! <https://t.co/8LS3OWSxER> Feb 25, 2016 🔄
- @UnivisionDallas our campaign number is: (682) 218-1655 or you can email: info@billwaybourn.com Feb 24, 2016 🔄
- Congrats @GovernorPerry - cleared of all charges! Like always, you stood on your principals & did what was right for Texas! #leadthewaybourn Feb 24, 2016 🔄
- Great first day of early voting. We made the paper, at least our sign did! Please go vote Bill Waybourn for Sheriff! <https://t.co/pSV3NoABKB> Feb 17, 2016 🔄
- Thank you @JulieFineNBC5 & @NBCDFW for having me on to discuss my vision for Tarrant County SO. Vote Bill Waybourn! <https://t.co/ffj35Pij2J> Feb 15, 2016 🔄
- RT @edgray1906: @BillWaybourn is headed to a landslide my thoughts @BudKennedy #wfaaitp Feb 15, 2016 🔄
- RT @rollcall: Scalia, in his own words. <https://t.co/nDuvPX38CW> <https://t.co/4wUCuaNHlg> Feb 15, 2016 🔄
- I will be on with @JulieFineNBC5 at 10:35 tonight...check it out #leadthewaybourn <https://t.co/JkPQP4g7uK> Feb 14, 2016 🔄
- Join @TayaKyle and myself in Benbrook tomorrow afternoon as we talk to Tarrant County voters #leadthewaybourn <https://t.co/OPj7iR4qpk> Feb 13, 2016 🔄
- Watch @FOX4 tonight at 6 for my @BrandonToddFOX4 interview. Now is the time for bold leadership! #leadthewaybourn <https://t.co/9OCz48IH1X> Feb 08, 2016 🔄
- Enjoying festivities celebrating lunar New Year @ Vietnamese Catholic Church Arlington! Come join! #leadthewaybourn <https://t.co/ZZ2rqA0Dae> Feb 08, 2016 🔄
- Live streaming the Sheriff's debate 10:30AM @wfaachannel8 log on & listen! #leadthewaybourn# <https://t.co/mmxg4cTvoX> Feb 05, 2016 🔄
- RT @BudKennedy: The 3rd candidate for @TarrantCountySO, John Garris, has endorsed @BillWaybourn over @SheriffAnderson /via @FWHanna <https://t.co/...> Feb 04, 2016 🔄
- RT @fwhanna: John Garris, a candidate for Tarrant County Sheriff, endorses former DWG police chief Bill Waybourn over incumbent Dee Anderso... Feb 04, 2016 🔄
- RT @FWPOA: Prayers go out to an officer in our neighboring city after being injured in the line of duty tonight. 🙏 #SaginawTX <https://t.co...> Jan 31, 2016 🔄
- RT @laura_waybourn: Listening to @GovAbbott at @TC_GOP Lincoln Day Dinner with @BillWaybourn #leadthewaybourn <https://t.co/IUR3EO9Tax> Jan 31, 2016 🔄
- Great day knocking doors in Tarrant County! Thank you to all the volunteers! We knocked several hundred doors today!! #leadthewaybourn Jan 30, 2016 🔄
- Ever felt like you've heard this before? Tune in to Channel 8 to see my interview w/ @wfaajdouglas It got moved to tonight @6pm!! Jan 27, 2016 🔄
- Check out my interview w/ @wfaajdouglas tonight @6pm Channel 8 News! #leadthewaybourn <https://t.co/1qJXm9hoHG> Jan 26, 2016 🔄
- Packed @ Republican Women of Arlington Candidate Forum Dealing with real issues in Tarrant County #leadthewaybourn <https://t.co/ivs8tqrIWj> Jan 21, 2016 🔄
- Tune into The Wells Report tonight 10 PM to hear @TheWellsReport and I discuss the Sheriff's race! 660 AM! #leadthewaybourn #thewellsreport Jan 21, 2016 🔄
- RT @Franklin_Graham: We need to vote for candidates uphold biblical principles—those who believe in the sanctity of human life. #Sanctityof... Jan 18, 2016 🔄
- RT @WSPDPOA: Agree or disagree? @CBSDFW @FOX4 @NBCDFW @wfaachannel8 @BillWaybourn @GregAbbott_TX @tedcruz @realDonaldTrump <https://t.co/U0y...> Jan 17, 2016 🔄

- RT @wesco57: Bill Waybourn on The Commish Radio Show with Ed Gray! <https://t.co/SylzbVpZoJ> Jan 17, 2016 📎
- @edgray1906 @FBRNUS can't wait to be on the show today! Sal's in Pantego is great food & people Supports the military too! #leadthewaybourn Jan 16, 2016 📎
- Listen in tonight from 6-7pm on 620AM KEXB. I'll join @TheWellsReport & others to discuss #SecondAmendment issues. #Alliance4TheBrave Jan 15, 2016 📎
- Tune in to 620 AM tonight from 6-7 to hear me answer questions about my vision for the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office. #leadthewaybourn Jan 14, 2016 📎
- Honored to speak to the largest tea party in TX @NETarrantTea A wonderful group of great Americans! #leadthewaybourn <https://t.co/jmV9RybAXh> Jan 12, 2016 📎
- Great weekend with Pantego residents. Qualified over 70 people for their carry licenses. #leadthewaybourn <https://t.co/K2Fg3uoxxG> Jan 11, 2016 📎
- Check out our campaign treasurer @TayaKyle on CNN taking on the President on gun control! Way to go Taya! #2ndAmendment #leadthewaybourn Jan 08, 2016 📎
- Great spending time with friend and Christian brother @thejoshhamilton I'm honored to have his support #TexasRangers <https://t.co/P6A69Z2HAr> Jan 07, 2016 📎
- Thanks @dallascowboys for saluting 1st responders & thank you fans for the cheers #leadthewaybourn #firstresponders <https://t.co/FtamwVTdEJ> Jan 03, 2016 📎
- We already dropped off 1,000 yard signs & 250 road signs. Email david@billwaybourn.com to get one. #LeadTheWaybourn <https://t.co/WnMzFVehFB> Jan 01, 2016 📎
- RT @FWPOA: Gunfire is a big problem in #FortWorth on #NYE. Remember, what goes up, must come down. Have a safe NYE! <https://t.co/KRvIwFGZ...> Jan 01, 2016 📎
- With the great patriot @AllenWest at @ArmedForcesBowl today. #LMAFB <https://t.co/4qZb3IJcke> Dec 29, 2015 📎
- RT @foxandfriends: Hero NYPD detective Joseph Lemm identified as one of six Americans killed in Afghanistan <https://t.co/KOPSL7a1Sx> Dec 22, 2015 📎
- RT @FreeBeacon: Joint Chiefs Chairman Opposed Gitmo Terrorist Release <https://t.co/gGXQ3CZk3Q> via @BillGertz <https://t.co/PCTUh5nj9V> Dec 19, 2015 📎
- Tune into NBC Channel 5 news with @JulieFineNBC5 tonight! I expect you will see something interesting! <https://t.co/su8JJFnSde> Dec 17, 2015 📎
- I'm honored to have the endorsement of retired Fort Worth Police Chief Ralph Mendoza. #leadthewaybourn <https://t.co/3lqGF12cSe> Dec 17, 2015 📎
- Working to help hundreds of Texans protect themselves and their families! #chl #leadthewaybourn #billwayborn <https://t.co/v3TbKyk8kO> Dec 12, 2015 📎
- Great visiting with @MarkDavis this morning! To register for the free CHL go to: <https://t.co/Z4NDcVBSTg> or <https://t.co/FlvDkJ07jD> Dec 10, 2015 📎
- RT @ProducerRondaK: Thank you @BillWaybourn for joining us on @MarkDavis this morning to talk about your brilliant campaign event! <https://t.co/...> Dec 10, 2015 📎
- I'll be on with @Mark Davis at 9:30am. Listen live at 660amtheanswer" Dec 10, 2015 📎
- Yard signs are in and going out just as fast! Email david@billwaybourn.com to reserve yours today! <https://t.co/Q18BsWtdgO> Dec 09, 2015 📎
- Excited to be on air with @ChrisSalcedoTX in a few moments! Tune in to hear it! WBAP 820 AM Dec 09, 2015 📎
- RT @TayaKyle: It was amazing to be with the Complete Customs crew at SEMA last month for the launch of this awesome Jeep in... <https://t.co/...> Dec 08, 2015 📎
- December 7, 1941...Remember the 2,403 Americans that were killed and the 1,178 that were wounded. #PearlHarbor <https://t.co/1WHhXiNjUR> Dec 07, 2015 📎
- RT @RealJamesWoods: Cower in the middle, is more like it. Pres Reagan and @SenTedCruz are the only conservatives unafraid to be proud. <https://t.co/...> Dec 01, 2015 📎
- RT @FWPOA: #Thankful that no officers were killed or seriously injured. #breaking #police <https://t.co/176dpxqhXB> Nov 30, 2015 📎
- RT @GregAbbott_TX: Well said @TedCruz. Pro-Life means supporting life & condemning killers: Cruz Condemns Planned Parenthood Shooting <https://t.co/...> Nov 29, 2015 📎
- Great being with @NovacekAmy & @JayNovacek84 last night at the event for @SenatorBirdwell featuring @GregAbbott_TX <https://t.co/fArg0v2Jg7> Nov 24, 2015 📎
- RT @ChrisKyleFrog: #CKFrogTeam joins with Chris Kyle Frog Foundation & Taya Kyle - American Wife in thanking Steve Torrence - Top... <https://t.co/...> Nov 17, 2015 📎

- RT @GregAbbott_TX: Texas leads the nation with the toughest border security law of any state ever. #tcot @TexasGOP #txlege <https://t.co/tU...> Nov 15, 2015 🔄
- Prayers to the victims of the #ParisAttacks. We pray the leadership in the free world will take a stand to combat these acts of terrorism. Nov 13, 2015 🔄
- RT @NETarrantTea: Suspect who ran over Dallas officer is in US illegally <https://t.co/50KfApMdCk> #txlege Nov 12, 2015 🔄
- Please remember to thank a Veteran. Not just today, but everyday! #VeteransDay #Veterans #Military #Freedom <https://t.co/dTPCdR1I9z> Nov 11, 2015 🔄
- RT @NovacekAmy: Good Luck 2 my incredible husband @JayNovacek84 competing today at the #AQHA World Show! #ImSoProud #AQHAproud @AQHA <https://t.co/...> Nov 07, 2015 🔄
- RT @chucknorris: I had a great time tonight supporting my friend Bill Waybourn for Tarrant County Sheriff. Bill is on the... <https://t.co/...> Oct 31, 2015 🔄
- RT @greta: F.B.I. Chief Links Scrutiny of Police With Rise in Violent Crime, via @nytimes <https://t.co/2LsmV8MV61> Oct 24, 2015 🔄
- @JayNovacek @AmyNovacek Honored that you'll be at #ANightWithHeroes Oct. 30. Register at <https://t.co/e38V2R5BeW> <https://t.co/yTCvFMQuMK> Oct 20, 2015 🔄
- Great turnout out at the @NETarrantTea meeting tonight where @RickSantorum gave a very informative Q&A session. <http://t.co/hdAHt4Clad> Oct 13, 2015 🔄
- RT @AndyNguyenTC: JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT PCT 7 - NOW TAKING APPLICATIONS FOR 2 TEMP., PART-TIME POSITIONS. CALL 817-473-5101. <http://t.co/...> Sep 11, 2015 🔄
- Great morning at Back the Blue on Main Street! Come out and support the first responders! <http://t.co/gODWnV2MFC> Sep 07, 2015 🔄
- RT @ChrisKyleFrog: Thanks for your support Bill as always - you're there for @TayaKyle and @CKFFdn <http://t.co/lGDFZf29KA> <https://t.co/qhA...> Sep 04, 2015 🔄
- RT @MaxLucado: God has a great vision for your life. You at full throttle. You as victor over the Jerichos and giants. #GloryDays Sep 03, 2015 🔄
- Help @TayaKyle raise funds 4 @ChrisKyleFrog serving military + 1st responder families. <http://t.co/Jw9JAgA8dk> #CKFF <http://t.co/FpcO4PKpBZ> Sep 02, 2015 🔄
- @GilbertCipriano just saw this sorry, but next class send the teacher, I loved to see teacher. Aug 29, 2015 🔄
- RT @Bill_Zedler: The mayors & city councils of sanctuary cities should be held legally responsible for the deaths of U.S. Citizens by illeg... Aug 12, 2015 🔄
- RT @JayNovacek84: .@michaelirvin88 and I back on the field again with @BlakeNovacek! #CowboysTrainingCamp #Oxnard #cowboynation <http://t.co/...> Aug 11, 2015 🔄
- RT @Vote_American: RIP <https://t.co/NU116fZUBr> Aug 07, 2015 🔄
- RT @ArlingtonVoice: DWG Police Chief @billwaybourn plans massive free CHL course for military members <http://t.co/o2uOLPe5md> Aug 07, 2015 🔄
- RT @TexasTribune: Rookie guard beaten to death at East Texas prison. The full story from @tlangford <http://t.co/Zng9otQeyl> <http://t.co/GiDx...> Jul 16, 2015 🔄
- RT @SheriffClarke: <http://t.co/mfvAapLKLt> With this video, why were the cops even charged. I thought video was suppose to settle this once ... Jul 06, 2015 🔄
- RT @FoxNews: .@TayaKyle on her children not yet watching #AmericanSniper: "I think they're too young." #OReillyFactor <http://t.co/ToXuvRqkG4> Jun 24, 2015 🔄
- RT @FoxNews: When an officer raised his right hand during a swearing-in ceremony, his baby followed suit! <http://t.co/RevbrEp9p6> <http://t.co/...> Jun 24, 2015 🔄
- Charlotte NC has set the path and has it right. We should unite and not let the hate in. Joining the 20K praying for peace. Jun 22, 2015 🔄
- RT @RNRWestVirginia: #wv #RedNationRising New Orleans police officer killed while transporting... <http://t.co/eXS4Y3odD2> #pjnet #tcot #ccot h... Jun 22, 2015 🔄
- RT @JusticeWillett: This #FathersDay, remember the Charleston 9— • Fathers who lost sons/daughters • Sons/daughters who lost fathers <http://t.co/...> Jun 21, 2015 🔄
- RT @FoxNews: Authorities release 'time-progressed' photos of escaped New York inmates. <http://t.co/lH3vPYuXlg> <http://t.co/ZAjlkXF7DY> Jun 17, 2015 🔄
- RT @FilAlvaradoFox4: NW 35th St. closed at Cement Creek. #FortWorth #TSBill @FOX4 <http://t.co/vPQGYPGOI> Jun 17, 2015 🔄
- RT @DPA_PoliceAssoc: Being told susp is dead inside his armored van. Situation not over #DPDattack Jun 13, 2015 🔄

- RT @RodriguezLarry: Interstate 20 at interstate 45 shut down and Hudsons in all directions Jun 13, 2015 📎
- Praying for Dallas PD and officer safety #DallasPDS shooting Jun 13, 2015 📎
- RT @CKFFdn: Show us your CKFF gear! We love seeing our supporters in the awesome store items! #CKFFGear <http://t.co/3VVcxnIAzC> Jun 11, 2015 📎
- RT @Jennifer_G_Lee: <http://t.co/qQhNgeAvG6> Jun 11, 2015 📎
- RT @NovacekAmy: #LoveMyLife #Blessed @JayNovacek84 @BlakeNovacek 📎 <http://t.co/DnfWJsYCKQ> Jun 11, 2015 📎
- RT @LeeStrobel: Biologist in TEDx Talk: Life's Complex Interacting Molecular Machines Appear Built by an Engineer - <http://t.co/Vx4rdoojF5> Jun 11, 2015 📎
- RT @TayaKyle: Thank-you Rolling Stone for featuring the Boot Campaign Boots on the Beach event I was at in Jamaica with our... <http://t.co/...> Jun 03, 2015 📎
- RT @LeeStrobel: 3 Reasons to Reread the Sermon on the Mount: <http://t.co/gWQfCcmWmK> via @DrRobertBSloan @houstonbaptistu Jun 01, 2015 📎
- RT @greta: we need leaders w/ solutions, not just slinging insults at each other Jun 01, 2015 📎
- RT @toddstarnes: Breaking: Vice President Biden's son, Beau, has passed away. Our thoughts and prayers are with the Biden family. May 31, 2015 📎
- RT @PJStrikeForce: Never Give Up!! Life Will Buck You Off! Get Back On And Keep Riding!! <http://t.co/xe34toAGGP> May 31, 2015 📎
- RT @FoxNews: US military pilots complain hands tied in 'frustrating' fight against #ISIS <http://t.co/gybXjegdwa> <http://t.co/o8i2cbYzjM> May 28, 2015 📎
- RT @FoxNews: Sheriff Lewis: Some @BaltimorePolice officers "are no longer being proactive & as you see the violence has surged." <http://t.c...> May 28, 2015 📎
- RT @tparker63: The pro-life community owes @charliegeren a debt of gratitude for his efforts last night to rescue SB 575. Thanks, Chairman.... May 26, 2015 📎
- RT @FoxNews: Taya Kyle, widow of Navy SEAL Chris Kyle, shares what she loves about America: <http://t.co/40oGpN4Z5Y> #ProudAmerican <http://t....> May 24, 2015 📎
- RT @BrandonToddFOX4: 157 just north of Venus, water over road, vehicles pass one at a time. @FOX4 <http://t.co/HVbUhpqFN9> May 24, 2015 📎
- RT @SFPDCares: After another tragic loss, Police Officers wear black bands on their Stars, please retweet if you support your Police <http://t...> May 24, 2015 📎
- RT @GregAbbott_TX: Texas Highway to be Named in Honor of 'American Sniper' Chris Kyle @ChrisKyleFrog #vets #txcote #txlege <http://t.co/uMSI7k...> May 22, 2015 📎
- RT @JayNovacek84: @BillWaybourn is a great man dedicated 2 serving community fam friends. Amy & I know him personally he gets r vote <https:...> May 21, 2015 📎
- RT @FWPOA: Keep @HPOUTX @houstonpolice in your thoughts and prayers. One of their own was killed in the line of duty last night. <http://t.c...> May 19, 2015 📎
- RT @SanDiegoPD: A San Diego Police Officer has been shot. Please keep us in your prayers. More information to follow May 17, 2015 📎
- RT @TayaKyle: Friends, Taya has requested we share a story she wrote about a very special friend to Taya and Chris Kyle - Chief... <http://t...> May 16, 2015 📎
- RT @laura_waybourn: Check out what Taya Kyle says about @BillWaybourn running for Sheriff of Tarrant County <https://t.co/5ly5rpLjd8> May 14, 2015 📎
- RT @GregAbbott_TX: Chris Kyle set to receive Texas Medal of Honor. @ChrisKyleFrog #ChrisKyle #vets #txlege <http://t.co/2v85OJSgNo> May 10, 2015 📎
- RT @RyanMooreMS: Members of the Hattiesburg Police Department huddle for a word of prayer on the back steps of the department. <http://t.co/...> May 10, 2015 📎
- RT @NYPDnews: Please join us in taking a moment of silence to remember NYPD Police Officer Brian Moore <http://t.co/8uOB7Z9JFA> May 09, 2015 📎
- RT @TomTcowan: "@Callisto1947: POLICE LIVES MATTER, SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL OFFICERS OF THE LAW!! #tcot #ccot #pjnet <http://t.co/RvJVyi6rAY>" May 08, 2015 📎
- RT @WaybournSeminar: Back by Popular Demand Ladies CHL Class Saturday, June 6th 8:30AM Call 469-224-7082 or... <http://t.co/jjATU8GmsR> May 08, 2015 📎
- RT @TayaKyle: @JBBale Anytime John, @SoldierOnAust is a great organization and we're happy to have them as our Australian friends of the @... May 08, 2015 📎
- RT @GregAbbott_TX: With 2 great Texans: @MarcusLuttrell & @ChuckNorris. #tcot @TexasGOP. <http://t.co/oerD3HtQWs> May 02, 2015 📎

- RT @CKFFdn: Make sure you place your order for #Americanwife that will be released on 5/4/15 amazing job tonight @TayaKyle May 02, 2015 📎
- RT @CKFFdn: "Faith is not seeing, not knowing" @RobinRoberts @ABC2020 #Tayataks May 02, 2015 📎
- RT @RobinRoberts: That is Taya's hope..to help others. "@LindaMarieLeon: @RobinRoberts The bravery of Taya Kyle, the telling of her story, ... May 02, 2015 📎
- RT @FWPOA: Get your tickets for @MarcusLuttrell's @PatriotTourUSA coming to #FortWorth July 24th! #DFW <http://t.co/avkXzZDWLI> <http://t.co/C...> May 02, 2015 📎
- RT @ABC2020: Taya Kyle describes meeting Chris for the first time: "He was so genuine and had a depth to him and this really hot body with ... May 02, 2015 📎
- RT @CKFFdn: "Praying for a man with a good heart" we couldn't agree more that Chris was this man. May 02, 2015 📎
- RT @ABC2020: Taya on her husband, Chris Kyle: "He had this softness & tenderness. I continue to look back & be in awe of how he managed it ... May 02, 2015 📎
- RT @CKFFdn: "Love, war, faith, renewal" #Tayataks May 02, 2015 📎
- RT @FWPOA: Some citizens of Baltimore have seen enough and are taking a stand with the police against the rioters. #ThankYou <http://t.co/Ya...> Apr 30, 2015 📎
- RT @laura_waybourn: @BillWaybourn we testified today in favor of Rep Tony Tinderholt HB 2514 pro adoption legislation #txlege #adoption htt... Apr 30, 2015 📎
- RT @Jennafnc: Took Trace on a special trip to @StatueEllisNPS w/Uncle @_ZLee ... <http://t.co/wgtu2seXIO> Apr 27, 2015 📎
- RT @AmericanSniper: Witness his powerful performance today on Digital HD. #AmericanSniper @RollingStone <http://t.co/cnT273q7cO> Apr 27, 2015 📎
- RT @NETarrantTea: **** Early voting starts Monday **** - <http://t.co/8LtlE4xKNg> #txcot Apr 27, 2015 📎
- RT @ScottGordonNBC5: Heading out in @TXThunderTruck to cover incoming storms. @NBCDFW <http://t.co/lit40xLyFk> Apr 27, 2015 📎
- A great evening at AIPAC with congressman Sessions. Always standing with Israel. <http://t.co/akwllT4j79> Apr 27, 2015 📎
- RT @WaybournSeminar: Bill Waybourn's next Concealed Handgun Licensing Class Saturday, May 2nd @ 9am Call 469-224-7082 or... <http://t.co/tg6...> Apr 25, 2015 📎
- RT @AmericanSniper: "God, country, family." #AmericanSniper is available to download on Digital HD today. <http://t.co/6J05Tmb3zg> <http://t.c...> Apr 24, 2015 📎
- RT @CKFFdn: How awesome is this statue that is in the works? <http://t.co/c4EIMlcFEN> Apr 24, 2015 📎
- RT @RepHughes: San Jacinto Monument (12' taller than Washington Monument).Texas won her independence here 179 years ago today. <http://t.co/...> Apr 24, 2015 📎
- RT @AllenWest: When Oprah does this, she's applauded...when I do it, I get ATTACKED <http://t.co/JY4XSpBzv> <http://t.co/D6PUeobKPo> Apr 24, 2015 📎
- RT @deannaboyd: W/ VIDEO. Mesquite officers pull man from burning SUV. <http://t.co/K28IUffzJj> Apr 21, 2015 📎
- RT @FilAlvaradoFox4: Thunder and scattered showers in Tarrant County. <http://t.co/JtLNaq5aQT> Apr 21, 2015 📎
- RT @DonnaCampbellTX: Funny how Democrats are FOR vouchers in every instance (food stamps, housing) except when children are stuck in failin... Apr 21, 2015 📎
- RT @EricKingNBC5: Mesquite Officers Pull Man From Burning Car <http://t.co/9mzZSEsAex> Apr 21, 2015 📎
- RT @TayaKyle: Watch Taya introduce Garth Brooks and his spine-tingling tribute to our Armed Forces and First Responders at the... <http://t....> Apr 20, 2015 📎
- RT @TayaKyle: Thank-you so much. Amazing experience to be at @ATTStadium & introduce @garthbrooks at the #ACMawards50 @ACMawards - feeling ... Apr 20, 2015 📎
- RT @AmericanSniper: Relive the #1 movie starring #BradleyCooper as #ChrisKyle on Digital HD in 2 days. #AmericanSniper <http://t.co/7c0b4qaQ...> Apr 20, 2015 📎
- RT @JayNovacek84: .@cowboytroj @ACMawards #ACMawards50 @blakenovacek @NovacekAmy <http://t.co/VYnREhnZBJ> Apr 20, 2015 📎
- RT @cowboytroj: Front row Joe tonight with @JayNovacek84 at the @ACMawards #ACMawards50 #ACMselfie <http://t.co/k2jNSxILlf> Apr 20, 2015 📎
- RT @NovacekAmy: Love @NancyLieberman & her amazing gift 4 giving! Thank u 4 sharing w us! @JayNovacek84 @BlakeNovacek @maitlynbrucks <http://t....> Apr 17, 2015 📎
- RT @CarlyFiorina: Every human life has potential & every human life is precious. Honored to MC @SBAList's Campaign for Life Gala. <http://t....> Apr 17, 2015 📎

- RT @TimesofIsrael: Italy police: Muslims threw Christians overboard during Med voyage <http://t.co/hl4ObBOs5l> Apr 17, 2015 ☑
- RT @FoxNewsInsider: .@GregGutfeld: 'American Sniper' Protesters Turn Campuses Into 'Day Care for Crybabies' <http://t.co/THU8vZ18EQ> [http://t...](http://t.co/THU8vZ18EQ) Apr 14, 2015 ☑
- RT @ABCLiz: Full @ABC story on @HillaryClinton's adventure to Chipotle - <http://t.co/4vkXgTfOyJ> via @erindooley @jasonvolack <http://t.co/hK...> Apr 14, 2015 ☑
- @WoodyWilliams45 Met Hershel "Woody" Williams the last surviving Medal of Honor recipient from Iwo Jima what an honor <http://t.co/uRldX0Xuht> Apr 13, 2015 ☑
- RT @AndyNguyenTC: What's Happening in Southeast Tarrant County! #constantcontact <http://t.co/EG9hlaBvaC> Apr 13, 2015 ☑
- RT @NETarrantTea: Kansas man tried to blow up Fort Riley with car bomb: feds <http://t.co/k1qLzD2i9A> Apr 13, 2015 ☑
- @AllenWest NE Tarrant County Tea Party event tonight what a great patriot <http://t.co/F8UvMaFiVR> Apr 12, 2015 ☑
- RT @GregAbbott_TX: Purple Hearts are being awarded to victims of Ft Hood shooting. We honor our warriors. #vets #txlege <http://t.co/Jt6O6vy...> Apr 10, 2015 ☑
- RT @MarkSmith_FWST: Child injured after pickup crashes into Fort Worth home; driver, 18, charged with DWI <http://t.co/1G7qKlIj2b> Apr 04, 2015 ☑
- RT @Franklin_Graham: "The cross shows us the seriousness of our sin—but it also shows us the immeasurable love of God." -my father, @BillyG... Apr 04, 2015 ☑
- RT @ChrisKyleFrog: What do special forces & SEALs talk about off duty? @MarcusLuttrell & more join @GlennBeck at 5pm ET on @TheBlaze <http://t.co/...> Mar 31, 2015 ☑
- RT @TayaKyle: Thanks for the follows, this is the official account for #TayaKyle #AmericanWife, we look forward to interacting with you! Mar 31, 2015 ☑
- RT @BrandonToddFOX4: Talked to Frmr FWPD Chf Jeff Halstead today on release of body cam video of officer Involv shooting. @FOX4 News at 9. ... Mar 31, 2015 ☑
- RT @NovacekAmy: Thank God for our #FirstResponders! Many thanks to all of you and you families for your sacrifices! #Blessings <http://t.co/...> Mar 31, 2015 ☑
- RT @deannaboyd: For 2nd time in less than 4 years, NRH man is accused of putting camera in women's restroom. <http://t.co/Uy3EgAyWMe> [http://t.co/...](http://t.co/Uy3EgAyWMe) Mar 31, 2015 ☑
- RT @FoxNews: Lt. Col. Robert Hite, of 'Doolittle Tokyo Raiders,' dead at 95. <http://t.co/ACGtfVgggg> <http://t.co/7a5zPKHNs3> Mar 31, 2015 ☑
- RT @CombatJourno: Boston cop still fighting for his life after he was shot in the face <http://t.co/eqkUTimppw> <http://t.co/Xfe55b4iIW> via @N... Mar 28, 2015 ☑
- RT @WaybournSeminar: Concealed Handgun Licensing Class taught by Bill Waybourn May 2@9AM Fort Worth, TX \$80.00 waybournseminars@gmail.com ... Mar 28, 2015 ☑
- RT @AndyNguyenTC: Vietnam Veterans special display at Mansfield Historical Museum March 27 & 28. <http://t.co/tSWZO9MLb6> Mar 28, 2015 ☑
- RT @FoxNews: State senator won't back down, apologize for saying he'd shoot a cop. <http://t.co/6T9PL14XwF> <http://t.co/Kmk6aqa8F1> Mar 27, 2015 ☑
- RT @FWPOA: Sign up tonight for the Cops 4 Kids 5k run! Packet pickup @lukeslocker FW tomorrow from 10a-3:30p #FortWorth <https://t.co/suTZ...> Mar 27, 2015 ☑
- RT @megynkelly: Sgt. Bowe #Bergdahl charged today with desertion and misbehavior before the enemy. Coming up: @statedeptspox weighs in on #... Mar 26, 2015 ☑
- RT @Bill_Zedler: Some of main stream media continue the lie of "Hands Up, Don't Shoot" Mar 24, 2015 ☑
- Michigan drive all clear of fire personnel and equipment. Great job. Mar 23, 2015 ☑
- Avoid Michigan drive in DWG, working a structure fire. Mar 23, 2015 ☑
- RT @TCA_YRs: Our members had the pleasure of meeting these honorable patriots:@JayNovacek84 @AllenWest @SenatorBirdwell <http://t.co/D4vqERh...> Mar 22, 2015 ☑
- RT @georgepbush: My thoughts are w/ the family of Lucy Coffey. Her service & dedication to our country will never be forgotten <http://t.co/...> Mar 22, 2015 ☑
- RT @NickTimiraos: Nearly one in six young US veterans (18-to-24 years old) is unemployed <http://t.co/QfFjpGPu2Z> <http://t.co/t6TaDdZA83> Mar 22, 2015 ☑
- RT @FoxNews: US vets return to Iwo Jima for 70th anniversary <http://t.co/n0UQXGaD9n> <http://t.co/b4CHumVyvg> Mar 22, 2015 ☑
- RT @laura_waybourn: Arlington Police Foundation Back the Blue Bash honoring retired APD @RealBarryCorbin made special appearance <http://t.c...> Mar 21, 2015 ☑

- RT @BrandonToddFOX4: N. FW residents say this thief is burglarizing their cars..and oops, got on camera at two houses. @FOX4 <http://t.co/dl...> Mar 19, 2015
- RT @RepMattKrause: RT @DanaPerino: This is a terrible trial balloon to float out of spite. <http://t.co/AOEPUU4oi7> Mar 19, 2015
- RT @FoxNews: Skilled gunsmith helps Kurds turn #ISIS guns on terrorists. <http://t.co/qcNBZ8wNun> <http://t.co/umXPCauWOr> Mar 19, 2015
- RT @LeahR77: St. Patricks Day Miracle: Netanyahu Comes From Behind To Win - Breitbart <http://t.co/cuYsbcFEa2> #IsraelElections <http://t.co/c...> Mar 18, 2015
- RT @FWPOA: Wear green, NOT handcuffs! Don't rely on the luck of the Irish on St. Patrick's Day. Please don't drink and drive! <http://t.co...> Mar 17, 2015
- RT @netanyahu: Thank you for the campaign support @chucknorris ! <http://t.co/ZdNIVrUHRn> #isralex Mar 17, 2015
- RT @NovacekAmy: Ive been so blessed 2 b married 2 the love of my life. My sweet friend #TayaKyle shares her pain w the loss of hers 😞 <https://t.co/...> Mar 17, 2015
- RT @TexasGOP: SB-17 has passed, allowing the open carry of handguns with a CHL. Thank you Senate Republicans for your leadership! #txlege Mar 17, 2015
- RT @FWPOA: #BREAKING: Subject who shot 2 Ferguson police officers is in custody. Mar 15, 2015
- RT @FoxNews: Philadelphia police renaming valor medal for murdered officer <http://t.co/cESHjs8u8C> <http://t.co/pwoQFTJ7Nk> Mar 15, 2015
- RT @jasonhall8675: Cool to be part of #ifalltheskywaspaper <http://t.co/GTOcFEa5Kp> Mar 15, 2015
- RT @WaybournSeminar: We teach this concept in our Ladies Self Defense classes. <http://t.co/4WDjt3Pren> Mar 14, 2015
- RT @Cabelas: In case you missed it, @Team_neverquit launched their new ammo line! Get it first at Cabela's: <http://t.co/ncT9anZZJE> <http://t.co/...> Mar 14, 2015
- RT @WaybournSeminar: Great demonstration of a mom protecting her family...Waybourn Seminars will host a ladies only CHL class... <http://t.co/...> Mar 14, 2015
- RT @USAHEROSALUTE: #REDFriday @VetsStrong @NovacekAmy @JayNovacek84 @StarsofTX_ADA @Jennifer_G_Lee @LuttrellMelanie Have a great weekend ! Mar 13, 2015
- RT @melodymlanier: Motherhood: Why is the most important job in the world undervalued? <http://t.co/wAVgwbUBZY> via @melodymlanier Mar 09, 2015
- RT @WaybournSeminar: Don't procrastinate one more time CHL this Saturday, March 14th 10AM Waybournseminars@gmail.com <http://t.co/L4xwulZTZQ> Mar 09, 2015
- RT @OgleWayne: No school for Arlington AISD tomorrow! Mar 05, 2015
- RT @wfaajdouglas: #wfaaweather Ice forming on trees in Denton <http://t.co/UV5e5dSdy9> Mar 05, 2015
- RT @FoxNews: ICYMI: DOJ will not prosecute former #Ferguson police officer Darren Wilson. <http://t.co/bkyNex4iIM> <http://t.co/5oCICWsd1k> Mar 05, 2015
- RT @NETarrantTea: Freshman Joins Abbott in Opposing Nanny State | Empower TexansSM <http://t.co/xMftkeKOVj> via @empowertexans #txlege Mar 04, 2015
- RT @BrandonToddFOX4: FWPd Ofcr Evan Wincovitch, arrested overnight for DWI..also arrested 2010 public intox..now on restrict duty @FOX4 <http://t.co/...> Mar 04, 2015
- RT @NETarrantTea: Border Patrol Catches Previously Deported Gang Member/Sex Offender in US <http://t.co/bAvGhLG5i6> via @BreitbartTexas Mar 04, 2015
- RT @JayNovacek84: Join us in the fight against diabetes! #RacingAgainstTheOdds #StarsOfTexas @amdiabetes @lonestarpark @NovacekAmy <http://t.co/...> Mar 03, 2015
- RT @BrandonToddFOX4: Watch my story tonight..FW uses new task forces to help stranded drivers. @FOX4 <http://t.co/wEFa5UDnr3> Feb 28, 2015
- RT @FoxNews: 'For crying out loud, America!': Duck Dynasty's Phil Robertson steals show at #CPAC <http://t.co/tPSQwjwPR4> Feb 28, 2015
- DWG is in grid lock on all sides. Need to find another route. Officers are working hard to move traffic but it will be awhile.. Feb 27, 2015
- RT @melodymlanier: Routh called an 'American Disgrace' after guilty verdict <http://t.co/00tiQyHmpb> Feb 26, 2015
- RT @WaybournSeminar: Bill Waybourn's next Concealed Handgun Licensing Training Class Saturday March 14th 10am-4PM in Ft Worth <http://t.co/...> Feb 25, 2015
- RT @BreitbartTexas: Texas DPS Warns Spring Breakers to Avoid Travel to Mexico <http://t.co/QKGHeQbPvO> <http://t.co/zV97mRCnX5> Feb 25, 2015

- RT @FoxNews: Taya Kyle wrote a heartfelt message in response to the verdict in the "@AmericanSniper" trial. <http://t.co/tqGmg9DmZ> <http://t...> Feb 25, 2015
- RT @NovacekAmy: Thank you God and every one of U for your prayers and well wishes for all of us and #TayaKyle in the #AmericanSniperTrial! ... Feb 25, 2015
- RT @marthamaccallum: Heart goes out to #TayaKyle and her family and the Littlefields tonight. LIVE coverage of the verdict now. Feb 25, 2015
- RT @NovacekAmy: Real story: YES #TayaKyle & I left she couldnt sit & listen 2 the defense say why murderer should b excused from a double h... Feb 25, 2015
- RT @FoxNews: 'American Sniper' Chris Kyle's widow brings his dog tags to Oscar red carpet. <http://t.co/SQGznVXp9s> <http://t.co/FEDRQgBANn> Feb 23, 2015
- RT @melodymlanier: #Oscars2015 #AmericanSniper just won for sound editing. Chris Kyle widow, Taya, sitting in audience Feb 23, 2015
- @FoxNewsInsider @megynkelly the good judge is spot on! Apr 30, 2014
- @megynkelly simply stated she was truthful.. Feb 19, 2014
- Ben look great on tv I looked old Sep 22, 2009
- Still wet all report that this will keep going until Monday . The lake is way up. Does anyone have better intel Sep 13, 2009
- Did any birds show up? Sep 01, 2009
- 844 just got me a m1a1 wow Aug 19, 2009
- @dwg881 love your screen name very creative! Aug 19, 2009
- Going to lunch Aug 19, 2009

Summary of Significant News Clips

Family of Fort Worth man who died in jail want answers: 'Someone neglected my son'

Fort Worth Star-Telegram / August 17, 2020

<https://www.star-telegram.com/news/local/fort-worth/article244416882.html>

Javonte Myers could feel when the seizures were about to happen. Sometimes he'd end up at John Peter Smith Hospital. Other times he rode them out.

It's hard to say exactly how many seizures the 28-year-old experienced in his life. It was a seizure that killed him as he lay in a Tarrant County Jail cell on June 19. Three days earlier, jail officials had taken him to JPS because of another episode, his mom, Sondrea Miller said recently.

Now, his parents are trying to piece together what happened during their son's last days.

Why was he arrested for trespassing instead of just ticketed?

Why was he released from the hospital but taken back to jail?

Was he taking his medicine?

Miller, of Fort Worth, said her son was her best friend and he fell under hard times when he became addicted to K2, a strain of synthetic marijuana, in his early 20s. His addiction led to him sometimes sleeping in shelters or on the street or bouncing from couch to couch. During his worst times, he chose the drug over his family. He checked himself out of rehab at least three times. But during his best, he was a mama's boy who wanted to make sure she was cared for.

Miller and her husband believe a system that doesn't look out for its homeless and downtrodden failed their son and they want someone to be held accountable.

But the question is, who?

STRUGGLES WITH ADDICTION, HOMELESSNESS

The K2 that filled Myers' lungs not only made his body feel light and high, but it also triggered sensors in his brain that made him seize.

He started having seizures in 2018. His mom estimates he'd gone to a hospital at least dozens of times. Myers had been a patient at JPS multiple times throughout 2019 and 2020 and that the Tarrant County Hospital District Police had been called to help him multiple times, according to hospital spokesperson Diana Brodeur.

Brodeur said she couldn't release information about why Myers was at the hospital but said he had not been denied behavioral health or substance abuse treatment.



Miller said her son often faced homelessness and sometimes she only knew where he was when if he was in a hospital.

“He chose not to live with anyone so he could get his K2 when he wanted and didn’t have to put up with people complaining about you shouldn’t do this or that,” his stepfather, Paul Miller, said.

The Millers said they did everything they could to help their son.

Sondrea Miller paid for rehab three times. But he would check himself out after a few days and leave, she said. She would beg him to stay home, but the pull of the drug was often stronger.

Miller said she and her husband felt alone and didn’t know where to go for help.

One time Myers fell asleep in a hospital waiting room after he received treatment for seizures. An officer woke him up and called his mother to pick him up. She asked the officer if he could have Myers committed for mental health treatment.

The officer said no, Miller said.

Over the course of three years, Myers was arrested eight times for criminal trespass, an offense that mostly affects people who are experiencing homelessness, advocates say.

Lauren King, the interim executive director of the Tarrant County Homeless Coalition, said the coalition has worked with Fort Worth police to see where improvements can be made in helping the city’s homeless population instead of arresting them. The group has given police an overview of what homelessness looks like in Fort Worth.

“No one wants people to be or remain homeless, so we talk about how do we work together on this?” she said. “We talked about how criminal records make it harder for people to find help, so how can we avoid that?”

The coalition is also working to end the revolving door people often find themselves in between the county jail and shelters.

“A focus for 2021 will be creating a connection with the criminal justice system and figuring out how do we catch people who go back and forth between the jail and a shelter,” King said, explaining that the group already has a similar program with JPS. “JPS lets us know who their high utilizers are and we can connect them with housing. It’s a win for everyone.”

Last year, Bexar County District Attorney Joe Gonzales announced his office [wouldn’t prosecute homeless people for criminal trespassing unless they had a violent history](#). Gonzales made the decision after two people died in the jail related to homelessness or mental illness, according to the San Antonio Express-News.

Asked how the Tarrant County District Attorney’s Office prosecutes criminal trespassing against the homeless population and if she’d consider adapting a similar policy to San Antonio, District Attorney Sharen Wilson said, “Yes, homeless people who commit crimes are prosecuted in Tarrant County.”

She said several groups within Tarrant County, including the DA’s office and law enforcement, are working with mental health services and JPS to create a mental health diversion center.



The center would divert low-level, non-violent offenders (mostly people accused of criminal trespassing) out of the jail and into treatment, Wilson said.

Myers could have fallen through the cracks in the system.

“Absolutely I’m sure he could have been served better,” King said. “We need to improve our system to make sure we catch people like him. ... Why wasn’t he connected? It could be that he was couch surfing, there are people who are homeless and don’t ever interact with a shelter or outreach team and our system is looking at how we can make contact with those people and serve those people.”

DEATH IN THE JAIL

When her son was taken to jail for the last time, Miller said she only knew about it because he was hospitalized for a day.

Then, on June 19, Miller answered a knock at her door. Two police officers stood there.

The coroner wanted to talk with her, they said.

“I automatically knew it was Javonte,” she said, holding back tears.

Myers was found dead in his jail cell that day.

Miller said the jail knew about his seizure disorder. The Tarrant County District Attorney’s Office declined the newspaper’s request for copies of Myers’ intake paperwork and sent a letter to the Texas Attorney General arguing against its release.

It also declined to send the Star-Telegram paperwork that would show how often jailers had checked on Myers, who was apparently being held in a unit that required frequent checks by employees.

An in-custody death form filled out by the sheriff’s office said that Myers exhibited medical and mental health problems, but it didn’t go into detail. The Texas Commission on Jail Standards is investigating the death and said its report likely won’t be available for a few months. It investigates all deaths at Texas jails.

Myers was declared dead by Medstar about 12 minutes after he was found unresponsive.

His cause of death is listed as “seizure disorder” by the Tarrant County Medical Examiner’s office, but autopsy isn’t final yet.

Myers was the fourth person in June to die while being held at the jail.

Jason Martin, 40, [died on June 24](#) of heart disease.

[Abdullahi Mohamed](#), 40, died the next day and a state report says he was found “on his mattress on the floor naked.”

“Officers became concerned when he failed to answer their questions and eat his food,” the report says. “They put him in a wheelchair and en route to medical he stopped breathing.”



Mohamed's cause of death is still pending.

Jose Rivera, 67, [died on June 11 after contracting COVID-19](#) while being held on two counts of felony DWI.

Myers' family believes he was neglected and question why he was arrested in the first place.

"Why couldn't they have left him in the hospital? Or let him go?" Paul Miller said. "Why couldn't you have given him a ticket?"

The circumstances surrounding Myers' [latest arrest are unclear](#). There is no case file available, according to jail and district attorney records. When the jail announced Myers' death, a news release said he was also booked on a drug possession charge.

His parents fear Myers didn't get his medicine and that he wasn't checked on enough.

"You have human lives behind bars, you still have to make sure they're OK," Paul Miller said.

"You have to do what you're supposed to do. Years ago when I dropped my kids off at school, the school was responsible for them, it's that simple. It's the same thing."

The state investigation into his death isn't complete and no information could be given about their findings thus far.

"Bottom line is, someone neglected my son," Miller said.

'Create More Chaos': Texas Sheriff Goes After California Officials For Releasing Inmates Due To COVID-19; Thousands have been released

The Daily Caller

August 12, 2020 Wednesday 01:47 AM EST

Copyright 2020 The Daily Caller, Inc. All Rights Reserved

Section: EDITORIAL; politics; politics

Length: 286 words

Byline: Stephanie Hamill, Video Columnist, stephaniehamill@dailycaller.com

Body

[Link to Image](#)

Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** is blasting officials in California and other states over releasing inmates due to COVID-19 concerns.



During an interview with the Daily Caller's Stephanie Hamill he explained why he believes [leftist](#) politicians are putting politics before the safety of law-abiding Americans across the country. ([RELATED: Prisoner Released Amid COVID-19 Arrested For Murder of 21-Year-Old Woman.](#))

"I don't think they care about the prisoner and they certainly don't care about the victims, they want to create more chaos in the country because I think they want Donald trump out of office, I think this is a whole national agenda," said Waybourn.

According to the [Los Angeles Times](#) thousands of inmates have been released, including some serving time for murder.

Waybourn went on to explain what his jail has been doing to keep inmates safe while also keeping them locked up.

WATCH: [Link to Video](#)

The views and opinions expressed in this commentary are those of the author and do not reflect the official position of The Daily Caller.

Check out TheDC's fantastic videos and subscribe to our [YouTube channel to avoid missing out.](#)

[SUBSCRIBE!](#)

NOW CHECK OUT The Daily Caller's most popular shows:

[Nike Sides With Colin Kaepernick, Many Customers Revolt](#)

[Inside The Daily Caller's Exclusive Oval Office Interview With President Donald Trump](#)

[Would You Rather Date A Trump Supporter or MS-13 Gang Member?](#)

[New Details About The 'Muslim Extremist' Compound In New Mexico](#)

['Trophy Culture' Hijacks New Jersey High School Cheer Squad](#)

[Fact Checking White House 'Truth Seekers' On North Korea](#)

[Democrats' New Campaign Message: 'Drain The Swamp'](#)

['Fake News' Defends Brutal MS-13 Gang](#)

Graphic

Left: A prisoner's hands inside a punishment cell wing at Angola prison, (Photo by Giles Clarke/Getty Images) Right:arrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn**



Load-Date: August 11, 2020

End of Document

Tarrant County tax rate remains unchanged under proposed budget

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

August 10, 2020 Monday

Copyright 2020 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: local

Length: 149 words

Byline: Brian Lopez

Star-Telegram

Body

Tarrant County commissioners on Monday began discussing a \$698.5 million budget for 2021 that would keep the tax rate the same for the third consecutive year.

The proposed rate of 23.4 cents per \$100 of assessed property value would cost the owner of a \$220,000 home \$521. Commissioners are scheduled to vote on the budget Sept. 8.

The proposal is an \$18 million increase and includes 25 new positions and 3% merit increases for non-law enforcement positions. The coronavirus recession did not have a big impact because more than 70% of county revenues are property taxes.

The proposed budget recommends that 25 employees be hired across multiple departments. On Monday morning, County Sheriff **Bill E. Waybourn** asked commissioners for six more employees, double what is included in the proposed budget. He also asked for simulator-based de-escalation training at a cost of about \$50,000 a year.

Load-Date: August 10, 2020

End of Document

United States Courts Opinions: UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS FORT WORTH DIVISION:



GABRIEL PAUL SALAS, § Petitioner, § § VS. § Civil Action No. 4:20-CV-167-P § (Consolidated with No. 4:20-CV-249-P) B I LL WAYBOURN, Sheriff, § Tarrant County, Texas, § Respondent

Impact News Service

August 6, 2020 Thursday

Copyright 2020 Impact Media Limited All Rights Reserved



Length: 251 words

Body

Washington: UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS FORT WORTH DIVISION has issued the following order:

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS FORT WORTH DIVISION GABRIEL PAUL SALAS, § Petitioner, § § VS. § Civil Action No. 4:20-CV-167-P § (Consolidated with No. 4:20-CV-249-P) B I LL WAYBOURN, Sheriff, § Tarrant County, Texas, § Respondent. § OPINION AND ORDER Before the Court is a consolidated petition for writ of habeas corpus pursuant to 28 U.S.C § 2241 filed by Petitioner, Gabriel Paul Salas, a state pretrial detainee confined in the Tarrant County jail, against **Bill Waybourn**, sheriff of Tarrant County, Texas, Respondent. After considering the pleadings and relief sought by Petitioner, the Court has concluded that the petition should be dismissed in part as premature and in part on exhaustion grounds. BACKGROUND Petitioner has been indicted in Tarrant County, Texas, Case Nos. 1598196D, 1595686D, and 1531338D, for the offenses of obstruction or retaliation and is confined awaiting trial. Resp't's Resp., No. 4:20-CV-167-P, 19,1 ECF No. 7. Petitioner filed a prior § 2241 challenging his continued confinement in Case No. 1531338D. He challenges his continued confinement in Case Nos. 1598196D and 1595686D in this petition. In the lead case, Petitioner raises four grounds for relief relevant to Case No. 1595686D, in which he 1The pagination in the ECF header is used. Case 4:20-cv-00167-P Document 10 Filed 07/28/20 Page 1 of 5 PageID

Load-Date: August 7, 2020

End of Document

[Fort Worth City Council Responds to 'Back the Blue' and Pro-America Rally](#)

WebNews - English



July 29, 2020 Wednesday

Length: 774 words

Body

After a rally in support of America and police officers in Fort Worth, three members of the city council say there are no discussions of cutting taxpayer dollars from the Fort Worth Police Department. In fact, one councilman says the discussion is about ho... After a rally in support of America and police officers in Fort Worth,...

End of Document

['No more jail death,' protesters shout outside Tarrant County Jail after recent deaths](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

July 11, 2020 Saturday

Copyright 2020 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: fort_worth

Length: 904 words

Byline: Jack Howland

Star-Telegram

Body

Daniel Garcia Rodriguez, 25, said he didn't know what kind of a night he was in for when he was arrested during a protest in downtown Fort Worth in late May.

It was a Saturday, one day before the city police department would use tear gas to disperse crowds of people on the 7th Street Bridge and take around 50 people into custody, Rodriguez remembers. On this evening, he said, he saw only two other people getting arrested as they marched through the streets.



Officers brought him into a dingy and cramped cell in the holding facility with dozens of other inmates before he was moved to the Tarrant County Jail, he said. Conditions there, he said, were worse -- and the experience sticks with him more than a month later.

Inmates had no hand sanitizer or soap, despite their requests, he said. Cells were packed at times with more than 25 people, he said, many of them sleeping on the floor, their heads next to a toilet. Guards didn't require they wear masks.

Rodriguez, who said he spent 14 hours in custody before he was released, has become part of a group of activists calling for change inside of a jail with what they see as a troubling culture of negligence and racism. There have been more than 40 coronavirus cases at the jail. Three people died from unknown causes within one week in late June.

A spokesperson for the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office didn't respond to a request for comment on Saturday about the issues raised by protesters. But in late May, after the jail lost state certification and a woman gave birth alone in a cell, the sheriff's office said in a Facebook post that many recent headlines about incidents were "sensationalized or unclear on facts."

On Saturday, Rodriguez drove his car outside of the jail in a caravan of about a dozen other vehicles, all of them blaring their horns. He stopped at one point and lifted his fist out of his sky roof.

"I was able to have a first-hand perspective of what the realities are of the Tarrant County Jail," he said after he parked his car. "And seeing the abuse, seeing the mistreatment, seeing the injustice that's going on in there, with the rise of deaths, with the rise of COVID -- it's just unbearable not to come out here, be in solidarity with the people who are in there."

During his arrest, he claims, a Fort Worth officer struck him in the stomach with a baton, and then staff at the Tarrant County Jail ignored his request to see a medic.

He would not discuss what, if any, charges he is facing at the advice of his attorney, who was one of three lawyers at the protest Saturday.

IMG_7448.JPGSindy Mata, 25, shouts into a megaphone as cars drive around the Tarrant County Jail on Saturday to protest recent deaths and conditions at the jail. She was one of the organizers of the event in which protesters stayed in their cars in the interest of maintaining social distance.

The demonstration, organized by members of New Sheriff Now Tarrant County, was intended to bring attention to recent issues plaguing the jail that they say begin with Sheriff **Bill Waybourn**. Organizers were specifically calling for the release of inmates they said were being harmed, as well for an immediate independent investigation into how the jail is being run.

A couple dozen people met at the UFW Community Justice Center around noon on Saturday before heading to the Tarrant County Jail. In the interest of social distance, they stayed in their cars, circling the facility for about 30 minutes with horns blaring and messages like "Vote Him Out" and "We Demand Justice" scrawled onto windows.

Sindy Mata, one of the organizers, stood on the sidewalk shouting into a megaphone as cars passed. The most frequent chant of the day summarized their hopes: "No More Jail Death."

"We're here today to remind them that they should be transparent about what is happening and that we will continue to hold them accountable because our community deserves better," the 25-year-old said. "And no



life should ever be lost due to the negligence that is happening on their watch. ...We know that there are systems in place meant to harm our Black and brown communities."

Three people died at the jail within a week in late June, according to the Tarrant County medical examiner and sheriff's office. Jason Glendon Martin, 40, was pronounced dead on June 24 of unknown causes. One day later, Abdullahi Mohamed, 40, died of an unknown medical emergency.

A day after that, Javonte Lakendrick Myers, 28, was found dead in his cell after the sheriff's office said he experienced an unknown medical emergency.

IMG_7476.JPGA driver moves with a caravan of other vehicles outside of the Tarrant County Jail on Saturday to protest recent deaths and conditions at the jail. Javonte Myers, whose name appears on this car, died in the jail of an unknown medical emergency, officials said.

Protesters on Saturday also called attention to the inmate who gave birth in the middle of May alone in her cell. Officials said staff didn't know she had given birth until they found the baby.

These incidents were referenced in the messages on people's cars, from "Remember Javonte Myers" to "3 deaths in one week, a suicide and an unattended birth. This is Not Normal!"

"We want to make sure that the sheriff's department knows that we're gonna continue to create accountability," Mata said, "and they should already be ensuring transparency and accountability to the community that they're supposed to be serving."

Load-Date: July 12, 2020

End of Document

[What Do North Texas Democrats Want to Hide From the Public?](#)

WebNews - English

FreightWaves

<https://s29017.pcdn.co/metroplex/what-do-north-texas-democrats-want-to-hide-from-the-public/>

July 2, 2020 Thursday

Length: 555 words

Body

A North Texas county has appealed to the state attorney general to hide elected Democrats' communications sought by an open records request. This request was sent after it was revealed that the county's two Democrat commissioners helped organize radical le... A North Texas county has appealed to the state...



End of Document

[Coronavirus Deaths Still Trending Down in Tarrant, Recoveries Rising](https://s29017.pcdn.co/metroplex/coronavirus-deaths-still-trending-down-in-tarrant-recoveries-rising/)

WebNews - English

FreightWaves

<https://s29017.pcdn.co/metroplex/coronavirus-deaths-still-trending-down-in-tarrant-recoveries-rising/>

June 30, 2020 Tuesday

Length: 616 words

Body

For the second week in a row, data from North Texas' Tarrant County shows the death rate from the Chinese coronavirus continues to fall and recoveries are still far exceeding deaths. The City of Colleyville—which is refusing to enforce a mask mandate from... For the second week in a row, data from North Texas' Tarrant County...

End of Document

[Here's what swayed Fort Worth and Tarrant County to require COVID-19 masks](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

June 25, 2020 Thursday

Copyright 2020 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: politics_government

Length: 991 words

Byline: Luke Ranker

Star-Telegram

Body



Tarrant County joined Texas' other major urban counties Thursday when it ordered businesses to require that people wear a mask -- a measure available to local authorities for at least a week that epidemiologists say dramatically reduces the spread of coronavirus.

The slower move on masks follows a trend seen during the beginning of the coronavirus outbreak when Tarrant County was one of the last heavily populated counties to enact a stay-at-home order, a tactic one city councilwoman blamed for the region's high case rate.

Fort Worth's elected leaders for more than a week preached personal responsibility, saying they did not want to require masks as Bexar, Dallas, Travis, Harris and other heavily urban centers told businesses that employees and customers must wear masks.

When it became clear people would not take it upon themselves to wear protective face coverings, and after Tarrant County reported nearly 1,000 new cases in two days, Judge Glen Whitley issued a county order requiring them in businesses and outdoor gatherings larger than 100.

The order begins at 6 p.m. Friday and expires Aug. 3. The mandate signed by Fort Worth Mayor Betsy Price includes a \$500 fine for those in violation.

Whitley had said repeatedly he didn't want to require masks because he thought Texans would reject heavy handedness. On Wednesday, when the county reported 460 cases, he said the growing number of patients worried him, but he wasn't ready to commit to regulation. Rather than look solely at positive tests, Whitley has also considered the number of hospitalizations, which grew by 62% in the last two weeks, he said.

He told the Star-Telegram after his announcement Thursday that he waited to get all or most of Tarrant County's mayors on board with a mask rule. Even Wednesday some mayors "weren't comfortable " with requiring masks, but an evening conference call brought people to the same page.

"I think before we do anything, we have to look at alternatives and not just jump right out there," he said. "When we get everyone comfortable, we pull the trigger."

Fort Worth Councilwoman Gyna Bivens, who raised concerns about the city not shutting down quickly enough in March, said the government at all levels, including locally and in Washington, has been too timid with coronavirus . She believes the slow approach to regulation has put people at risk.

"I think there are certain assumptions of protections our citizens have, and we have not done right by them," she said. "I think it will be a very, very said day of reckoning when we realize we could have done better and we should have done it sooner."

Bivens said Price had worked hard to "use her sphere of influence" and evening briefings to warn people about the dangers of not wearing a mask. Ultimately it wasn't enough, she said.

Price took a similar approach to Whitley, saying as early as Tuesday she believed a mandate wouldn't be as effective as educating people about the risks of coronavirus and asking them to comply.

"No one wants to overburden businesses that are barely hanging on. No one wants to inconvenience our citizens," Price said during a morning press conference, adding that the mandate would help the state return to normal sooner. "We tried a voluntary compliance campaign, and folks, we just weren't seeing it. We were getting much lower acceptance here in Fort Worth and Tarrant County."

University of North Texas Health Science Center epidemiology professor Rajesh Nandy on Monday urged officials to mandate masks. His research looking at nearly 150 counties nationwide showed mandates



lowered coronavirus spread to the point where it would eventually stop, while counties without requirements saw exponential growth of new cases.

Nandy said Thursday it would likely take at least two weeks to know whether Tarrant County's mandate was effective. His current research is attempting to quantify just how effective masks are.

"I think the old truism that sooner is always better applies," he said, but adding that he thought the timing may not have made significant differences in the outbreak. "I think we have enough data to say confidently masks really do play a role."

Republican state Rep. Charlie Geren said Whitley made the right move in waiting, and argued Tarrant County has not been behind Dallas and other urban counties on the mask mandate or stay-at-home orders.

Unlike other populated counties, Tarrant has 41 cities that must work together, he said, and Whitley could have caused division had he issued orders with out discussing it with mayors.

"I think it's always good to have that cooperation because the enforcement is going to come at the local level," Geren said. "It's not going to be **Sheriff Waybourn's** people enforcing, it's going to be up to each of these cities."

On Twitter, Fort Worth Democratic state Rep. Ramon Romero Jr. said he was glad Whitley made the order, but criticized the delay as politically motivated.

"Leadership is making the tough decision at the right time, not waiting until it's politically palatable," Romero wrote.

Whitley rejected any notion political pressure was involved in his decision.

"I went to a Republican convention this weekend, and I was telling everyone I thought they needed to wear a mask," he said. "So, no, politics was not an issue for me."

Diana Cervantes, another HSC Fort Worth epidemiologist, said there was likely no perfect time to issue a mask mandate.

Public health officials must weigh many factors, including public perception and partnerships. Certainly wearing a mask throughout the pandemic is wise, she said, because each step, like hand washing and social distancing, can prevent infection. But officials must be cautious not to over-mandate because some people may tune them out.

"You can mandate all you want, but you really have to balance it out," she said. "The last thing you want to do is come in with the big guns too soon because you risk breaking up these partnerships."

Load-Date: June 26, 2020

End of Document

[**Unbound Fort Worth opens drop-in center**](#)

Fort Worth Business Press (TX)

23 June 2020



Section: NEWS

Length: 1452 words

Byline: Paul Harral

Body

Unbound Fort Worth, which works with survivors of sex-trafficking to help them break the bonds that held them against their will and to return to a normal life, is establishing a drop-in center at One Safe Place.

A drop-in center is an alternative to juvenile detention for law enforcement officers who have picked up someone – perhaps a runaway child – that they suspect has been trafficked. Fort Worth and Tarrant County was the largest area in Texas without a drop-in center.

The problem is huge.

The Texas Attorney General's human trafficking website says that at any given time, there are about 234,000 victims of labor trafficking and about 79,000 sex trafficked youth and minors at any given time in Texas.

The drop-in shelter at One Safe Place – the Underground – will open in October.

Such a center has been the missing piece in the local continuum of care for victims of human trafficking, said Brian Byrd, a physician and the District 3 city council representative in Fort Worth. He also is married to Stephanie Byrd, the executive director of Unbound.

He said that a drop-in center will allow social workers to identify trafficking survivors more quickly, something that is important in breaking the chain of enslavement.

Of trafficked youths, 75% have been exploited for two or more years before they are recovered or identified as victims.

"We're not getting to them soon enough. Half of them are age 14 or younger when the exploitation starts, and 75% of them don't even identify as victims," he said.

They may not even realize that they are trafficked because of drug additions and trauma bonding – a phenomenon in which the victim comes to see the victimizer as a protector.

"The price these youth pay is tremendous, and it's on us, folks, to get to them sooner, to make sure we get to them and get them the services that they need," Byrd said.

Unbound Fort Worth provides 24/7 crisis response and ongoing case management. Its advocates help meet survivors' immediate needs, offering support to families and caregivers and connecting survivors with aftercare programs.

The organization works with schools, youth organizations and shelters to empower youth to stay safe from trafficking and exploitation.



Unbound also offers profession-specific trainings for medical professionals, educators, and social service providers to equip them to use their skills to identify and respond to victims of human trafficking in their professional settings.

Just under a year ago, the Byrds were on a walk when they decided that Fort Worth had gone long enough without the drop-in center available in other Texas large cities.

"We noticed that, although we're doing some great things with human trafficking here in Fort Worth and Tarrant County, we're not identifying victims as much as we should, as much as other folks are," Byrd said.

"Juvenile detention centers are needed, and they're great for what we need them to do. But for a lot of these kids, it's just not the right place," Byrd said.

UnBound Fort Worth says its advocates work with kids who have been trafficked by their parents in exchange for meth, by gangs as a form of revenue, by pimps on the street, and sometimes simply by buyers with no third-party traffickers involved.

"All of that falls under the legal definition of sex trafficking. These kids are in our schools, and they are coming into our hospitals – child sex trafficking is hiding in plain sight. A Thorn survey found that most kids were enrolled and participating in school when they were being trafficked, at least initially," the organization said.

"When we start having law enforcement bring them to the drop-in center, we're going to identify hundreds of kids that we haven't identified before," Byrd said. "It's a place where the kids can come. They can get some food, they can take a nap or sleep for a while. There's counseling services, they can take a shower, they can get their clothes washed, they can get a break. And then we have referral services, whether it's for counseling or residential care."

Unbound says that many who have been forced into the commercial sex industry do not self-identify as victims. Traffickers manipulate and lie, making it difficult for victims to reach out for help. Fear of retaliation and lack of awareness prevent a victim from seeking rescue.

A history of abuse and/or neglect sets a child up for trafficking and exploitation, and there are people who prey on these vulnerabilities, Unbound said.

"If a child needs a place to stay or a meal, they provide that; if they are desperate for affection, they offer 'love,' which turns out to be anything but. If they are looking for a sense of belonging, they offer 'family.' That's why traffickers are called 'Daddy.' It's an evil perversion of the love and affection these children deserve," the organization says.

Precinct 1 County Commissioner Roy Brooks said the community is blessed by the presence of the Byrds, Unbound and the anticipated opening of the Underground.

"The fact is they have helped us realize over the past several years that there are no throw away kids in this society, that regardless of the circumstances that a child finds him or herself in, it is up to all of us as a community to provide refuge and safety and reclamation and redemption," Brooks said. "And those are the things that Unbound offers to trafficked kids. We are blessed to have Unbound in our community. And we are blessed to have the businesses and the foundations that support their work."

Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** referred to organizations like Unbound and ACH as the tip of the spear in the fight against trafficking, saying that just last week his department referred several survivors for help. He echoed Brooks' comment about throwaway kids.



In fact, he said, there is a large group of children who have simply been forgotten.

"And now we're saying we do that no more. ... But guys, they're going to need follow up. They're going to need us to continue to be a community around them. They're going to need places to go and people to be with," he said.

"This is an opportunity [where] Fort Worth and Tarrant County can stand up and say, 'Here and now, we don't forget our children.' And we're going to make sure that we just don't throw them away into the criminal justice system," he said.

Instead, the message will be that we have compassion and mercy and that we will give you opportunity, Waybourn said.

He called it a "force multiplier."

"We are thrilled to be celebrating this milestone with our friends and service partners," said Stephanie Byrd.

Special thanks, she said, goes to the Amon G. Carter Foundation, VLK Architects, Baird, Hampton & Brown, DoMEO Construction, Christ Chapel Bible Church, and the Office of the Governor child sex trafficking team.

She also thanked the Texas Alliance of Child and Family Services, Ryan Foundation for operational support for the drop-in center and One Safe Place for providing space for the center.

Unbound also introduced Wilbur, a goldendoodle born March 24 and currently in training in Alabama to be the service dog for the Underground.

He's named for William Wilberforce, the English politician who led the abolition movement in Parliament, ultimately heading to the passage of the Abolition of Slavery bill on July 26, 1833.

"Isn't he going to do a great job loving on the kids?" Brian Byrd said.

Others present at the groundbreaking included District 97 State Rep. Craig Goldman, R-Fort Worth, District 94 State Rep. Tony Tinderholt, R-Arlington; District 95 State Rep. Nicole Collier, D-Fort Worth; Fort Worth ISD Trustee Tobi Jackson; Fort Worth District 9 Councilmember Ann Zadeh; and Lindy Borchardt, who handles human trafficking cases for the Tarrant County District Attorney's office.

A complete list of the organizations and entities involved in the Underground from the Unbound website:

VLK Architects, Amon G. Carter Foundation, DoMEO Construction, Office of the Governor Child Sex Trafficking Team, Christ Chapel Bible Church, Baird, Hampton and Brown, Winston Services, Bradley Environmental Services, Climate Control Insulation Inc., Cain Electrical Services, Kerry Lewis Plumbing, Matrix Interior Construction, Ennis Glass, Kites Commercial Interiors, Business Flooring Services, Antler Mechanical, APS FireCo, Firetrol Protection Systems, McSweeney Commercial Painting, Demo Specialties, Paramo Plastering, Nix Doors, Wilson Art, Maharam, Shaw Contract, Armstrong Ceilings, Crossville Inc., Bonnie Anderson with BDA Accessibility Services, Roppe/Professional Flooring Supply, and Southwest Solutions Group Inc.

The post Unbound Fort Worth opens drop-in center appeared first on Fort Worth Business Press.

Load-Date: June 24, 2020



End of Document

Tarrant area police have received 'mine-resistant' vehicles worth \$3.7M in past 5 years

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

June 22, 2020 Monday

Copyright 2020 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: local

Length: 622 words

Byline: Nichole Manna

Star-Telegram

Dateline: FORT WORTH

Body

Tarrant County law enforcement agencies have received more than \$4.3 million in military surplus equipment through a federal Department of Defense program over the last 20 years, according to federal records.

The equipment includes rifles, mine-resistant vehicles, armored trucks, firearm accessories and breech blocks.

Demands to demilitarize the police have come to the forefront in the larger topic of police reform after the killing of George Floyd by a Minneapolis police officer in May.

The federal 1033 -- or LESO -- Program has been heavily criticized since the 2014 protests in Ferguson, Missouri, after a police officer fatally shot Michael Brown. Police roamed the streets in armored vehicles while carrying rifles. Similar images poured out of Minneapolis at the end of May.

In 2015, then-President Barack Obama issued an executive order that banned police departments from using certain military equipment such as grenade launchers. In 2017, President Donald Trump removed those restrictions through an executive order.

In Tarrant County, \$3.7 million worth of equipment covers mine-resistant armored vehicles -- which were designed to protect soldiers from ambushes during the post-9/11 wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The vehicles are split between five police departments: Bedford, Benbrook, Mansfield, Southlake and Waxahachie, according to federal data about the program. The Bedford Police Department also has an armored truck worth about \$65,000.



As of June, there are 8,200 federal, state and local law enforcement agencies participating in the program, including 11 in Tarrant County.

Agencies across the state of Texas have received \$131 million worth of equipment -- DFW accounts for about \$12.1 million of that, including items such as mine-resistant vehicles (12 of them), night-vision equipment, storage units, canteens and coffee makers.

The Fort Worth Police Department does not participate and hasn't received anything from the 1033 program in more than 20 years, Officer Jimmy Pollozani said, adding that the department doesn't possess any military vehicles or surplus equipment.

Fort Worth has two Lenco Bearcats armored vehicles that are designed for law enforcement use, he said. They were purchased with federal grant funding through the Urban Areas Security Initiative Program.

Arlington police also have a Lenco Bearcat along with a Bearcat, both of which are primarily used by the SWAT team and are brought out during community outreach events, spokesman Tim Ciesco said. Ciesco said the department is not involved in the 1033 program and doesn't possess any military surplus.

The Tarrant County Sheriff's Office has had an account with the 1033 Program since 2011, but there are no records of any equipment ever being purchased, Lt. Jennifer Gabbert said. No military surplus equipment has been received or used under Sheriff **Bill Waybourn**.

When asked in 2014 about the program, then-Sheriff Dee Anderson said he had not applied for more equipment because "it's not the bargain people think it is" and because the department didn't think it was necessary to have those items.

"It looks really good on the front end," he told the Star-Telegram at the time. "The military is giving you something free. But once you look at the upkeep, the maintenance, the cost of keeping up with it winds up costing you."

Two deputies died in 1997 after a helicopter donated by the military crashed at Kenneth Copeland Airport.

Fort Worth protesters who have walked across downtown and the West 7th District since May 31 created a petition to defund police, which includes a provision removing police access to rifles, shotguns, riot gear, armored vehicles and night observation goggles.

Tarrant County military surplus chart embed

Load-Date: June 22, 2020

End of Document

[**Back the Badge supporters gather at Stockyards bar to celebrate police amid protests**](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

June 21, 2020 Sunday

Copyright 2020 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: fort_worth

Length: 986 words

Byline: James Hartley

Star-Telegram

Body

Hundreds passed through Stampede Saloon in the Fort Worth Stockyards Saturday night to show their support for police at a Back the Badge event amid nationwide protests against police brutality.

The recently reopened watering hole, under new ownership, hosted the event along with organizer Chris Putnam, donating 10% of all sales to Brotherhood of the Fallen.

The event started with protests from Enough is Enough, a Fort Worth protest group that has been demanding defunding of police, establishment of a community crisis center using funds from the police department and the removal of police from Fort Worth schools.

The crowd of activists shouted chants and obscenities to Back the Badge attendees as a line of bicycle police blocked the entrance to the saloon.

Alex Eugene, 19, of Fort Worth stood outside the bar wearing American flag attire and a cowboy hat and holding a black and white American flag with a single blue line for one of the stripes, a banner commonly displayed to show support for police.

Eugene said he showed up to the bar knowing he wouldn't be able to get in because he expected protesters to gather there and wanted to show them that not all people who support police are white.

"I felt like they would say no Black people exist on this side and that's not true," Eugene said.

Other Back the Badge attendees watched silently for the most part, some replying with shouts like, "Black lives do matter, and so do blue lives and so do all lives." One person shouted, "I may not agree with you but I still love you."

A couple of attendees offered to have conversations with the protesters and some offered hugs. Those offers were declined.

About an hour after the event kicked off, protesters left the area. Back the Badge attendees' silence erupted into cheers for police as bicycle officers rode past the bar to continue blocking streets for protesters and blocking entrances to businesses.

Speakers took the stage shortly after inside the western club to share messages of thanks to first responders and determination.

Putnam told the gathering that the event was not supposed to be political, just an opportunity for people to thank those who serve the community.

"This wasn't supposed to be something to be provocative," Putnam told the Star-Telegram. "This is just a gathering of people who want to let police know we support them."

More like a party

Putnam said the event was a party and a chance to celebrate law enforcement, and give officers able to attend a chance to breathe, relax and know they are appreciated.

He tried to keep politics out of the event, keeping speeches short and immediately playing music and inviting attendees to dance and have drinks after those speeches were done.

Cathy McAfee and her daughter, Ashton Ashberry, said they came to the event after attending a nearby watch party for President Donald Trump's campaign rally in Tulsa. They said they didn't think of it as a protest or counterprotest but as a get-together.

McAfee said she her son is in law enforcement in East Texas and she wanted to show local police that they have supporters in the community.

Putnam also pointed out the notable diversity at the party.

Marshall S. Hobbs Jr., a Black man and associate professor of government at Collin College, told the crowd the diversity in the room was important but the more important thing was that they were all united as Americans.

"We are Americans before we are our color," Hobbs said. "I am not a color, I am an American, and I encourage everyone to realize that we are fighting a real fight between Americanism and Globalism."

Putnam said shared values were the focus of the party, not skin color.

"Most of us don't care about skin color," he said. "We care about shared values, but it's OK if we don't have that as long as we can have a conversation."

Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** told the party that he was there to "remind police that the silent majority is with them."

"My heroes are America's police officers," Waybourn said. "I stand with you, beside you, in front of you and behind you. "

Tommy Snyder, co-owner of Stampede Saloon, said before the speakers took the stage that he wanted to tell police thanks for sacrificing time with their families and working overtime.

Snyder also said he supports protesters so long as they do not cause destruction to property or harm to others, a sentiment echoed by Putnam, Waybourn and others attending the party.

Everyone who spoke with the Star-Telegram said they believe police departments could use reform but that the actions of some officers should not be used to paint all law enforcement in a bad light. They also urged peaceful protesting rather than disruptive or violent protests.

Putnam said there are "bad actors" among police, but that they are an extreme minority being used to paint all police with a brush of systemic racism and brutality.



"Millions of cops and a couple do some bad things, that's bad but it doesn't mean all of them are bad," he said.

Encouraging conversation

Putnam said he wants to see more conversations and mutual respect between protesters and people like Back the Badge attendees.

"Things can change if we stop allowing hate to divide us," Putnam said. "Nobody is saying we don't have things that need to be fixed. It's just about talking and finding out what it is. But I don't think defunding police is the answer."

John Miller, an attendee at the event, said he believes police brutality needs to be addressed and police departments may need to implement new training on things like deescalation and use of force. He defended protesters' rights to gather, though he said he disagrees with their point of view.

Putnam said he respects and appreciates that others have had different experiences than he has. But from his experience as a white conservative, he said the idea that conservatives are racist and all white is wrong.

"I think diversity is who we are," Putnam said.

Load-Date: June 22, 2020

End of Document

[#UnmaskHate Campaign Sheds Light on Sheriffs' Role in Criminalizing and Deporting Community Members](#)

Targeted News Service

June 18, 2020 Thursday 7:11 AM EST

Copyright 2020 Targeted News Service LLC All Rights Reserved

Length: 503 words

Byline: Targeted News Service

Dateline: SAN FRANCISCO, California

Body

The Immigrant Legal Resource Center issued the following news release:

This week, more than 10 organizations and advocates across the state of Texas launched #UnmaskHate, a social media and visual action campaign to shed light on the role sheriffs play in criminalizing Black and brown communities and separating families.

This campaign is part of a larger, ongoing effort across the state of Texas to expose the many ways in which Texas sheriffs work hand-in-hand with the federal government to carry out an anti-immigrant agenda.



Last week, ICE out of Tarrant, a coalition in Tarrant County, began #FindTrumpsPuppet tour, a visual action to share the truth about the 287(g) program in the days leading up to the County's vote on whether or not to extend its contract. The #UnMaskHate campaign's first visual action took place on Tuesday in front of the Tarrant County Courthouse. Photos are available upon request.

One more visual action will take place in a different city by the end of the week.

Said Carolina Canizales, Senior Texas Campaign Strategist at the Immigrant Legal Resource Center:

"Texas sheriffs have a long history of disproportionately criminalizing Black and brown communities and working hand-in-hand with ICE. In this moment, as we stand with Black people and allies across the country in protesting the anti-Black and white supremacist roots of law enforcement, we also recognize that all policing agencies - from local police, to sheriffs, to ICE and CBP - are branches of the same racist system and must be unmasked and defunded."

Said Juana Guzman, Texas Organizer with RAICES:

"It is important that we call out what the 287g program and all forms of ICE-police collaboration are doing, fulfilling a white supremacist agenda. We must take a stand and actively work against police brutality, mass incarceration, and mass deportations, as they are all rooted in hatred and dehumanization of our Black and brown communities. We must put an end to the long history of law enforcement working to protect white people's interests at the expense of our community's safety."

Said Divya Babbula, member of ICE out of Tarrant County:

"Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** of Tarrant County campaign and continued support of the 287(g) program is the perfect example of an elected official enacting the racist federal deportation agenda on the local level. We must 'unmask' the hate he has brought upon immigrants in Tarrant and we must demand he stops draining local resources in deportation programs and instead invest in our communities."

Background: Currently, 25 counties across the state of Texas are involved in a 287(g) contract. The 287(g) program delegates specific immigration enforcement authority to designated officers within the local law enforcement agency, thereby draining public resources in order to further extend the reach of Trump's deportation machine. All 287(g) contracts nationwide expire on June 30, 2020 and are up for renewal.

[Category: Law/Legal]

Copyright Targeted News Services

MSTRUCK-7146757 MSTRUCK

Load-Date: June 18, 2020

End of Document

[Tarrant Renews Immigration Enforcement Agreement with Feds](#)

WebNews - English

FreightWaves



June 17, 2020 Wednesday

Length: 754 words

Body

On Tuesday, Tarrant County commissioners voted along party lines to continue participating with the federal government in checking the immigration status of those brought to the county jail. Democrat commissioners organized a fake public uprising, seeking ... On Tuesday, Tarrant County commissioners voted along party lines to continue participating with the federal government in checking the immigration...

End of Document

[Live updates: Public comment on proposed extension of ICE enforcement in Tarrant County](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

June 16, 2020 Tuesday

Copyright 2020 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: politics_government

Length: 808 words

Byline: Anna M. Tinsley

Star-Telegram

Dateline: Fort Worth

Body

Tarrant County Commissioners on Tuesday are considering a plan to stay in a federal program that lets sheriff's deputies work as ICE agents.

Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** updated commissioners about the 287(g) plan that lets sheriff's deputies work as ICE agents.

"For the last 30 years, ICE has been in Tarrant County jail," he said.



In the past, without this program, any peace officer or detention officer could conduct an investigation and contact ICE if there was a concern. If there was a detainer on that person, ICE would fax over the information.

"That was completely apart from 287(g)," Waybourn said.

He also noted that if there was no 287(g) contract, the department would still have to honor ICE holds on inmates brought to the jail from other cities.

Waybourn said 287(g) "gives us some discretion and a solidified policy" of how to proceed.

Last year, 1,466 inmates in Tarrant County had ICE detainers. Of those, 307 were put on inmates by the Tarrant County Sheriff's Department. None of those were for Class C misdemeanors, officials said.

Of those 307, 236 were released to ICE and 70 of those people had hearings and were deported and 61 of them voluntarily decided to go back to their home country. Others posted bond, remained in ICE custody or their cases haven't been resolved, sheriff's data shows.

Commissioners will receive public comment and then vote on whether to extend for an indefinite period of time a contract known as 287(g). This refers to a section of the Immigration and Nationality Act that allows law enforcement agencies to work with federal immigration officers and "perform immigration law enforcement functions."

This is one of the most heated issues that comes before the court.

Supporters say the program makes Tarrant County safer. Opponents believe migrants are scared they will be targeted and deported for something as small as a traffic ticket.

Waybourn has said that sheriff's deputies are not racially profiling or conducting raids for ICE. His office said immigration checks are run on those arrested for Class B misdemeanor arrests or higher.

Time to extend 287(g)?

President Donald Trump pushed for the 287(g) agreements through an executive order. The order was perceived by Trump supporters as a delivery of his campaign promise to focus on illegal immigration.

In 2017, Waybourn agreed to have 12 deputies trained to act as local ICE agents under the federal program.

Waybourn has said deputies perform ICE duties while also performing routine tasks. He said the deputies' salaries are paid by the county and the federal government pays for travel, boarding, meals and other expenses associated with ICE training. Sheriff department calculations show the program cost \$17,800 from June 1, 2019, to May 31, 2020.

The clock expires nationwide on 287(g) agreements on June 30.

Tarrant commissioners last year voted along party lines, with Republicans Tarrant County Judge Glen Whitley and Commissioners Gary Fickes and J.D. Johnson in support and Democratic Commissioners Roy Brooks and Devan Allen in opposition, to extend the contract for one year.

Tarrant County is home to more than 2 million people. The undocumented population here is estimated to be about 109,000, according to the non-partisan Migration Policy Institute.



This program has existed for several decades and it has been used in both Republican and Democratic administrations. It has been criticized through the years by people in both parties.

But it became a piece of the nation's immigration debate with Trump's 2016 election and has come under fire in recent years by immigration allies who describe it as discriminatory because it opens the door to racial profiling.

The Tarrant County Sheriff's Department is one of 77 law enforcement agencies in 21 states participating in the program and one of 24 sheriff's departments in Texas, according to a list compiled by the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

Support for Waybourn opponent

Before Tuesday's meeting began, Tarrant County's Democratic legislative delegation came out in support of Waybourn's Democratic challenger in November -- Vance Keyes.

"While we are committed to the work of electing strong Democrat candidates at all levels of government, today's events, and recent abject failures by the current Tarrant County Sheriff, make the upcoming race for Sheriff of grave importance," according to the letter signed by Democrats U.S. Rep. Marc Veasey of Fort Worth, state Sen. Beverly Powell of Fort Worth, state Reps. Ramon Romero and Nichole Collier of Fort Worth and Chris Turner of Grand Prairie.

"Vance understands the job of Sheriff should not be political. We trust Vance to keep an ideologically driven, national political agenda out of the Sheriff's Department and focus the Department on protecting Tarrant County families of all backgrounds," the letter stated.

Load-Date: June 17, 2020

End of Document

[**Tarrant County Commissioners Court votes 3-2 to renew agreement with ICE**](#)

The Shorthorn: University of Texas - Arlington

June 16, 2020 Tuesday

University Wire
Copyright 2020 UWIRE via U-Wire All Rights Reserved

Section: NEWS; Pg. 1

Length: 560 words

Body

Tuesday morning stretched into the afternoon as more than 45 people, including a UTA philosophy professor, spoke at a Tarrant County Commissioners Court meeting, most of whom were protesting against the renewal of an agreement with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.



In a 3-2 vote, the commissioner's court approved the Memorandum of Agreement which partners ICE and the Department of Homeland Security with the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office in authorizing local personnel to perform some immigration enforcement functions. The policy, known as 287(g), enables certified officers to act as a "force multiplier in the identification, arrest, and service of warrants and detainers of incarcerated foreign-born individuals with criminal charges or convictions," according to ICE's website.

The collaboration aims to focus resources on identifying and processing illegal aliens after they are arrested and booked at Tarrant County Jail for a separate crime, according to the memorandum document. The agreement was last renewed in 2019, but the memorandum passed Tuesday did not have an expiration date.

David McClelland, chief of staff for the Sheriff's office, said either ICE or the Sheriff's office may opt out of the agreement at any point. He said the Sheriff's office could brief the court about the program and the viability of the contract.

The court agreed to review the agreement on an annual basis, according to the vote.

Seven officers are currently trained and certified by ICE to interview and detain inmates, McClelland said. The officers are supervised and directed by ICE, according to the memorandum document.

McClelland presented data measuring the department's performance regarding the agreement policy from June 2019 to May 2020. Over the course of the year, 307 people were detained on the basis of 287(g) and 197 of those were released to ICE, according to his presentation.

Participating in the agreement allows the Sheriff's office to take more control over how they interact with ICE, he said. The office does not place holds on people charged with a class C misdemeanor, though it was later pointed out that officers don't process anyone for that.

The public comment portion of the meeting lasted longer than five hours as a majority of the participants protested the agreement because of a lack of transparency from the sheriff's office and the impact 287(g) has on the community. Some argued for the policy to be renewed, citing public safety and increases in crime.

UTA philosophy professor Charles Hermes recited "Pinocchio" by Shel Silverstein before saying he wished the words spoken Tuesday would touch County Judge Glen Whitley and Sheriff **Bill Waybourn's** hearts.

Whitley said he would vote in support of 287(g) again because if it stopped one violent crime from happening in the future, then he would be glad he did it. He advocated for a more efficient citizenship process that protects hard-working citizens.

Before the vote, Commissioner Roy Charles Brooks said he would not support the memorandum because he believed what people said and felt their pain during the public comment section.

"There is humanity and there is divinity in the face of each and every one of God's children regardless of their race, color, creed, national origin, sexual orientation or documentary status," he said.

@colby_farr

news-editor.shorthorn@uta.edu

Load-Date: June 17, 2020



End of Document

[Tensions High After Tarrant County Commissioners Vote To Maintain Controversial Immigration Enforcement Program](https://dfw.cbslocal.com/2020/06/16/tensions-high-tarrant-county-texas-commissioners-vote-maintain-controversial-immigration-enforcement-program/)

WebNews - English
CBS Dallas Fort Worth

<https://dfw.cbslocal.com/2020/06/16/tensions-high-tarrant-county-texas-commissioners-vote-maintain-controversial-immigration-enforcement-program/>

June 16, 2020 Tuesday

Length: 253 words

Body

FORT WORTH (CBSDFW.COM) – The Tarrant County Commissioners Court voted 3-2 to extend a controversial immigration enforcement program and some in opposition expressed their...

End of Document

[Tarrant County will consider extending one of Trump's key immigration promises](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)
June 15, 2020 Monday

Copyright 2020 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram
Found on DFW.com

Section: politics_government

Length: 1038 words

Byline: Anna M. Tinsley

Star-Telegram

Dateline: Fort Worth

Body



Tarrant County leaders this week will take up one of the most heated issues to come before them -- whether to renew a federal program that lets sheriff's deputies work as ICE agents.

Supporters believe the program makes Tarrant County safer. Critics say it has a chilling effect on migrants who are scared they will be targeted and deported for something as small as a traffic ticket.

Tarrant County Commissioners are scheduled to vote on whether to extend the program, known as 287(g), during their 10 a.m. meeting Tuesday.

"The folks against this aren't thinking big picture about how this can impact an urban area," said Rick Barnes, who heads the Tarrant County Republican Party. "You end up with people who should be incarcerated who are not if you don't have the program in place.

"We aren't putting people in jail for simple violation of policies. These are major violations from people we don't want on the streets."

Sindy Mata, a community organizer with ICE Out of Tarrant, said the program is used to breed fear in some communities.

"Community members feel they are over-policing and using terrorizing tactics," the Fort Worth woman said. "It is used to intimidate and silence our community.

"But they won't silence us."

Tarrant County is home to more than 2 million people. The undocumented population is estimated at 109,000, according to the nonpartisan Migration Policy Institute.

Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** has said that sheriff's deputies are not racially profiling or conducting raids for ICE. His office said immigration checks are run on those arrested for Class B misdemeanor arrests or higher.

Contract extension?

The program is known as 287(g) because it refers to a section of the Immigration and Nationality Act that lets law enforcement agencies work with federal immigration officers and "perform immigration law enforcement functions."

President Donald Trump pushed for these agreements between law enforcement agencies and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement through an executive order. The order was perceived by Trump supporters as a delivery of his campaign promise to focus on illegal immigration.

In 2017, newly elected Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** agreed to have 12 deputies trained to act as ICE agents under the federal program. The program has been in place ever since.

Waybourn has said deputies perform ICE duties while also doing their routine tasks. He said the deputies' salaries are paid by the county and the federal government pays for travel, boarding, meals and other expenses associated with ICE training. Sheriff department calculations show the program cost \$17,800 from June 1, 2019, to May 31, 2020.

The clock expires on 287(g) agreements at the end of June.



Tarrant commissioners last year voted along party lines -- with Republicans Tarrant County Judge Glen Whitley and commissioners Gary Fickes and J.D. Johnson in support and Democratic commissioners Roy Brooks and Devan Allen in opposition -- to extend the contract for one year.

National spotlight

Waybourn drew national attention in October while attending a White House press briefing with the director of the ICE program.

While speaking about the jail population that includes undocumented immigrants, drunken drivers and repeat offenders, Waybourn said that if released, "these drunks will run over your children and they will run over my children."

He referenced a court ruling that made it harder for immigration officials to detain migrants longer.

"It will put our communities in jeopardy," Waybourn said during the briefing. "Of those people that we have in custody, we know for a fact that 72% of them are repeat offenders, so if we have to turn them loose, or they get released, they're coming back to your neighborhood and my neighborhood. These drunks will run over your children, and they will run over my children."

"And if that happens, I know that you would want, and certainly I would want for you, the full force of the law. And immigration is part of that full force."

His comments drew reaction from critics, some who said it was "appalling" that he "would make such ignorant and twisted racist statements."

Mata said the sheriff "has not been very responsible with his actions."

"The danger with his words is that they enable the hateful rhetoric that is typically used against our communities," Mata said.

Immigration debate

Supporters argue that this program is needed.

"Law enforcement officers have a sworn duty to protect and serve the community, and to uphold and enforce the laws of the country and the state," said Fran Rhodes, president of the True Texas Project, the group formerly known as the NE Tarrant Tea Party. "So why would anyone not support this program? It is part of the laws of the state and the country."

She said the overall cost of this program is a small piece of the county's overall budget.

"And I believe (it is) a small price to pay to keep criminals off the streets of our community, who should not have been there in the first place," Rhodes said.

Critics have been calling in to commissioners in recent weeks, asking officials to not renew the contract.

The ICE out of Tarrant Coalition has been holding a billboard and #FindTrumpsPuppet tour, claiming the 287(g) program isn't transparent. It says it targets undocumented people, undermines public safety and wastes county resources.



"The #FindTrumpsPuppet tour aims to unmask the role that Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** plays in continuing to advance and expand his racist agenda under the 287(g) program," said Jessica Ramirez, a community organizer for ICE out of Tarrant.

The program has existed for several decades and it has been used in both Republican and Democratic administrations.

It has been criticized through the years by people in both parties.

But it became a piece of the nation's immigration debate with Trump's 2016 election and has come under fire in recent years by immigration allies who describe it as discriminatory because it opens the door to racial profiling.

The Tarrant County Sheriff's Department is one of 77 law enforcement agencies in 21 states participating in the program and one of 24 sheriff's departments in Texas, according to a list compiled by the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

Load-Date: June 15, 2020

End of Document

[Two-Thirds Of Americans Don't Want To Defund Police: Poll](#)

Newstex Blogs

Conservative Daily News

June 13, 2020 Saturday 1:08 PM EST

Copyright 2020 Newstex LLC All Rights Reserved

Length: 814 words

Byline: Kaylee Greenlee

Body

Jun 13, 2020(Conservative Daily News: <http://conservativedailynews.com> Delivered by Newstex) A majority of Americans disagree with the call to 'defund the police' and the proposed reallocations of funding, an ABC News/Ipsos poll found. Almost two-thirds of Americans are against defunding law enforcement while 34% agree with the movement, according to an ABC News/Ipsos poll[1] released on Friday. When asked about reducing the police budget to put towards other health and social programs, 60% of Americans opposed the idea while 39% supported. A Yahoo/YouGov poll[2] conducted May 29-30 found that 16% of 1,060 Americans supported less funding to law enforcement while 65% oppose the movement.'We need police! We've got to be careful what we say because they'll twist things around and the narratives will change. I think there could be better terminology.' ~Spike Lee <https://t.co/3S7b9GICY6>[3] — Joe Scarborough (@JoeNBC) June 12, 2020[4] Black Americans' answers varied slightly, 57% supported the movement to defund the police[5] and 64% supported allocating the money to community programs, according to ABC News.



Almost three in four white Americans and 57% of Hispanics are opposed to defunding law enforcement, and two-thirds of whites and 58% of Hispanics are against reallocating funds. The Democratic Party majorly approved defunding the police with 55% of Democratic respondents agreeing, and 59% agreed with reallocating funds to programs dealing with mental health, housing and education, ABC News reported.(Article Continues Below Advertisement) Democrats differ more within their support than Republicans and Independents do in their opposition, ABC News reported. Republicans widely disapprove of defunding the police[6] at 89%, and 86% of Republican respondents oppose the reallocation of funding, ABC News reported. Independents generally fall in line with the average respondent, 67% disapprove of defunding the police while 59% oppose taking funding from law enforcement for social programs. While some cities have initiated reforms for local law enforcement, national leaders have been hesitant to support drastic changes, ABS News reported. Former Vice President Joe Biden told CBS News he doesn't support defunding the police,[7] but 'support[s] conditioning federal aid to police based on whether or not they meet certain basic standards of decency and honorableness. And, in fact, are able to demonstrate they can protect the community and everybody in the community.'???? NEW POLL: 2/3 of Americans disagree with radical Democrat calls to Defund the Police <https://t.co/mXicnmG43Q>[8] — Marc Lotter - Text TRUMP to 88022 (@marc_lotter) June 12, 2020[9] The poll found Americans feel slightly less uneasy about the coronavirus pandemic and are ready to resume normal activities, ABC News reported. Now, 69% of Americans are concerned about contracting the coronavirus, compared to the 78% of respondents who were concerned in mid-May. Despite protests occurring across the nation, only 26% of Americans responded that they were willing to attend a protest, ABC News reported. Comparatively, a YouGov survey reported[10] that 57% of almost 7,000 US adults supported elected officials participating in protests. When asked if there would be a spike in coronavirus cases directly related to recent protests, 42% of 31,058 Americans responded that it is 'very likely' and 34% responded that it is 'somewhat likely,' a YouGov survey[11] found. Only 14% of respondents said that a spike was 'not very likely' or 'not likely at all.' Content created by The Daily Caller News Foundation is available without charge to any eligible news publisher that can provide a large audience. Forlicensing opportunities of our original content, please contact[12] [1]: <https://abcnews.go.com/Politics/64-americans-oppose-defund-police-movement-key-goals/story?id=71202300> [2]: https://docs.cdn.yougov.com/098uixfv4a/20200531_yahoo_race_and_justice_toplines.pdf [3]: <https://t.co/3S7b9GICY6> [4]: https://twitter.com/JoeNBC/status/1271366783438643200?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw [5]: <https://dailycaller.com/2020/06/09/ocasio-cortez-defund-police-white-voters/> [6]: <https://dailycaller.com/2020/06/10/charles-barkley-rips-movement-defund-the-police/> [7]: <https://dailycaller.com/2020/06/05/total-chaos-texas-sheriff-bill-waybourn-responds-to-the-defund-police-movement/> [8]: <https://t.co/mXicnmG43Q> [9]: https://twitter.com/marc_lotter/status/1271394328137564160?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw [10]: <https://today.yougov.com/topics/philosophy/survey-results/daily/2020/06/09/8917c/2> [11]: <https://today.yougov.com/topics/health/survey-results/daily/2020/06/08/5d985/3> [12]: <https://www.conservativedailynews.com/cdn-cgi/l/email-protection>

Load-Date: June 13, 2020

End of Document

[Will Tarrant keep letting deputies work as ICE agents? You'll have to comment in person](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)



June 11, 2020 Thursday

Copyright 2020 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: politics_government

Length: 925 words

Byline: Anna M. Tinsley

Star-Telegram

Dateline: Fort Worth

Body

Tarrant County leaders next week will take up the renewal of a federal program that lets sheriff's deputies work as ICE agents.

And after months of allowing residents to call in comments on issues the Republican-led county commissioners court voted this week to require comments now be delivered in person.

This came after Commissioner J.D. Johnson on Tuesday was able to participate in the meeting by video conference, rather than by phone.

"Now that he is on video ... that basically puts us back into the same environment we were in before the governor loosened the restrictions," Tarrant County Judge Glen Whitley said. "Now that public officials are here, the public has to be here too.

"You can come and say whatever you want to say."

In the wake of the coronavirus, Gov. Greg Abbott loosened Open Meeting requirements to let officials participate in meetings via phone, which opened the door for residents to do the same.

Whitley this week noted that when commissioners in 2019 considered renewing the federal program known as 287(g), they had a day-long briefing where residents voiced their opinion about the program.

"And the next week I said, 'OK, I'm very interested in hearing new information.'"

But when residents spoke the day of the vote, "they did not respect our time and they came up and said exactly the same thing," Whitley said Tuesday. "Respect goes both ways."

Supporters say the program makes Tarrant County safer. Opponents believe migrants are scared they will be targeted and deported for something as small as a traffic ticket.

Commissioner Devan Allen, one of two Democrats on the five-member court, said the decision to require people to comment in person on the issue feels wrong.



"I don't like it," she said. "I do not think it's the right thing for us to do. So I will not support us taking action that would limit people's ability to voice their opinion about this or any other issue.

"This is our job to sit here and listen to our community and to take into consideration their concerns."

Commissioner Roy Brooks, the other Democrat, said that 287(g) has evoked such passion "that we need to give persons who wish to address the issue the broadest latitude possible and not try to cut off a person's ability to comment arbitrarily."

Commissioner Gary Fickes said he understands why residents were allowed to call in comments initially. But now, since Johnson could participate via video conferencing, Fickes said the county has "fulfilled the requirements of the Open Meeting Act and can cease having phone calls."

Allen proposed letting the public continue to make comments by email and phone calls. Brooks supported her motion.

It failed on a 3-2 vote.

The three Republican commissioners -- Whitley, Fickes and Johnson -- voted against letting comments continue any way other than in person.

Critics are calling on people to show up at the Tarrant County Commissioners Court meeting at 10 a.m. Tuesday. The group ICE out of Tarrant County added an event called Unite to End 287g on Facebook.

"Show the commissioners that at the end of the day, the court works for us, and if they don't want to, then we will have to find new commissioners who will," the group stated on Facebook.

Time to extend?

An issue Tuesday will be an extension of the contract known as 287(g). This refers to a section of the Immigration and Nationality Act that allows law enforcement agencies to work with federal immigration officers and "perform immigration law enforcement functions."

President Donald Trump pushed for these agreements between law enforcement agencies and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement through an executive order. The order was perceived by Trump supporters as a delivery of his campaign promise to focus on illegal immigration.

In 2017, newly elected Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** agreed to have 12 deputies trained to act as ICE agents under the federal program.

The clock expires nationwide on 287(g) agreements at the end of June.

Tarrant commissioners last year voted along party lines, with Whitley, Fickes and Johnson in support and Brooks and Allen in opposition, to extend the contract for one year.

Pros and cons

Dozens of residents have been calling the court in recent weeks to oppose another extension of the contract.

Tarrant County is home to more than 2 million people. The undocumented population is estimated at 109,000, according to the non-partisan Migration Policy Institute.

Waybourn last year told residents that sheriff's deputies are not racially profiling or conducting raids for ICE.



Waybourn, who likened the work to being on a task force, has said deputies perform ICE duties while also doing their routine tasks. He said the deputies' salaries are paid by the county and the federal government pays for travel, boarding, meals and other expenses associated with ICE training.

The program has existed for several decades, has been used in both Republican and Democratic administrations and has been criticized by people in both parties.

But it became a piece of the nation's immigration debate with Trump's 2016 election and has come under fire in recent years by immigration allies who describe it as discriminatory because it opens the door to racial profiling.

The Tarrant County Sheriff's Department is one of 77 law enforcement agencies in 21 states participating in the program and one of 24 sheriff's departments in Texas, according to a list compiled by the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

The list stated that ICE has these agreements with 64 law enforcement agencies in nine states.

Load-Date: June 11, 2020

End of Document

[**Younger, diverse Fort Worth takes 'a pivotal turn' in week of George Floyd protests**](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

June 7, 2020 Sunday

Copyright 2020 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: fort_worth

Length: 1707 words

Byline: Mark Dent

Star-Telegram

Body

Donnell Ballard started protesting when he was 16. He was a student at Fort Worth Polytechnic High School and learned from an older Black Panther friend who went by the name Sabe. From the early 1990s through today, Ballard has been involved in hundreds of protests, rallying against everything from police brutality, to outdated computer technology at the Fort Worth school district, to the discriminatory hiring practices of



a convenience store on the west side, to the lack of air conditioning at the Ripley Arnold Place housing project.

Many of the times he's helped introduce change: the convenience store started hiring black workers, and the project building installed A/C. Other times, Ballard has found himself in a lonely position. In 2018, he and longtime protester Carol Harrison-Lafayette were about the only people protesting the conviction of Crystal Mason, a Tarrant County woman sentenced to five years in prison for voting as a convicted felon on supervised release.

Over the last week, those sparsely-attended protests have felt like a distant memory. What started as a two-night plan has entered its second week, with hundreds of protesters, including organizers Ballard and Harrison-Lafayette, rallying each night at the Courthouse, City Hall, West 7th and throughout the streets of downtown. Kyeve Tatum, a Fort Worth pastor, hasn't seen such a high and diverse level of engagement in Fort Worth in 30-plus years of community activism. "This is one of those moments in history we'll look back on," he said, "and say there's a pivotal turn in the history of Fort Worth."

The spark started in Minneapolis, where George Floyd died after a white police officer pressed his knee into his neck for almost nine minutes. But a fatigue over the so-called Fort Worth Way -- a concentration of influence among a small group of mostly white power brokers, rather than the city's majority-minority population -- looms over the protests. When Mayor Betsy Price addressed protesters Thursday outside City Hall, expressing solidarity, she said: "It isn't about me. It isn't about the city. It's about George Floyd." She was quickly rebutted by attorney Leon Reed Jr., who told her and the crowd, "I respectfully disagree with our mayor that this is about George Floyd. I am George Floyd."

And through night after night of protest and a deluge of complaints and questions levied at the City Council on Thursday, protesters and black community leaders believe officials will face more pressure than ever to address systemic racism and give minority groups a visibility that befits the majority-minority city Fort Worth is. "I've been waiting on this a long, long time," Ballard said.

An active resistance

There exists a wide gap between white people and people of color in Fort Worth, both in economic outcome and in treatment by police. The share of white residents with at least a four-year college degree is 20 percentage points higher than black residents and 30 percentage points higher than Hispanic residents. The poverty rate for black and Hispanic people is twice as high as it is for whites.

Search any year in police-reported racial profiling statistics, and you'll find black and Hispanic people are over-represented in the number of stops by police (In 2019, black people accounted for 27% of police stops even though black households comprise 14% of Fort Worth's car owners). Since 2009, controversy has followed the police killings of several black Fort Worth residents, including Michael Jacobs Jr., Charal Thomas and Kelvin Goldston. In October, officer Aaron Dean shot and killed Atatiana Jefferson inside her home (Dean resigned and has been charged with murder).

Jefferson's death and resulting protests -- along with the arrest of Jacqueline Craig in 2016 -- led to changes, such as the city's hiring of a diversity and inclusion director. The protesters this week have made clear those initiatives haven't been enough to address larger, systemic issues.

"When Atatiana Jefferson gets killed they move swiftly to make it go away, but the underlying issues are still there," said Max Krochmal, a TCU history professor who studies social movements. "So when George Floyd happened or Ahmaud Arbery or Breonna Taylor, it struck home for people in Fort Worth because they could see that it was happening here and nothing was being done."



The active resistance coming out now hasn't been as pronounced in the past, even in the turbulent 1960s, according to Krochmal. Powerful white leaders gave in to civil rights groups that pushed to get black voters registered and set more equitable voting districts, in part because they sought to use the black vote to their advantage. The accommodation reduced some of the need for widespread protest. In 1968, for instance, when riots and protests erupted across the United States after the death of Martin Luther King Jr., Fort Worth did not experience similar unrest. The city's largest protest in recent history was in 1993, when thousands marched downtown after a teenage white supremacist was sentenced to probation by an all-white jury for the murder of Donald Thomas.

But as Fort Worth has changed, growing into a city where 35% of the population is Hispanic and 19% black, Krochmal said the power structure has not kept pace. "In a lot of ways Tarrant County just got kind of stuck there (in the 1960s) and Fort Worth got stuck there," he said. Krochmal added: "I do think the Fort Worth Way has been a powerful force here in the way economic and political elites operate. They've managed to keep things behind doors and keep people in line and contribute to campaigns in such a way where black and Latino officials are tied to them, just through campaign finance reports if anything else."

New generation of protesters

Tatum, 64, was born into the post civil rights era. He experienced racism growing up in South Fort Worth, especially from police, but assumed something was wrong with his neighborhood. It wasn't until he went to college at Tarleton State and North Texas that he found the minor infractions leading to arrests and beatings in his neighborhood were dismissed as youthful indiscretions in majority-white areas. Tatum and a group of black pastors and activist community leaders have been a continuous presence in Fort Worth's political scene, but he said his generation overall did not push for more progress and let the fire blow out. "I think we blew it out," he said. "We were so busy trying to prosper, chasing the dollar and the American dream. When problems turned up we turned our heads."

The children of Tatum's generation have faced the same discrimination in Fort Worth and Tarrant County. Trice Jones, a 33-year old who represents Black Lives Matter, has been a fixture at the protests, often in a Colin Kaepernick jersey. She remembers her father being consistently stopped by police in Euless in the 1990s. In 2010, while driving in a Nissan on Riverside Drive, Jones was pulled over. She said the police searched her car but didn't give a ticket and didn't offer a reason for the stop.

Jones has been involved with community activism since 2012, but the infusion of hundreds of young and diverse protesters and activists in the last week has been new. They are in their 20s and 30s, a mixture of black, white and brown resembling the new Fort Worth born out of decades of growth and changing demographics. "It's so beautiful because so many other races are joining us," Jones said. "When you look at these protests it's not majority African-American people. It's white people, it's Hispanic, it's Asian. It's people that are fed up." Jernee Goods, a 22-year-old TCU graduate and Fort Worth native, protested here for the first time Monday. "We want to have each other's backs," she said "We're very racially mixed." Like many involved in the protest, she was "fed up" by the killing of Floyd. Goods, who is black, was also motivated by her experiences in Fort Worth. Recently at TCU, while walking from a campus eatery to the gym, she said a man passing by in his car rolled down the window and called her the n-word.

Andrés Acosta-Lopez, who is 33 and grew up in South Fort Worth, deals with similar racism at his retail job. He is Hispanic, Muslim and gay ("a minority within a minority within a minority," he noted). Though the protest was inspired by police brutality, he said it can be a notice to Fort Worth that minority communities deserve better treatment in all areas. "In a place like Fort Worth, where this isn't a common occurrence, this is going to raise awareness," Acosta-Lopez said. "It's going to show people who are part of the problem we're ready for change."



Moving from protest to change is often the hard part. Goods said it will happen only if people of color keep sharing their stories of injustice, and white people engage in difficult conversations with them.

Ballard and Harrison-Lafayette have tried to create action by steering the younger protesters to local politics. On Monday, they helped register 58 people to vote, Harrison-Lafayette said. United Fort Worth, which has helped organize protests, routinely advocates for changes at the city and county level, most recently by calling for an investigation of Sheriff **Bill Waybourn**.

On Thursday, many of the calls for change were concrete: The people who addressed the City Council wanted a civilian oversight board for the police, demilitarization of police and the discontinuation of police at Fort Worth schools. They even notched a small victory: After a parade of speakers asked to delay the authorization of an agreement between the city of Fort Worth and the union representing the Fort Worth Police Department, the City Council agreed to the postponement.

Several speakers at the protests have told the crowd that bigger victories will require voting and a sustained presence at City Hall. As for the marches? Ballard said he will organize them as long as a group of protesters wants to join. His phone rang constantly last week with calls from strangers wanting to get involved.

On Monday night, one protester carried a sign that read, "It is too quiet Fort Worth. Where y'all at?" That may have been true in the past, but this week the city was louder than ever.

Load-Date: June 7, 2020

End of Document

'Total Chaos': Texas Sheriff Bill Waybourn Responds To The 'Defund Police' Movement; 'Everybody would be on their own'

The Daily Caller

June 5, 2020 Friday 09:40 PM EST

Copyright 2020 The Daily Caller, Inc. All Rights Reserved

Section: EDITORIAL; us; us

Length: 313 words

Byline: Stephanie Hamill, Video Columnist, stephaniehamill@dailycaller.com

Body

[Link to Image](#)

Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** joined the Daily Caller's Stephanie Hamill to discuss the growing movement to "defund police," the George Floyd protests and more.



During the interview Waybourn did not hold back on his thoughts about the growing movement to “[defund police](#)” in the wake of Floyd's death.

“It would be total chaos,” said Waybourn. “Everybody would be on their own. I would say at that point the Second Amendment would become the most important amendment in the world.”

Waybourn also went into detail about how the riots and the anti-police sentiment is affecting morale among law enforcement. ([RELATED: Trump Lashes Out At 'Defund The Police' Campaign, Says A Vote For Him Means 'More Money For Law Enforcement'.](#))

“I think that they're angry, and when I say angry, I mean they're angry because at a moment, they're saying hey, we were standing with you and then suddenly we become your enemy,” said Waybourn. “We agree with you that we want justice in this case.”

He went on to discuss how the [anti-police sentiment](#) may affect recruiting for law enforcement in the future.

WATCH: [Link to Video](#)

The views and opinions expressed in this commentary are those of the author and do not reflect the official position of The Daily Caller.

Check out TheDC's fantastic videos and subscribe to our [YouTube channel to avoid missing out.](#)

[SUBSCRIBE!](#)

NOW CHECK OUT The Daily Caller's most popular shows:

[Nike Sides With Colin Kaepernick, Many Customers Revolt](#)

[Inside The Daily Caller's Exclusive Oval Office Interview With President Donald Trump](#)

[Would You Rather Date A Trump Supporter or MS-13 Gang Member?](#)

[New Details About The 'Muslim Extremist' Compound In New Mexico](#)

['Trophy Culture' Hijacks New Jersey High School Cheer Squad](#)

[Fact Checking White House 'Truth Seekers' On North Korea](#)

[Democrats' New Campaign Message: 'Drain The Swamp'](#)

['Fake News' Defends Brutal MS-13 Gang](#)

Graphic

Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn**



Load-Date: June 5, 2020

End of Document

[Tarrant County jailers were late on 3 checks in 24 hours before inmate died by suicide](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

June 5, 2020 Friday

Copyright 2020 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: fort_worth

Length: 388 words

Byline: Nichole Manna

Star-Telegram

Dateline: FORT WORTH

Body

Employees at the Tarrant County Jail were late on three checks before an inmate died by suicide in April, according to a document obtained by the Star-Telegram through an open records request.

Dean Stewart's death, which happened on April 26, sparked a routine investigation by the Texas Commission of Jail Standards. The investigation revealed the lapse in checks, which resulted in the jail losing state certification for six days in May. To regain its certification, the jail had to supply the state with a plan of action detailing how they would ensure that inmate checks weren't missed in the future.

In Stewart's case, he was left alone for nearly an hour when jailers were 21 minutes late to a check. Another time, the check was made 17 minutes late and in the third it was done 12 minutes late, according to the document.

An internal investigation was opened on May 5 against the three correctional officers who were assigned to Stewart's pod. Those investigations are still ongoing.

The document outlines five other ways the jail will correct the violation.

The jail ordered a new electronic timekeeping system that will help track and record observation checks. Staffers were trained on how to use the system on May 26.



All logs from January 2020 to the end of May will be audited to verify that checks are being conducted appropriately and supervisors are reviewing them after every shift.

The jail reviewed its operating procedures regarding observation checks to make sure they were in compliance with state standards. The Detention Bureau's Compliance Team reported that the rules were clear.

Supervisors were reminded that high-risk housing should be staffed with experienced and qualified jailers.

All captains in housing units were reminded to fill out an "end of shift summary," which requires the on-duty lieutenant to write an email to their superior detailing what happened during their shift.

The loss of the jail's certification was met with concerns from Tarrant County Commissioners Roy Brooks and Devan Allen, who said on Tuesday that they only learned about the loss because it was written about in the Star-Telegram.

Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** assured them he would communicate better in the future. The last time the jail was out of compliance was in 2015 for 24 days, the sheriff said.

Load-Date: June 5, 2020

End of Document

[WBAP Morning News: Law Enforcement Roundtable – What Can We Do?](#)

WebNews - English

WBAP News/Talk 820

<https://www.wbap.com/2020/06/05/wbap-morning-news-law-enforcement-roundtable-what-can-we-do/>

June 5, 2020 Friday

Length: 94 words

Body

Jimmy Perdue (Dir. of Public Safety for North Richland...

End of Document

[Chris Salcedo Show: Tarrant County Sheriff Bill Waybourn Responds to Unrest](#)

WebNews - English



<https://www.wbap.com/2020/06/02/chris-salcedo-show-tarrant-county-sheriff-bill-waybourn-responds-to-unrest/>

June 2, 2020 Tuesday

Length: 86 words

Body

After days and nights of protests and riots across...

End of Document

[Texas leaders, stop riots, then focus on police reform as justice for George Floyd](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

May 31, 2020 Sunday

Copyright 2020 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: editorials

Length: 857 words

Byline: The Fort Worth Star-Telegram Editorial Board

Star-Telegram

Body

Rage in the streets over the killing of George Floyd by a Minneapolis police officer has exploded across the country, and leaders at all levels must rise to the occasion and speak to it.

The first priority is to stop the violence and destruction in our cities. No crisis is made better through looting and harming the innocent. In Fort Worth, protests have mostly been peaceful, a testament to both those taking to the streets and the police and city leaders trying to balance the First Amendment and public safety.



But elsewhere, the message of urgency to stop police persecution of African Americans has been lost amid needless window-smashing and fire-setting. Gov. Greg Abbott has taken several steps to boost police presence in Texas cities. In Dallas, Police Chief U. Renee Hall imposed a curfew and was blunt about the demonstrations there.

"This is no longer peaceful protesting," she said Sunday.

Let's not forget, too, that the U.S. is still trying to contain the coronavirus pandemic that has caused so much suffering for months on end. Reducing crowds is in the public-health interest, too.

Once that's done, state and local leaders must focus aggressively on the problem of police violence against African Americans. And they must prevent distractions from robbing all of us of that focus.

On the left and right, activists want to assign blame for the riots to socialists or white supremacists. Prosecute those who organized or participated, but don't go down the rabbit hole of the usual divide.

Other, more well-meaning voices argue that without widespread social reform to tackle economic, educational and housing discrimination, the problem can't be truly addressed. All of those are real problems that deserve real solutions.

But if we try to fix everything, we'll fix nothing. Don't let this moment of opportunity to correct police violence slip away.

So far, several of our leaders have said encouraging things. Abbott called Floyd's death a "tragedy," telling Houston TV station KPRC that "clearly what happened in this instance did not follow protocol, was wrong. This man should still be alive today."

Fort Worth Mayor Betsy Price said she is "committed to continuing the work we have started to root out racism, inequities and disparities at a systemic and policy level."

Those are helpful sentiments, but leaders at all levels must commit to real action and follow up to make sure it takes hold.

Police departments must review hiring, training and recruiting and find ways to weed out potential problems. One of the great frustrations of these crimes is that they reflect upon the vast majority of officers who harm no one and want to truly serve their communities. Let's help by ensuring the best possible force around them.

States and cities must also address the difficulty of disciplining and prosecuting officers who commit violence. This means taking on police unions, which can be politically powerful, and prosecutors who are reluctant to try officers because it's tough to persuade a jury to convict. National policymakers have a role to play here, too, as the doctrine of "qualified immunity" makes it tough to hold officers and departments accountable in civil-rights lawsuits.

None of this will be easy. The Floyd killing, the officer's knee on the man's neck for eight minutes as he begged for his life, is so egregious that almost no one has risen to defend it. But many police interactions are a judgment call.

In Fort Worth, the police shooting that killed Atatiana Jefferson last year has given us a head start on these complexities. The city has hired a police monitor, and an expert review of the department's procedures is underway.



And in a few weeks, voters have a rare opportunity to weigh in directly on police operations. The city is asking voters to extend for a decade the Crime Control and Prevention District, which provides a half-cent sales tax to fund police equipment and programs. While that question involves much broader issues than police brutality, Fort Worth residents may want to consider whether to send a message about whether change is happening fast enough and thoroughly enough.

Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn**, a longtime chief of a small police department, could be an important voice on these issues, too, given his growing profile among Republicans nationally. In Arlington, where the city is searching for a new police chief, finding someone with good ideas of how to address relations with minority communities should be a high priority.

In many ways, America feels broken right now. We have three national emergencies layered upon one another: the pandemic, a cratered economy and violence in our cities. And it feels like our national leaders are paralyzed or even egging some of it on for political purposes.

George Floyd's funeral will be in his native Houston, a moment of focus on Texas that gives us a chance to rise up and lead. It diminishes all of us that so many of our fellow Americans and Texans must fear any interaction with the police. Let's aggressively dive into the work that must be done so that is no longer the case.

TX Politics newsletter embed (new)

Load-Date: June 1, 2020

End of Document

[Man who died by suicide at Tarrant County Jail needed mental health care, family says](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

May 29, 2020 Friday

Copyright 2020 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: crime

Length: 1984 words

Byline: Mitch Mitchell

Star-Telegram

Dateline: FORT WORTH

Body



Prior to his suicide in jail, there were plenty of clues that Dean Ray Stewart, 50, suffered from serious mental instability, his brother said.

Documentation from police bears that out.

Family members contend that police were aware of their relative's mental problems, and should have taken him someplace where he could have received appropriate mental health treatment or monitored him more closely while he was in the Tarrant County Jail.

"He didn't have his medication," Dean Stewart's brother Kerry Stewart told the Star-Telegram. "It wasn't like he was a crazy person. When he was on his medication, you would never know. How could they, why would they have put someone in jail knowing that this was his situation?"

Dean Stewart was pronounced dead on April 26, and the Tarrant County Medical Examiner's Office listed his cause of death as hanging and the manner of death as suicide. He was arrested on April 5, a suspect in a road rage shooting where the victim was uninjured, police records say.

The Texas Rangers have concluded their investigation into Stewart's suicide, which did not lead to any arrests, according to Lonny Haschel, Texas Department of Public Safety spokesman. The Star-Telegram has requested a copy of the Texas Rangers' report but hasn't received it as of Thursday.

The Texas Commission on Jail Standards revoked the Tarrant County Jail's certification for six days because the investigation into Stewart's death determined officers were late making an observation check, according to the Sheriff's Office and the commission.

"They were found to have not conducted 30-minute face-to-face observation checks, which are required in certain areas of the jail," said Brandon Wood, executive director of the Texas Commission on Jail Standards.

State and local officials haven't said exactly how much time passed between officers' checks on Stewart. The Tarrant County Sheriff's Office said in a statement Thursday that Stewart's suicide "is still under investigation procedurally."

"Our own review and the review by Jail Standards revealed a late required observation check," the Sheriff's Office said. "We take this very seriously and the internal investigation is ongoing. Because of the missed check, we were found to be out of compliance with Jail Standards on May 21, 2020. This is a routine response by TCJS when standards in a jail are found to be out of compliance. We submitted a strong plan of action to resolve the issue immediately and TCSO was re-certified as of May 27, 2020, meeting our required standards."

imagejpeg__fitted.jpegFamily members await information concerning the death of Dean Stewart, who died by suicide in the Tarrant County Jail.

The Star-Telegram requested a copy of the plan of action but hasn't received it.

Wood said the state also is investigating an incident that occurred in mid-May, the day a baby was born in the jail. He declined to say if the investigation was about the birth.

The Sheriff's Office said the pregnant inmate was in a medical cell alone and didn't tell officers when she went into labor. A corrections officer soon discovered the baby had been born and "immediate action was taken to protect the mother and child," the Sheriff's Office said in a news release.



Signs of mental illness, 'paranoid schizophrenia'

Dean Stewart exhibited several signs of mental instability during his interview with police the day he was arrested. The 50-year-old was accused of and admitted to shooting at a driver he believed worked for another man who was torturing people, according to an interview with a Euless Police Department investigator.

Dean Stewart told police that helicopters and drones were following and listening to him, the police report said. Stewart said he believed that people and listening devices were hidden in his house, the report said.

Dean Stewart also told the Euless police officer who interviewed him after his arrest that government drones were being used to spread viruses, including the coronavirus, and that he had encouraged authorities to test the area where he lived for radiation, but that no one would listen, the report said.

Police from two other departments recorded multiple encounters with Dean Stewart, according to the Euless police report.

Haltom City police officers took Dean Stewart in for mental health evaluations at least four times in 2019, said Eric Peters, Haltom City police spokesman. During one of those encounters, a shotgun Dean fired into the attic of his mother's residence was confiscated, Peters said.

"I had to go up and fix my mom's roof after that," Kerry Stewart remembered. "He (Dean Stewart) would call me early in the morning and tell me to come over and bring my gun. He said there were people hiding in the attic that were trying to get him."

North Richland Hills police officers also reported multiple encounters with Dean Stewart. One encounter on Aug. 31, 2018, involved a gun seizure and an emergency mental health detention, a police report said. According to the report supplement, Dean Stewart received a diagnosis of major depression with psychotic features from John Peter Smith Hospital medical professionals.

tarrant county jail.pngTarrant County Jail

During a search of Dean Stewart's vehicle, officers found a .45-caliber handgun and two loaded magazines which were seized.

A North Richland Hills officer wrote in his report that Dean Stewart was fired by an employer who met resistance after trying to get him mental health help. One family member also said that Dean Stewart resisted seeking mental health treatment, according to the report.

The report said that a family member told a police officer that Dean Stewart had been addicted to methamphetamine in the past and was taking Ritalin, which he had never needed before.

"He and his address are both flagged for officer safety," the report said.

In July 2018, an officer met Dean Stewart at a Quik Trip near his apartment on a suspicious circumstance call, a police report said. Dean Stewart told the officer that the company where he was an accountant was laundering money with members of MS-13, and that he feared for his life, according to the report.

Later the report says Dean Stewart told the officer he was being watched by cartel members, but that he kept a gun on his night stand and took it in the car with him so he could be ready for them when they came.

"He is demonstrating signs of paranoid schizophrenia," the officer wrote in his report.



Earlier, Dean Stewart said he is not schizophrenic, but "knows he is paranoid," the report said.

In 2018 and 2019, North Richland Hills officers had five encounters with Dean Stewart, according to police documents.

"They (police) knew about my brother's situation," Kerry Stewart said. "They had to know."

Road rage shooting

The victim in Dean Stewart's alleged aggravated assault with a deadly weapon case called 911 about 4:45 p.m. on April 5 and said that he believed he was being followed by a man wearing a black mask. Dispatch told the caller to drive to the police station, according to the report.

Moments later, the man said his car had been rammed by a Ford Fusion and that the driver had shot at him, said Brenda Alvarado, Euless police spokeswoman.

"He (the victim) came to the station to report what happened and one of our officers found the suspect vehicle a short distance away from where the incident occurred," Alvarado said.

Prior to being locked up, Dean Stewart was asked if he had ever been treated for or diagnosed with a mental illness or if he had ever thought about or tried to commit suicide, the report said. Dean Stewart was asked a series of medical and mental health questions on the day he was arrested, and he answered "no" to all, according to Euless Police Department records.

Sheriff_Department_Immigration_07[1]One of the hold cells in the processing section of the Tarrant County Jail.

But the day after his arrest, investigators were told by Dean Stewart's former leasing agent that the alleged victim of the road rage assault lived in Dean Stewart's apartment building and that Stewart had been evicted in November 2018 due to "excessive calls to police concerning his paranoid activity," Euless police records show.

'That was my only brother'

His brother, Kerry Stewart, has many questions about Dean Stewart's suicide.

It was his understanding that his brother was on the mental health pod during his time at the Tarrant County Jail, Kerry Stewart said. The specialty area has room for 48 inmates, according to the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office.

Citing ongoing investigations, the Sheriff's Office and the Texas Rangers have declined to comment on where in the jail Dean Stewart was housed, what he used to hang himself or how he obtained something that he could hang himself with.

If his brother was in the mental health pod like Kerry Stewart said he believes, jailer checks are required at 15- or 30-minute intervals, according to state jail standards, Sheriff's Office spokeswoman Lt. Jennifer Gabbert wrote in an email.

"However, we try to exceed this by doing them more frequently," Gabbert's email said.

Sheriff Wayburn.JPGTarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** in a file photo.

Kerry Stewart said he would also like to know how his brother was able to kill himself while inside the jail.



"I've never dealt with anything like this, nor should anyone have to," Kerry Stewart said. "There are so many unknowns. There are so many things that don't seem to make sense."

And the brother said he never got a story that was satisfied him regarding the assault that landed Dean Stewart in jail.

"My brother was a very smart guy and he was in accounting for years and had done some government accounting," Kerry Stewart said. "That was my only brother."

Kerry Stewart said that his brother had some issues with drugs in the past. Dean Stewart was convicted on a driving while intoxicated charge in 2013 and was sentenced to 120 days in jail and 18 months' probation.

Dean Stewart hurt his back painting houses, his brother said. His consistent pain may have contributed to a desire to be medicated, Kerry Stewart said.

"I have personally taken him to a rehab facility. I think he was addicted to pain pills, but that still doesn't mean suicide." Kerry Stewart said. "I don't know of any of his associates who would have given him a gun."

Although their investigation was closed as of Thursday, officials with the Texas Rangers have declined to comment concerning Dean Stewart's jail status or whether he was on suicide watch.

'As happy and as calm as anything'

Jimmy Ray Stewart said the last time that he saw his son, Dean Stewart, was about a month before Tarrant County officials say he killed himself.

His son seemed happy and his suicide remains a shock, the 79-year-old father said.

The father said his son prepared dinner for him and his wife the last time they met.

Dean Stewart "went and got the groceries and came in and fixed dinner for us and he was all right," the father said. "He was perfectly fine, as happy and as calm as anything. ... I really don't know what happened. None of the stuff I'm hearing makes any sense."

123__fitted.jpegDean Ray Stewart, 50, who died by suicide in the Tarrant County Jail, is shown here in happier times.

Jimmy Stewart said he has not heard much about the investigation into his son's suicide or the aggravated assault that landed him in jail and is waiting for more information. During the nearly three weeks when Dean Stewart was in jail, family members said they did not have access to him due to the restrictions Tarrant County officials imposed because of the coronavirus pandemic.

Dean Stewart had gone through some things in the past, a divorce 10 years ago, drug issues, but nothing that gave any forewarning that his suicide was imminent, family members said.

"He really loved his kids and whatever he had he would spend it on them," Jimmy Stewart said. "But he never got his family back together."

Load-Date: May 30, 2020

End of Document



[Tarrant sheriff should spend more time fixing jail, less building his national profile](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

May 29, 2020 Friday

Copyright 2020 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: other_voices

Length: 623 words

Byline: Emily M. Farris

Star-Telegram

Body

Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** is not one to shy away from publicity.

Whether on Fox News, speaking at the White House, or standing before the cameras with conservative commentator Allen West, Waybourn has spent the last three and half years trying to politicize the sheriff's office and raise his stardom nationally among conservatives.

But while the sheriff accepts invitations to appear nationally on outlets such as Fox News, he failed to inform the local public or respond to a Star-Telegram reporter's request for information about how the jail he runs lost state certification this week by not meeting minimum standards.

As the sheriff was at the hospital after West's motorcycle wreck in Waco, someone being held in Waybourn's jail died of coronavirus at John Peter Smith Hospital in Fort Worth.

And while Waybourn stood in front of a White House lectern and demonized immigrants last year, he couldn't provide basic statistics about inmates in his jail while asking the Tarrant County Commissioners Court to spend taxpayer dollars to renew the county's voluntary 287(g) immigration program, in which jail deputies perform some federal immigration duties.

Sheriffs' primary tasks are to run jails and conduct law enforcement duties, such as investigating crime and serving warrants. Unlike police chiefs, sheriffs are accountable directly to the voters for the job they do as elected officials.

My research on sheriffs with Dr. Mirya Holman of Tulane University shows that they are key local policymakers. As politicians with independent authority, there are few checks on sheriffs by other local leaders, leaving it up to the voters' to assess their job performance.



When a sheriff obscures troubling information about his major duties, he breaks his obligation to the public, leaving the office open to abuses of power.

All evidence indicates that Waybourn is failing to properly run his jail. On April 26, the sheriff's office reported that an inmate died by suicide. On May 17, a woman who had been imprisoned since January gave birth without anyone noticing.

The jail lost state certification by not conducting the required 30-minute face-to-face observation checks, and Waybourn has not responded to questions nor made this information public. This raises serious questions about his ability to keep people in custody safe.

This is particularly problematic amid the coronavirus pandemic, as Waybourn refuses to make common-sense moves. Jails and prisons are hotspots of infection and sheriffs have a responsibility for the welfare of their employees and those they imprison.

At Waybourn's jail, 41 inmates and 18 jail staffers currently have coronavirus, and one man has already died. Waybourn has not released a public plan for testing or tracing cases to protect those in custody and staff. Despite numerous calls to release nonviolent offenders to lessen the potential for the spread of the disease in jail, Waybourn continues to book offenders for offenses such as possession of marijuana, putting more at dangerous risk to the virus.

Waybourn is up for re-election this fall. My research on sheriffs demonstrates that who you elect as sheriff matters for the policies they pursue. Waybourn should be doing more to explain to voters about how he is fit for another four years at the job given these failures.

Voters should demand answers and better efforts. Or maybe it is time for a new sheriff in town who cares more about the job here in Tarrant County than the national stage.

Emily M. Farris is an associate professor of political science at Texas Christian University.

Editor's note: Updated Friday morning to reflect Sheriff's Office update on the date the inmate gave birth and with latest coronavirus case numbers.

Load-Date: May 30, 2020

End of Document

[Watchdog Group Wants Tarrant County Sheriff's Office Investigated After Decertification And Unattended Jail Birth](https://dfw.cbslocal.com/2020/05/29/watchdog-group-tarrant-county-sheriffs-office-investigate-decertification-jail-birth/)

WebNews - English

CBS Dallas Fort Worth

<https://dfw.cbslocal.com/2020/05/29/watchdog-group-tarrant-county-sheriffs-office-investigate-decertification-jail-birth/>

May 29, 2020 Friday

Length: 424 words



Body

FORT WORTH (CBSDFW.COM) – A jail watchdog group is calling on Tarrant County Commissioners to investigate the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office after the jail temporarily lost certification and a woman, unbeknownst to corrections officers, gave birth in a ja... FORT WORTH...

End of Document

[Tarrant County Jail Inmate Dies Of Coronavirus After 3 Weeks In Hospital](https://dfw.cbslocal.com/2020/05/25/tarrant-county-jail-inmate-dies-coronavirus-hospital/)

WebNews - English

CBS Dallas Fort Worth

<https://dfw.cbslocal.com/2020/05/25/tarrant-county-jail-inmate-dies-coronavirus-hospital/>

May 26, 2020 Tuesday

Length: 141 words

Body

FORT WORTH (CBSDFW.COM) – A Tarrant County Jail inmate died of COVID-19 and underlying...

End of Document

[President's Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice Holds Hearing on Juvenile Justice via Series of Teleconferences](#)

Impact News Service

May 8, 2020 Friday

Copyright 2020 Impact Media Limited All Rights Reserved





Length: 782 words

Body

Washington: U.S Department of Justice has issued the following news release:

This week, the President's Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice held a hearing on juvenile justice over three days via teleconference. Each teleconference featured expert witnesses who provided testimony and, subsequently, answered questions from the Commissioners.

On Tuesday, May 5, the Commission received testimony from Tim Irwin, Juvenile Judge, Knox County, Tenn.; Brett Kyker, Juvenile Division Chief, Cuyahoga County, Ohio, and; John F. Clark, President and Chief Executive Officer of the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC).

Testimony and discussions focused on framing the issue and the need for accountability. Judge Irwin stated that juvenile court is "not an independent kingdom." It needs to work with all the other pieces of juvenile justice - especially social services - in rehabilitating children and keeping them, as well as entire communities, safe. Chief Kyker recommended to the Commission that law enforcement assess juveniles when they first encounter them and provide them with tailored services to steer them away from the criminal justice system. President Clark testified that NCMEC provides age-appropriate safety and prevention resources on topics of online and real-world safety. He emphasized that prevention education and awareness is especially essential in times of unpredictability for children, such as this current time-frame when COVID19 stay-at-home orders are in place.

On Wednesday, May 6, the Commission heard testimony from Mo Canady, Executive Director of the National Association of School Resource Officers; Tarrant County (Texas) Sheriff **Bill E. Waybourn**; Thomas Lemmer, Member, Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #7, Deputy Chief, Chicago Police Department, and; Addison Davis, School Superintendent of Hillsborough County Public Schools in Florida. Superintendent Davis was joined by John Newman, Chief of Security and Emergency Management for Hillsborough County Public Schools for the Q and A portion of the hearing.

Testimony and discussion focused on how law enforcement addresses juveniles involved in crime. Executive Director Canady told the Commission that the number one goal of any successful school resource officer must be to "bridge the gap" between law enforcement and youth. He argued that positive relationships between students and school resource officers lay a powerful foundation for the exchange of information and the protective support of students. **Sheriff Waybourn** stated: "If we could take dollars that are spent on the juvenile justice system and spend those dollars on the front end while also reexamining our foster care program, we could focus on the forgotten children that we later call delinquents." Deputy Chief Lemmer urged the Commission to acknowledge the core role of the juvenile court structure. He believes that a 'multi-layer community response [to juvenile justice] is needed,' including robust prevention



measures and effective child welfare monitoring. Superintendent Davis urged the Commission to consider initiating a standardized threat assessment instrument that is accessible to all school districts in our nation.

On Thursday, May 7, the Commission completed its hearing on juvenile justice with testimony from Pam Iorio, President and Chief Executive Officer of Big Brothers Big Sisters of America; Steve Salem, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Cal Ripken Sr. Foundation; Wintley Phipps, Founder, President and Chief Executive Officer of U.S Dream Academy Inc., and; Jim Clark, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Boys & Girls Clubs of America.

Testimony and discussion focused on youth mentorship. President Iorio discussed the benefits of the Big Brothers Big Sisters' one-to-one mentoring programs and the impact it has on keeping children out of the juvenile justice system. President Clark discussed how the COVID19 pandemic is presenting new challenges to juvenile justice... "The risk factors that kids face at home and in their communities are magnified – putting them at even higher risk than ever before." Clark believes that 'prioritizing prevention and early intervention with youth will reduce the potential impacts of community violence, gang activity and engagement in high-risk activity.' President Phipps testified that "intergenerational incarceration fuels the normalization of incarceration... Mentoring is the last great hope when the family disintegrates." President Salem recommends that police executives encourage and reward officers that engage in youth development programs to provide positive interactions between police and youth.

Load-Date: May 9, 2020

End of Document

[President's Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Justice hearing](#)

AP Planner

May 6, 2020 Wednesday

Copyright 2020 Associated Press All Rights Reserved

Section: ISSUES; Youth (13-25 years); Social Issues

Length: 105 words

Body

Presidential Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice holds teleconference on 'How Law Enforcement Addresses Juveniles Involved in Crime' - part of its hearing on 'Juvenile Justice' - featuring Hillsborough County Public Schools School Superintendent Addison Davis and Chief of Security & Emergency Management John Newman, National Association of School Resource Officers Executive Director Mo Canady, Tarrant County, TX, Sheriff **Bill Waybourn**, and Chicago Police Department Deputy Chief Thomas Lemmer

Event Start Date: 2020-05-06

Event End Date: 2020-05-06



Event URL: <http://www.justice.gov>

Event time: 14:00 EDT

Load-Date: May 6, 2020

End of Document

[Number of Tarrant County inmates testing positive for coronavirus grows by two-thirds](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

May 1, 2020 Friday

Copyright 2020 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: local

Length: 751 words

Byline: Mitch Mitchell

Star-Telegram

Body

On Monday, officials with the Tarrant County Jail reported that 47 inmates had tested positive for COVID-19, which is caused by the novel coronavirus.

By Friday that number had grown to 78, nearly a 66% increase.

According to Tarrant County officials, four inmates have recovered from the disease, while 18 jail staff employees have tested positive. Four members of the jail staff also have recovered, Tarrant County officials reported.

All inmates and jail staff members who have tested positive for COVID-19 are in quarantine, are in good condition and are receiving treatment, a news release from the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office says.

In late April, eight inmates had tested positive. Four jailers had been infected and 50 were in self-quarantine. There were 102 quarantined inmates.

Tarrant County officials reported that on Friday the jail population was 3,385, up slightly from April 24 when the number of inmates in the jails had been reduced to 3,312.



Near the end of March, when Tarrant County's effort to reduce the jail population was intensifying, the inmate count was 3,552, the lowest it had been in two years, according to Tarrant County Sheriff's Department officials. No inmates or jail staff had tested positive for the novel coronavirus, which causes COVID-19, in late March, according to JPS officials.

IMG_6210.jpgTarrant Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** spoke during a White House press briefing Thursday.

Jail personnel blocked entrance for inmates transported from other locations if they had temperatures or if they presented any evidence of having a coronavirus infection, outside programs inside the jail were either suspended or curtailed, and Tarrant County sheriff's deputies were instructed to use their discretion to avoid transporting people to jail who were not a threat to society, according to Lt. Jennifer Gabbert, Tarrant County Sheriff's Office spokeswoman.

At the beginning of the effort to reduce the jail population, criminal justice advocates warned that even one coronavirus positive case in the facility could be catastrophic.

"If somebody at the jail would get that virus, the disease would spread through that building like wildfire because you wouldn't know how long they had it before you were finally able to catch it," said Gary Smart, Tarrant County Criminal Defense Lawyers Association president. "It would spread like wildfire before you even knew it existed."

Pamela Young, the lead organizer of United Fort Worth's Criminal Action Team, has advocated at weekly Tarrant County commissioners meetings that no one who is arrested on a nonviolent charge should be booked into jail -- especially inmates who are considered medically fragile and are more likely to have serious symptoms if they contract the coronavirus.

From April 8 to April 12, records analyzed by the Star-Telegram show that 349 people were booked into the county jail. On April 22, 252 of them were still jailed. And of those, at least 34 people were being held for nonviolent misdemeanors.

In a joint letter to Fort Worth and Tarrant County officials in late March, advocates described Tarrant County jails as squalid, without the opportunity for social distancing and inside an environment where healthcare is deficient.

"This is a recipe for the rapid spread of disease through correction officer contact and other personnel who could facilitate community spread throughout the jail," said the letter, signed onto by groups such as United Fort Worth, The Tarrant County Coalition for Community Oversight and the immigrant advocacy group RAICES.

The groups also described the jails as a revolving door, with dozens of people going in and being released back into the community every day. If someone goes into jail for a misdemeanor drug possession for two or three days, then goes back home asymptomatic but infected, the potential is there for that person to infect both family and community members, said Young, the United Fort Worth spokeswoman.

"It's imperative to make every effort to make sure that people who are not a threat to the community are released," Young said. "We need those dollars and resources to mitigate the COVID-19 right now, not to prop up a system where the disease can spread. Not only do we have people in there like sitting ducks, we have staff who goes home every day. It's a perfect storm for an outbreak that could be uncontrollable. And it's inhumane for people who are not a threat to be locked up for no reason."

This story includes information from Star-Telegram archives



Load-Date: May 2, 2020

End of Document

[Protecting Texas inmates from coronavirus is public safety 'chess game,' sheriff says](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

April 29, 2020 Wednesday

Copyright 2020 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: crime

Length: 1133 words

Byline: Nichole Manna

Star-Telegram

Dateline: FORT WORTH

Body

Within four days in early April, almost 100 people were booked into the Tarrant County Jail and then later released.

They sat where others sat before them. They touched doors, handles and benches and then saw a magistrate judge, who decided to release them on bond.

Once released, they were back out in Tarrant County, likely shopping at grocery stores, getting gas or going to work.

In the meantime, jail employees, contractors who cook in the kitchen and officers who make the arrests were exposed to nearly every person who is eventually locked up.

This daily rotation of people in and out of the jail is one reason officials say they are working to contain the spread of coronavirus within its walls.

On Monday, the jail recorded 47 inmates who have tested positive for the novel coronavirus. A week earlier, eight inmates had tested positive. Four jailers have been infected and 50 are in self-quarantine. There are 102 quarantined inmates.

"It's just a chess game, keeping the hot spots away from a large part of the general population," Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** said on April 21 -- the last time he spoke publicly about containment strategies at the jail. He



noted there were about 3,300 people in jail, which is about 400 fewer inmates than what the jail reported on April 1. Since March, the population has dropped by 17%, according to KERA News.

Waybourn was not at the Tarrant County commissioners meeting on Tuesday, when several residents called to say they're concerned about how the jail is handling the spread of COVID-19.

Albert Roberts, a Fort Worth defense attorney who previously worked in the district attorney's office, said the fight to keep COVID-19 infections down at the jail is one everyone should be worried about.

"It goes back to the principle that we have to care about everyone else's health as much as our own," he said. "I say that because we share a lot of public open spaces with people who have either gone into the jail or work there."

Roberts said the blame for any increase of infections isn't on one person, but the system as a whole. He recognizes that important steps have been taken to mitigate the spread, but that more can be done -- such as widespread testing.

Tarrant County's jail cases match those of Bexar County, where the population is also around 2 million. The county reported on Monday that 58 inmates tested positive and 1,153 were in quarantine. Nineteen jailers tested positive. Its population has shrank by 8% since March.

Who is left in the jail?

The Star-Telegram received data from a source about 35 inmates in the jail who tested positive for COVID-19. At least 19 of them were booked on nonviolent charges. Of those, one inmate had no local criminal history, and 13 had never been accused of a violent crime in Tarrant County, according to court records.

Those who tested positive are men ranging in age from 23 to 51, according to the information.

Two inmates are being treated at John Peter Smith hospital, Waybourn said. The others can leave the jail to seek treatment elsewhere if they're able to make their cash bonds.

Pamela Young, the lead organizer of United Fort Worth's Criminal Action Team, has advocated at weekly Tarrant County commissioners meetings that no one who is arrested on a nonviolent charge should be booked into jail -- especially inmates who are considered medically fragile and are more likely to have serious symptoms if they contract the coronavirus.

From April 8 to April 12, records analyzed by the Star-Telegram show that 349 people were booked into the county jail. On April 22, 252 of them were still jailed. And of those, at least 34 people were being held for nonviolent misdemeanors.

In an email to Young, a spokeswoman for the sheriff's office wrote that all releases are the result of a court proceeding, either a bond or sentence end date.

"The Sheriff's Office has absolutely no control how Judges call their cases," the spokeswoman, Jennifer Gabbert, wrote. "Due to that fact we have no knowledge of when any inmate will be called to court until the daily docket is presented to the Sheriff's Office. The County Jail is a holding facility for inmates with pending cases. They do not make determination on immediate release without the completion of a case by the courts."

Defense attorneys have said the issuance of a personal recognizance (non-payment) bonds by a magistrate judge have increased over the last couple of months, but that the district attorney's office should waive



"enhancement of crimes" when people are arrested for offenses such as criminal trespass. That means a punishment can be more severe, according to Roberts, the defense attorney.

Fort Worth attorney Daniel Collins said that more clients are getting the opportunity to leave jail without paying a bond.

"Most people in there with cash bonds are because they have a history or there's some other factor that a magistrate judge has looked at," he said.

Patrick Curran, a defense attorney who has several dozen clients being held at the jail, said he's worried about their health.

"I want all of my clients released if they're not in there for violent crimes," he said on Friday. "I'm trying to get bond reductions for my clients."

He said there have been no delays in bond hearings and said court appearances have been running smoothly despite the social distancing limitations.

What can the sheriff do?

Young argued that Waybourn can do better at acting as an advocate for the people in his jail, like Dallas County Sheriff Marian Brown, who Young said has created a list of medically fragile inmates to send to the district attorney to see who might be eligible for compassionate release.

"Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** refuses to do even that," she said.

On Monday, Dallas County reported that 141 inmates had tested positive for coronavirus. Another 801 are in quarantine. Twenty-one jailers have tested positive.

The Texas Code of Criminal Procedure prohibits Waybourn from releasing inmates himself.

Waybourn said last week that the district attorney's office analyzes every misdemeanor arrest on a weekly basis and then they discuss possible release.

In a statement, District Attorney Sharen Wilson said she and others in the criminal justice system have been cognizant of the number of people in the jail.

"This is especially vital now that the Texas Department of Corrections has declined to accept any felons from county jails," she said, adding that her office has received the cases of people charged and not yet convicted. Some of those resulted in dispositions.

"We also reviewed the cases of defendants who had received jail sentences. Those defendants who had non-violent charges, no violent history, and were near the end of their jail sentence were considered for early release."

Anna Tinsley contributed to this story.

Load-Date: April 29, 2020

End of Document



[Coronavirus live updates April 29: Here's what to know in the Dallas-Fort Worth area](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

April 29, 2020 Wednesday

Copyright 2020 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: coronavirus

Length: 3877 words

Byline: Star-Telegram staff

Star-Telegram

Dateline: FORT WORTH

Body

We're keeping track of the most up-to-date news about the coronavirus in the Dallas-Fort Worth metro area. Check back for updates.

Companies are hiring hundreds to work at home in Fort Worth, and not just temporarily

The coronavirus crisis has elevated the stay-at-home job -- once a domain of high-pressure sales calls, and envelope-stuffing scams -- to a more prestigious place.

Google hangouts and Zoom encounters with co-workers are now a common part of American workplace culture.

And, although for many people working from home is a temporary arrangement, others may be drawn to the idea of working from home permanently. For those workers with a home office, a growing number of full-time job opportunities is becoming available.

"We tend to see more efficiency and higher retention from our work-at-home population than we do from our brick and mortar, stand-alone facilities," Dave Palmer, president of Singapore-based Everise, said in a phone interview.

Everise aims to hire at least 300 people from the Fort Worth area in the coming weeks, Palmer said. The jobs are 100% home-based, and involve fielding calls from customers of insurance companies, including callers who need information about their Medicare coverage.

Palmer, who is based in Arizona, said the company is recruiting from the Dallas-Fort Worth area because its demographics show a large number of North Texans already have state insurance licenses, which are required for the job openings.



Cruise ship ended up being safest place for Dallas-Fort Worth woman amid coronavirus

When Dana Lindberg boarded the cruise ship the longest she should have to be at sea consecutively was five days. But by the end of the four-month trip she had been at sea for 40 consecutive days.

Last Friday in Genoa, Italy, the native of Arlington and current resident of Grapevine walked off a cruise ship that she boarded in Venice five days into 2020, and was scheduled to take her around the world.

The Costa Deliziosa was the last of the three remaining passenger ships still sailing to dock. With ports denying cruise ships entry, before Friday, the last time she had been on land was March 14, in Albany, Australia -- nearly six consecutive weeks at sea.

While cruise ships became the symbol of floating "hot zones" for the coronavirus, Lindberg's cruise is the antithesis of the perception that the last place in the world you want to be is on a boat with 1,500 other people.

Lindberg's voyage didn't stop at every scheduled port, but her ship did make it all the way 'round the world, and gave her an experience no "cruiser" has ever had before.

"It was incredible what they had to do. I am not sure it's ever been done before in the history of cruise ships," Lindberg said in a phone interview while she was in her hotel room in Milan. "Most of the cruise ships had to abandon in the middle of their trips and sent passengers back home.

"We never got the virus. We were one of the only ships without it. If we had, it would have been horrible."

A month after giving birth, prison inmate dies of coronavirus at Fort Worth hospital

A 30-year-old inmate at Fort Worth's federal medical prison who had the novel coronavirus died Tuesday at a hospital, about a month after she delivered a baby by cesarean section, authorities said.

Andrea Circle Bear's child was born on April 1, three days after it was clear that the Federal Medical Center Carswell inmate was positive for COVID-19, the Federal Bureau of Prisons said.

Circle Bear had been in custody at Carswell since March 20, when she arrived from the city jail in Winner, South Dakota. She had been sentenced in the District of South Dakota to 26 months for maintaining a drug involved premises.

Circle Bear was evaluated on March 28 by Carswell health staff and taken to a hospital because of concerns about her pregnancy, the prisons bureau said. After an evaluation, she was discharged the same day and returned to Carswell.

On March 31, Circle Bear had a fever, dry cough and other symptoms and was seen by Carswell health staff. She was taken to a hospital for further treatment and evaluation and placed on a ventilator.

Protecting Tarrant County inmates from coronavirus is public safety 'chess game,' sheriff says

Within four days in early April, almost 100 people were booked into the Tarrant County Jail and then later released.

They sat where others sat before them. They touched doors, handles and benches and then saw a magistrate judge, who decided to release them on bond.



Once released, they were back out in Tarrant County, likely shopping at grocery stores, getting gas or going to work.

In the meantime, jail employees, contractors who cook in the kitchen and officers who make the arrests were exposed to nearly every person who is eventually locked up.

This daily rotation of people in and out of the jail is one reason officials say they are working to contain the spread of coronavirus within its walls.

On Monday, the jail recorded 47 inmates who have tested positive for the novel coronavirus. A week earlier, eight inmates had tested positive. Four jailers have been infected and 50 are in self-quarantine. There are 102 quarantined inmates.

"It's just a chess game, keeping the hot spots away from a large part of the general population," Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** said on April 21 -- the last time he spoke publicly about containment strategies at the jail. He noted there were about 3,300 people in jail, which is about 400 fewer inmates than what the jail reported on April 1. Since March, the population has dropped by 17%, according to KERA News.

Cheers! Texans may be able to order alcohol to go 'forever,' Gov. Abbott tweets

Ordering alcohol to go from your favorite Texas restaurant may not be just a coronavirus thing.

Texas Gov. Greg Abbott said late Tuesday night the sales of alcohol to go can continue after May 1, when restaurants in the state are allowed to reopen.

"From what I hear from Texans, we may just let this keep going on forever," Abbott tweeted.

You hear that, Texans? You can continue to order your margaritas, craft beer and Chardonnay from restaurants in the state and bring it back home.

Sales of beer, wine and mixed drinks have been allowed by the state government during the coronavirus pandemic, as restaurants were forced to halt dine-in services.

A recent plan from Abbott will allow restaurants to reopen Friday as long as they limit occupancy to 25%. Expanded to-go and delivery options will continue to be allowed.

Under the rules for reopening, tables must be six feet apart and cannot seat more than six people, and hand sanitizing stations must be available at entrances, Abbott said in his "Open Texas" report earlier this week.

Restaurants with a mixed beverage permit from the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission can serve alcohol as long as it's accompanied by a food order. Those with a wine and beer permit can sell alcohol without the purchase of food, according to Texas ABC.

Looking for a ticket refund? Texas Rangers to unveil policy on games lost to coronavirus

Major League Baseball has given its 30 teams the go-ahead to begin issuing refunds for games that have been missed so far because of the coronavirus pandemic, and the Texas Rangers are expected to detail their policy this week.

No games have officially been canceled, only postponed, but the move by MLB appears to be an acknowledgment that 162 games won't be played in whatever form the 2020 season takes.



Clubs reportedly are not under any sort of league mandate to issue refunds, but MLB and the clubs are aware that fans might need money back during the economic downturn and that doing so might create goodwill.

The Rangers will see their 18th home date of the season at the new Globe Life Field postponed Wednesday. MLB has not settled on a plan on how to play a shortened season, but fans are not expected to be allowed into ballparks once the season resumes.

Arlington adopts Texas governor's relaxed order on reopening economy during pandemic

The Arlington City Council adopted Tuesday orders from Gov. Greg Abbott for reopening Texas' economy amid the coronavirus pandemic starting Friday.

Texans have been restricted from leaving their homes except for "essential activities" since early April, a measure Abbott said has worked to reduce the spread of the coronavirus.

Arlington Mayor Jeff Williams said residents should continue to practice social distancing and good hygiene to prove that the city is ready for the economy, including restaurants, stores and recreational businesses, to reopen.

The plan to end the quarantine will come in phases, according to the governor's plan.

The first set of businesses to reopen, limited to 25% capacity, will include restaurants, shopping malls (though food courts and children's play areas will remain closed), movie theaters, libraries and museums.

Businesses will have to ensure customers practice social distancing when patronizing.

Is it 'foolish' to reopen Texas? What to expect if you shop or eat out this weekend

Texas will look radically different on Friday than it did before the novel coronavirus struck, even as Fort Worth restaurateurs and retailers move eagerly to restart the economy.

Gov. Greg Abbott on Monday said restaurants, stores, theaters, museums and libraries could reopen at 25% occupancy if they ensured social distancing. It's the first step in a three-part plan to reopen the state that he championed as both socially responsible and economically necessary.

Restaurant and store employees across Fort Worth will be wearing masks and patrons are encouraged to do the same. Many owners said they're reopening out of necessity, with reservations about how the coronavirus will spread.

"It's not going to look pretty," said Gayle Hill, operating officer of Maverick Fine Western Wear and the General Store in the Stockyards.

Both stores are installing Plexiglass at checkouts, taping the floor to mark six-foot distances, and requiring employees and shoppers to wear masks. Sales have fallen more than 75%, she said, so the businesses need to reopen to survive.

Fort Worth restaurants are also taking steps to keep customers safe.

Tim Love has been working for about a week to open nine of his restaurants -- excluding The White Elephant and Love Shack -- and has consulted with the city to develop protocols for restaurants that go beyond social distancing.



Customers will be screened for fevers, he said, and some locations will have disposable bags to store masks. Each of his buildings has been professionally cleaned and staff will be instructed to wash their hands frequently.

Bar crawl 'for freedom' planned in Fort Worth Stockyards to protest coronavirus order

A "Honkytonk Crawl for Freedom" is planned in the Fort Worth Stockyards on Friday to protest state and local coronavirus shutdown orders.

Chris Putnam, a conservative who lost against incumbent Kay Granger in Texas' 12th Congressional District Republican primary in March, is listed as the host of "The Fort Worth Stockyards Honkytonk Crawl for Freedom." The protest is planned for 9 p.m. to 12 a.m. at the Basement Bar in the Stockyards, according to the Facebook event.

"Join freedom and liberty-loving patriots as we exercise our Constitutional right to peacefully assemble in support of Fort Worth Stockyards business owners challenging ongoing un-Constitutional, government-imposed closures," the description of the event said.

On Tuesday afternoon, Putnam declined to comment.

The Basement Bar, which announced on Facebook it would open on May 1, is also listed as a host of the crawl. An owner of the bar, Johnny Cooper, said in a Facebook message that the Basement Bar did not create the event.

City officials said they are ready to issue violations over the crawl, said Brandon Bennett, director of Fort Worth Code Compliance.

"Our lawyers are preparing a letter to the business outlining our intended action for enforcement and we have reached out to TABC for assistance/address liquor license if they proceed in violation of the Governor's Order," Bennett said. "We are ready to address any violations."

Gov. Greg Abbott announced Monday that certain businesses, including restaurants, retail stores and movie theaters, will be allowed to open up at limited capacity on May 1. Bars, however, are not among those businesses that are permitted to operate.

Tarrant County reports 5 more coronavirus deaths, including in Fort Worth, Arlington

Tarrant County reported five more coronavirus deaths and 69 new cases on Tuesday.

The deceased include two Fort Worth men in their 60s, a Grapevine man in his 80s, and two Arlington women in their 70s and 90s.

Tarrant County has confirmed 58 COVID-19 deaths and 2,088 cases, including 289 recoveries.

"Every loss of life to this disease is difficult for us to report, and we are sad for the families and friends of those who are lost," Tarrant County Public Health Director Vinny Taneja said in a news release.

John Peter Smith Hospital has confirmed 200 positive COVID-19 cases, including 59 current coronavirus patients. Nineteen of the COVID-19 patients are in the intensive care unit, including 13 on ventilators

Of the 58 deaths, 33 have been residents of Fort Worth, six in Arlington, and two each in Azle, Forest Hill, Grapevine, Haltom City, Mansfield, and rural Tarrant County. There has been one death each reported in Grand Prairie, Hurst, Keller, Lakeside, River Oaks, Sansom Park, and Southlake.



Coronavirus cases dashboard

After deadliest day, Dallas judge says 'governor's orders may change ... science will not'

Dallas County tied a single-day high with 10 coronavirus deaths on Tuesday, ranging in age from 17 to the 90s.

Health officials also reported a single-day high 135 new COVID-19 cases for a total of 3,240, including 94 deaths.

Among the latest deaths were two Lancaster residents, including a 17-year-old girl and man in his 40s. Five of the patients were residents of Dallas, one was from Garland and one was from Carrollton. A male in his 60s who was an inmate at a state correctional facility also died. Three of the Dallas deaths were residents of long-term care facilities.

The deceased included two in their 30s, two in their 40s, two in their 70s and one each in their 60s, 80s and 90s.

Dallas County Judge Clay Jenkins cautioned business owners and residents to adhere to strict social distancing pandemic guidelines despite Gov. Greg Abbott reopening up the state's businesses beginning Friday.

"With the Governor's decree [Monday] opening up more businesses throughout Texas, both North Texas business owners and residents must be particularly careful in making their best personal responsibility choices," Jenkins said in a release. "The White House and most public health experts are cautioning that the safety precautions should not be loosened until deaths and new cases have seen a two-week decline and there is sufficient testing in the state to provide protection to workers and patrons in the newly open businesses."

None of the criteria have been met, Jenkins noted, in either the state or in North Texas.

"So it's particularly important that you exercise good personal decisions to keep you, your family and our community safe," he said. "Remember, the Governor's orders may change but the underlying science will not. I strongly recommend everyone take their advice from the CDC and local health authorities as to what is safe for them, their families and our broader community."

Dallas-area high school student dies from coronavirus, officials say

A 17-year-old girl from Lancaster has died from the coronavirus, according to officials.

Jameela Dirrean-Emoni Barber, who was a student at Lancaster High School, is the first person to die from COVID-19 in the city, Lancaster Independent School District confirmed to Star-Telegram media partner WFAA-TV. Health officials there have confirmed 41 cases.

"Our thoughts and prayers go out to her family as they process the loss of their loved one," Lancaster Mayor Clyde C. Hairston said in a news release. "It is devastating to see the havoc this virus has put on our community both young and old. We will continue to pray for the family and the safety of our residents during this difficult time."

Hairston urged residents to continue to practice CDC-recommended social distancing guidelines to control the spread of COVID-19.



Lancaster ISD Superintendent Elijah Granger said in a letter to the community that Jameela was a well-rounded student who was part of the National Honor Society and involved with JROTC, according to the Dallas Morning News.

"Her absence leaves us with fond memories, and the unexplainable sadness of a life gone too soon," Granger said. "While we will strive to move forward, this day in our district is marked by pain and despair."

After first coronavirus death, Burleson mayor urges churches to hold off services

Burleson reported its first coronavirus death on Tuesday, that of a 78-year-old man.

The city has confirmed 34 COVID-19 cases, including 20 recoveries.

Burleson Mayor Ken Shetter urged church leaders to consider holding off on in-person services despite Gov. Greg Abbott's reopening orders, which go into effect on Friday.

"We are approaching or are at the peak of the curve and the risk of spreading COVID-19 has not yet diminished in the state of Texas, particularly in the Tarrant County area," Shetter said Tuesday during a briefing carried live on Facebook. "Under the CDC guidelines it's still not safe for people to gather. Hold off until we've seen 14 consecutive days of declining rates of new cases."

Johnson County has confirmed 76 coronavirus cases, including four deaths and 38 recoveries.

Shetter cautioned that the reopening plan does not mean residents are free to congregate or stop adhering to social distancing guidelines.

"If we were to do that, according to every health official that I've heard from, we would be putting ourselves at great risk of experiencing a secondary surge," he said. "We're still not through the first surge yet."

Collin County reports two more coronavirus deaths

Collin County reported two more coronavirus deaths in McKinney on Tuesday, including the 10th resident of an assisted living facility.

A 90-year-old man who died Tuesday morning is the 10th resident to die from the Oxford Grand Assisted Living and Memory Center in McKinney. He was diagnosed on April 17 and had underlying health conditions.

A 102-year-old Plano man with underlying health conditions died of COVID-19-related issues at the Life Care Center of Plano.

"To his family, please know that you are in our thoughts and prayers during this difficult time," Collin County Judge Chris Hill said in a release. "It is always painful to lose a loved one."

Collin County has confirmed 19 coronavirus deaths and 692 cases, including 16 new cases and 473 recoveries. Of the 200 active patients, 26 have been hospitalized.

Denton County offers drive-thru tests

Denton County reported 13 new COVID-19 cases Tuesday for a total of 738, including 20 deaths and 358 recoveries.

Denton County Public Health is opening its first drive-thru testing center from 8 a.m. to noon Saturday at the DCPH building, 535 South Loop 288 #1003, in Denton.



Prospective patients must have experienced COVID-19 symptoms within the past seven days. To register, call 940-349-2585. Two hundred tests are available on Saturday, and health officials plan to offer additional drive-thru testing sites in the future.

Dallas/Fort Worth Counties Coronavirus map embed

Despite Abbott's coronavirus order, we should stay home, Tarrant commissioner says

Tarrant County's stay-at-home order will expire Thursday and then Gov. Greg Abbott's recent order that lets some businesses reopen on Friday will go into effect.

County commissioners decided Tuesday not to put their own order in effect, to avoid creating confusion with the governor's order.

"I think he's made it pretty clear," Tarrant County Judge Glen Whitley said Tuesday, during a break in the county commissioners meeting.

Abbott on Monday said Texas businesses will reopen in phases. On Friday, restaurants, movie theaters, malls, retail stores and more will be able to open doors to limited occupancy. The governor stressed that, while businesses don't have to reopen Friday, officials in communities across Texas may not put stronger or weaker rules into effect.

"With the governor's order, it was pretty well taken out of our hands to do anything to lessen the restrictions or allow us to modify it in any way," Whitley said after some residents clamored during the meeting for their businesses to be able to reopen as well. "It is totally in the hands of the governor and the state when or how we open or close businesses."

That means beauty and nail salons, barbershops and other businesses will have to wait to see if they can reopen in mid-May, when Abbott indicated the next phase may go into effect.

Tipsy Oak restaurant in Arlington opens patio to dine-in customers despite coronavirus

Tipsy Oak in Arlington is opening its tables back up -- at least those on the patio.

The local restaurant began seating customers for full service on its patio Sunday, before Gov. Greg Abbott's plans to gradually reopen businesses in the state were announced Monday.

Tipsy Oak even has concerts with Abbey Brown and The Sound and The Hightower Duo booked for May 1 and 2, respectively.

General Manager Patrick McGlone said the decision to reopen came because owners believe it's time to get employees back to work after the shutdown due to coronavirus.

"We're just at a crossroads where we need to get opened back up and get people back to work," McGlone said. "We need to get back to paying all our employees. A lot of people can't afford being out of work right now."

The restaurant has had a lot of support, he said, with customers Sunday driving from as far as Waco to support the business' decision.

And Arlington officials said Monday that, because Abbott's plan was announced, the restaurant will be able to continue seating customers on its patio. Susan Schrock, the city's spokeswoman, said that bars must remain closed and restaurants will be limited to 25% capacity to prevent spread of the virus.



Not all students have internet for their school work. Read Fort Worth is here to help.

Fort Worth students who haven't had an internet connection to access their online classes will soon have a wireless hot spot to help them out.

The Fort Worth Independent School District and its partner Read Fort Worth are providing the hot spots to students identified through a survey who don't have internet access.

The school district will distribute around 6,000 hot spots.

The outbreak of coronavirus in Texas and Tarrant County led to 80,000 students in Fort Worth's school district learning at home.

Read Fort Worth, which usually focuses on making sure third-grade students can read at grade level, is shifting its focus during the coronavirus pandemic to raise money for the effort. And the organization already has its first donor: Facebook, which has a data center in Fort Worth.

The social media giant has donated \$500,000 to provide the wireless hot spots.

Read Fort Worth needs the community's help to raise the remaining \$350,000, Read Fort Worth Communications and Marketing Consultant Art Garcia said. Donations can be made online at readfortworth.org/be-a-donor/

Load-Date: April 30, 2020

End of Document

['This Is A Law And Order State': Meet The Texas Sheriff Who Didn't Release Inmates Due To Coronavirus; 'We're not releasing prisoners'](#)

The Daily Caller

April 28, 2020 Tuesday 10:01 PM EST

Copyright 2020 The Daily Caller, Inc. All Rights Reserved

Section: EDITORIAL; us; us

Length: 276 words

Byline: Stephanie Hamill, Video Columnist, stephaniehamill@dailycaller.com

Body

[Link to Image](#)

Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** joined the Daily Caller's Stephanie Hamill to discuss Texas' plan to reopen and how his county jail has been handling inmates during the coronavirus pandemic and more.



“This is a law and order state and these people are going through the judicial process, we're not [releasing prisoners](#),” said Sheriff Waybourn. “Regardless of what we want to believe is that we still have a 70 percent recidivism rate all over the country so even though you have great grace like they did in New York and let all those people off, I don't know, law enforcement certainly wasn't surprised that they were brought back to crime.” ([RELATED: EXCLUSIVE: Rep. Dan Crenshaw On Reopening America, PC Culture And More.](#))

There have been several reports of inmates released due to coronavirus who have recently been [accused of committing](#) new crimes.

WATCH: [Link to Video](#)

The views and opinions expressed in this commentary are those of the author and do not reflect the official position of The Daily Caller.

Check out TheDC's fantastic videos and subscribe to our [YouTube channel to avoid missing out.](#)

[SUBSCRIBE!](#)

NOW CHECK OUT The Daily Caller's most popular shows:

[Nike Sides With Colin Kaepernick, Many Customers Revolt](#)

[Inside The Daily Caller's Exclusive Oval Office Interview With President Donald Trump](#)

[Would You Rather Date A Trump Supporter or MS-13 Gang Member?](#)

[New Details About The 'Muslim Extremist' Compound In New Mexico](#)

['Trophy Culture' Hijacks New Jersey High School Cheer Squad](#)

[Fact Checking White House 'Truth Seekers' On North Korea](#)

[Democrats' New Campaign Message: 'Drain The Swamp'](#)

['Fake News' Defends Brutal MS-13 Gang](#)

Graphic

Texas Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** - Photograph: Alex Wroblewski/Bloomberg via Getty Images

Load-Date: April 28, 2020

End of Document

**United States Courts Opinions: UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS FORT WORTH DIVISION: ELIGAH DARNELL, §**



Petitioner, § § VS. § Civil Action No. 4:19-CV-605-O § BILL WAYBOURN, Sheriff, § Tarrant County, Texas, § Respondent.

Impact News Service

April 24, 2020 Friday

Copyright 2020 Impact Media Limited All Rights Reserved



Length: 280 words

Body

Washington: UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS FORT WORTH DIVISION has issued the following order:

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS FORT WORTH DIVISION ELIGAH DARNELL, § Petitioner, § § VS. § Civil Action No. 4:19-CV-605-O § **BILL WAYBOURN**, Sheriff, § Tarrant County, Texas, § Respondent. § OPINION AND ORDER Before the Court is a petition for a writ of habeas corpus pursuant to 28 U.S.C § 2241 filed by Petitioner, Eligah Darnell, a state pretrial detainee confined in the Tarrant County jail, against **Bill Waybourn**, Sheriff of Tarrant County, Texas, Respondent. After considering the pleadings and relief sought by Petitioner, the Court has concluded that the petition should be dismissed on exhaustion grounds. I. BACKGROUND Petitioner has been indicted for the offense of failing to comply with sexual offender registration requirements in Tarrant County, Texas, Case No.1575071D, and is confined awaiting trial. 1 Resp't's Resp. 2-3, ECF No. 6. In this federal petition, Petitioner raises three grounds for relief in which he claims that the indictment violates double jeopardy and collateral estoppel (grounds one and two) and in which he complains of the "futility in state process" as it relates to the requirement that documents be filed electronically (ground three). Pet. 5-6, ECF No. 1. Respondent has filed a response asserting that the petition should be dismissed in part for failure to exhaust state-court remedies and denied in part. Resp't's Resp. 5, ECF No. 6. 1He is also confined on a parole violation hold. Resp't's Resp. 2, ECF No. 6 Case 4:19-cv-00605-O Document 13 Filed 04/17/20 Page 1 of 3 PageID

Load-Date: April 28, 2020

End of Document

[**Mexican drug smugglers feel pandemic pain, just like any other business**](#)



Copyright 2020 ProQuest Information and Learning
All Rights Reserved
Copyright 2020 Clarity Media Group, Inc. Apr 24, 2020

Section: NEWS

Length: 748 words

Byline: Anna Giaritelli

Dateline: Washington, D.C.

Body

FULL TEXT

Sheriffs in southern border states say the billion-dollar business of drug smuggling is being rocked by the perfect storm of unfavorable conditions, potentially spurring higher prices in the United States as supply dries up.

Residents from South America up through Mexico have been locked down under stay-at-home orders in a similar fashion as people in the U.S., making it harder for the cartels to transport drugs to the U.S. southern border. A March 20 Trump administration ban on all nonessential travel at border crossings between the U.S. and Mexico made it more challenging for smugglers to move drugs in vehicles through ports of entry.

On top of that, Border Patrol agents working between those ports of entry are also arresting far fewer illegal immigrants — from 4,000 people a day during the surge last May to less than 100 each day in recent weeks, allowing them to focus on threats like drug smuggling. With ports of entry and the unfenced land in between being closely watched by federal border officials, cartels appear to be cutting back on their movements.

Mark Dannels is sheriff of Cochise County, Arizona, which runs up against 83 miles of the Mexican border. Dannels told the Washington Examiner in his 36 years as a law enforcement official, the suspension of nonessential travel coupled with the Border Patrol's immediately returning all illegal crossers "is the best deterrent we've had on this border" to drug smuggling.

In Dallas-Forth Worth, two sheriffs accustomed to finding smugglers moving drugs on the highways from the border to their cities have seen a downturn in activity amid the global coronavirus outbreak.

"We think it's not coming across the border certainly like it was a month and a half ago — two months ago, which demonstrates that if we lock down that border what happens," said Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn**, whose county is 400 miles north of the border and includes Fort Worth and 2.2 million residents.

"With the COVID-19, what we're seeing is things have started to slow down," said Sheriff Jim Skinner of Collin County, Texas. In Skinner's county northeast of Dallas, deputies have seen a decrease in smuggling-related stops, an indication that fewer loads of drugs are being transported to his region because less is coming over the border.



Drugs regularly smuggled into the U.S. include marijuana, heroin, cocaine, methamphetamine, and fentanyl. Some, such as meth and fentanyl, are man-made substances, while others, like cocaine and marijuana, are grown. The trouble for transnational criminal organizations making substances like meth is that the precursor ingredients needed to make them may be less available from suppliers, Skinner said — just like the ingredients and components of many other products.

“The cartels are hoarding the meth in order to tinker with the market,” Skinner said. “They understand the problems over here and that it’s a little more difficult here to swing [offload] dope because a lot of the places they’d do that are shut down.”

The result is an increase in the demand for drugs, resulting in a surge in the costs. Skinner said the price of meth outside Dallas has recently doubled. Waybourn said the cartels can afford to shut down for a couple months and sit on “tons” of cash as they reevaluate next steps, like hoarding their supplies to cause a price surge.

“The cartels, I can assure you, are cooking up new schemes,” said Skinner. “It’s fair to say that the same thing is happening with law enforcement — retooling, retraining, all the things that we need to be doing to stay on top of this, too. It’s just this constant cat and mouse game.”

Tom Schmerber is sheriff of Maverick County, Texas, which runs up against more than 50 miles of predominantly rural international border. Schmerber said Mexican authorities have also shut down their side of the border, deployed military in the border state of Coahuila, and only allow one person per vehicle. Schmerber said Mexico’s interior closures make it challenging for cartels to get their money from drugs sold in the U.S. back south of the border.

Photo Caption:U.S. Border Patrol agents carry bales of marijuana they found along the highway near Ryan, Texas, about 20 miles from the US-Mexico border, Tuesday, March 28, 2017. One agent said "They (the smugglers) just leave it and come back another day. It's going to be sad when they come back for it." Drug interdiction is a core mission for the Border Patrol. (AP Photo/Rodrigo Abd)

Load-Date: July 13, 2020

End of Document

[65 new cases, 32nd death in Dallas County](#)

THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

April 14, 2020 Tuesday, 1 EDITION

Copyright 2020 THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

DallasNews.com

Section: NEWS; Pg. A04

Length: 679 words

Byline: DANA BRANHAM and TOM STEELE



Body

Dallas County reported 65 new coronavirus cases Monday, but County Judge Clay Jenkins warned that the numbers could be “artificially low” because some COVID-19 testing sites were closed Sunday.

The new cases bring the county’s total to 1,788. Dallas County also reported another death, bringing the toll to 32.

A woman in her 80s who had underlying health problems died of the illness, health officials said. She was a resident of a long-term care facility in Dallas and had been critically ill in a hospital. Officials did not specify the facility where she lived.

The county’s stay-at-home order “is working because the vast majority of the people of North Texas are making good personal responsibility decisions,” Jenkins said in a written statement. “Keep it up together and we will #FlattenTheCurve.”

Of the cases requiring hospitalization in Dallas County, 69% have been either over 60 years old or have had at least one high-risk chronic health problem. Diabetes has been an underlying condition in 30% of all hospitalized patients in Dallas County, officials said.

Collin County officials announced two more coronavirus-related deaths Monday, the county’s ninth and 10th.

The patients who died were an 82-year-old McKinney woman and an 88-year-old Wylie woman. Both had been diagnosed last week and had underlying health problems, officials said.

“We extend our deepest sympathies to the families and loved ones of both these ladies,” County Judge Chris Hill said in a written statement. “Our thoughts and prayers are with them all at this time.”

Nineteen more cases of the illness were reported, bringing the county’s total to 472.

More than half of those patients — 259 — have recovered, officials said. Twenty remain hospitalized.

Twenty-five positive coronavirus tests were reported in Denton County on Monday, as well as 51 recoveries from the disease.

The county has had 507 total cases, with 13 deaths and 182 recoveries.

Two of the cases were among residents at the Denton State Supported Living Center, a facility for adults with developmental and intellectual disabilities that has had a large outbreak of the virus. In addition to 53 residents, 47 staff members have tested positive.

Officials also said that there were 17 COVID-19 cases in residents across more than 100 long-term care facilities in the county.

Health authorities in Tarrant County said Monday that there were 70 new cases of COVID-19 in the county.

The county has had a total of 876 cases. Of those patients, 103 have recovered and 25 have died. No new deaths were reported Monday.



Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** said two inmates at the Tarrant County jail tested positive for the virus over the weekend, the first two inmates to do so.

Both inmates have mild cases and are now isolated, Waybourn said.

“Our team has done an outstanding job at keeping each other and our inmates safe and healthy,” the sheriff’s department said in a Facebook post. “In fact, the Tarrant County jail has served as the model for many other agencies and has been praised for what has been accomplished.”

Rockwall County officials reported three new COVID-19 cases Monday.

One of the patients is a Fate resident and the other two live in Wylie.

The county has reported 29 total cases of the virus.

Officials in Kaufman County said Monday that they had recorded 29 total coronavirus cases, five more than the last time they reported the number of cases.

County Judge Hal Richards, who previously said he could not provide information about specific patients because of privacy laws, said limited information would be available, including the patients’ locations, ages and genders.

Nineteen of the county’s cases have been in the Forney/Mesquite area. Nearly half of the patients — 13 — have been in their 40s. No one in the county has died from coronavirus complications.

Two Johnson County residents tested positive for the coronavirus over the weekend, officials said Monday.

The county has had 35 total COVID-19 cases, with 20 of them being Burleson residents.

dana.branham@dallasnews.com,

tsteele@dallasnews.com

Twitter: @danabranham,

@tomsteele

Load-Date: April 14, 2020

End of Document

[Abbott's jail bond order won't help fight virus](#)

Denton Record-Chronicle (Texas)

April 7, 2020 Tuesday

Copyright 2020 Denton Record-Chronicle
Distributed by Newsbank, Inc. All Rights Reserved

Section: A; Pg. 4

Length: 690 words



Body

This editorial first appeared in the Fort Worth Star-Telegram. Guest editorials don't necessarily reflect the Denton Record-Chronicle's opinions.

When it comes to social distancing and other measures to prevent the spread of coronavirus, every location where people gather counts. That especially includes jails, where space is at a premium.

Since the pandemic took hold, police departments, courts and sheriffs around Texas and the U.S. have worked to reduce incarceration without endangering the public. It's a balance best left to experts. So it's frustrating that Gov. Greg Abbott stepped in with an ill-timed and poorly conceived order that has created confusion for the criminal justice system.

Abbott's executive order, issued March 29, denies release without cash bail to anyone booked into a Texas jail who in the past was "convicted of a crime that involves physical violence or the threat of physical violence," or any person arrested on suspicion of such a crime.

The governor explained that the order was meant to protect Texans from potential violent criminals and preserve resources for the effort to contain COVID-19. And some jurisdictions have seemed a bit too eager to clear out the jails.

Abbott's order creates a stratification of justice based entirely on ability to pay. Release without bail, sometimes known as personal bond, is a way of letting a suspect go free before trial, sometimes in exchange for agreeing to show up for hearings or undergo drug treatment. The last thing our system needs is more incentive to tilt in favor of the wealthy or against the poor.

No sheriff or judge is eager to release someone who goes on to commit a violent crime. But nor do they want to oversee a massive, resource-draining COVID-19 outbreak. Abbott's order injects vagueness and uncertainty into an already difficult balancing act.

Dallas and Harris County jails have already seen coronavirus cases. In Tarrant County, the jails have avoided any cases among inmates or staff. That's been accomplished in part by deliberately releasing nonviolent inmates and keeping those who pose no threat from being booked into the jail in the first place. As of Tuesday, the jail population was 3,443, down from the typical 4,000 or so.

Sheriff **Bill Waybourn**'s staff is still determining how to implement the governor's order, said Lt. Jennifer Gabbert, a public information officer. Department leadership and staff have to go through cases individually to determine if the order applies, and there's no way to tell yet how many inmates could be affected.

"For a lot of people, if you go by exactly what the order says, some charges may have been a long time ago," Gabbert said. "You have to look at their past."

So someone busted on a drug possession charge who had a simple assault conviction years ago - but no sign of violent behavior since - could end up held in jail if they can't pay bail. Someone in the exact same circumstances who can afford bail could go free.

Many police departments, including Fort Worth's, are doing their best not to jail nonviolent, low-level offenders to help fight the pandemic. Abbott's order threatens to undo that kind of work.

And it's not even clear that the order is constitutional. Courts have increasingly held that some bail systems violate provisions of equal justice, and a reform movement is under way.



At the end of his order, Abbott gives judges sweeping discretion to release individuals "for health or medical reasons," as long as district attorneys have a chance to object.

Hmmm: Medical reasons. Like, say, containing the spread of a virus? When an inmate gets sick, taxpayers are on the hook for treatment. County health facilities need to be able to focus on the overall pandemic, and if sheriffs can reduce the burden without releasing violent offenders, they should be trusted to do so.

Until now, Abbott's executive orders waiving state laws and regulations have been targeted and useful in the fight against coronavirus, freeing up resources and taking steps to help the medical, trucking and grocery industries. This one misses the mark, though. He should rescind it immediately.

Load-Date: April 8, 2020

End of Document

[Texas Governor Abbott's jail bond order is unfair -- and won't help fight coronavirus](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

April 2, 2020 Thursday

Copyright 2020 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: editorials

Length: 668 words

Byline: The Fort Worth Star-Telegram Editorial Board

Star-Telegram

Body

When it comes to social distancing and other measures to prevent the spread of coronavirus, every location where people gather counts. That especially includes jails, where space is at a premium.

Since the pandemic took hold, police departments, courts and sheriffs around Texas and the U.S. have worked to reduce incarceration without endangering the public. It's a balance best left to experts. So, it's frustrating that Gov. Greg Abbott stepped in with an ill-timed and poorly conceived order that has created confusion for the criminal justice system.

Abbott's executive order, issued Sunday, denies release without cash bail to anyone booked into a Texas jail who in the past was "convicted of a crime that involves physical violence or the threat of physical violence," or any person arrested on suspicion of such a crime.



The governor explained that the order was meant to protect Texans from potential violent criminals and preserve resources for the effort to contain COVID-19. And some jurisdictions have seemed a bit too eager to clear out the jails.

Abbott's order creates a stratification of justice based entirely on ability to pay. Release without bail, sometimes known as personal bond, is a way of letting a suspect go free before trial, sometimes in exchange for agreeing to show up for hearings or undergo drug treatment. The last thing our system needs is more incentive to tilt in favor of the wealthy or against the poor.

No sheriff or judge is eager to release someone who goes on to commit a violent crime. But nor do they want to oversee a massive, resource-draining COVID-19 outbreak. Abbott's order injects vagueness and uncertainty into an already difficult balancing act.

Dallas and Harris County jails have already seen coronavirus cases. In Tarrant County, the jails have avoided any cases among inmates or staff. That's been accomplished in part by deliberately releasing nonviolent inmates and keeping those who pose no threat from being booked into the jail in the first place. As of Tuesday, the jail population was 3,443, down from the typical 4,000 or so.

Sheriff **Bill Waybourn's** staff is still determining how to implement the governor's order, said Lt. Jennifer Gabbert, a public information officer. Department leadership and staff have to go through cases individually to determine if the order applies, and there's no way to tell yet how many inmates could be affected.

"For a lot of people, if you go by exactly what the order says, some charges may have been a long time ago," Gabbert said. "You have to look at their past."

So, someone busted on a drug possession charge who had a simple assault conviction years ago -- but no sign of violent behavior since -- could end up held in jail if they can't pay bail. Someone in the exact same circumstances who can afford bail could go free.

Many police departments, including Fort Worth's, are doing their best not to jail nonviolent, low-level offenders to help fight the pandemic. Abbott's order threatens to undo that kind of work.

And it's not even clear that the order is constitutional. Courts have increasingly held that some bail systems violate provisions of equal justice, and a reform movement is under way.

At the end of his order, Abbott gives judges sweeping discretion to release individuals "for health or medical reasons," as long as district attorneys have a chance to object.

Hmmm: Medical reasons. Like, say, containing the spread of a virus? When an inmate gets sick, taxpayers are on the hook for treatment. County health facilities need to be able to focus on the overall pandemic, and if sheriffs can reduce the burden without releasing violent offenders, they should be trusted to do so.

Until now, Abbott's executive orders waiving state laws and regulations have been targeted and useful in the fight against coronavirus, freeing up resources and taking steps to help the medical, trucking and grocery industries. This one misses the mark, though. He should rescind it immediately.

Coronavirus form embed

Load-Date: April 2, 2020

End of Document



[Why Jails Are So Important in the Fight Against Coronavirus](#)

The New York Times

April 2, 2020 Thursday 12:10 EST

Copyright 2020 The New York Times Company All Rights Reserved

Section: UPSHOT

Length: 1817 words

Byline: Anna Flagg and Joseph Neff

Highlight: With about 200,000 people flowing into and out of jails every week, there are great risks not only for the detained, but also for jail workers and surrounding communities.

Body

With about 200,000 people flowing into and out of jails every week, there are great risks not only for the detained, but also for jail workers and surrounding communities.

Picture thousands of cruise ships jammed with guests but short on hand sanitizer, protective gear and medical care. Every week, a quarter of the passengers get off, replaced by new people with the potential to either infect or be infected with the coronavirus.

There is a place like that in your community: the county jail, captained by your local elected sheriff, who is charged with preventing Covid-19 outbreaks but most likely has limited supplies and often no say in who enters and leaves the jail.

Both in large jails located in virus hot spots like New York and Seattle and in smaller jails across the country, the churn of people moving in and out threatens to accelerate the spread of the disease, endangering the incarcerated, the staff and the larger community. Some states and jurisdictions [have responded](#) by releasing prisoners or cutting jail time, but many have not.

Analysis of a [database](#) of county- and jurisdiction-level jail populations built by the [Vera Institute of Justice](#) shows the short-term flow of people through local facilities, including some who were admitted more than once, for an average week in 2017 (the most recent year with available data). The Marshall Project and The New York Times found that in a given week, more than 200,000 people are booked into jails across the country; roughly the same number walk out every week.

“It is hugely important that people understand the level of turnover in jails,” said Brandon Garrett, a professor at Duke Law School. “People may have quite short stays, and the turnover means constant cycling in and out of the community.”

Although “prison” and “jail” are often used interchangeably, they are not the same. Prisons hold people convicted of crimes with sentences measured in years and have more stable populations.



Jails are transient. Most there have been charged with crimes but not convicted. Many are waiting to pay bail to be released until trial or can't afford bail. The rest have misdemeanor convictions with sentences counted in months instead of years.

Preventing the spread of the virus in jails is challenging. Social distancing is crucial, but it's virtually impossible in dormitories with rows of beds in a common room. The same is true of two people in a single cell, or group showers or bathrooms that serve dozens. All these dangers escalate when jails are [overcrowded](#), [filthy](#) or [understaffed](#).

Physical contact between staff and the incarcerated is often unavoidable: Officers fingerprint, handcuff and supervise prisoners, as well as escort them to court and drive them to medical appointments. Many other people also flow in and out of jails, like family members who visit; volunteers who counsel or teach or preach; contractors who stock vending machines; and lawyers who meet their clients. Many jails have cut much of that traffic in response to coronavirus by limiting visits, services and vendors, and by moving to online and phone communication.

Early data shows there are already outbreaks inside jail walls. On Monday, New York's Legal Aid Society [reported](#) that 36 out of 1,000 inmates tested positive in New York City jails, versus 4 out of 1,000 people in the city at large. Without knowing how many tests have been run, it's unclear how New York's jails, which are largely on Rikers Island, compare with other areas. If testing rates were similar, the rate of infections at Rikers would be nine times higher than that in New York City over all.

"Density is bad — we know that," said Barun Mathema, an infectious disease epidemiologist at Columbia University who was part of a team that [studied](#) the spread of tuberculosis in a prison in Brazil. The team found that people entered the prison with low rates of infection. Within six months, their rates had shot up 30 times, and remained elevated for years after release. The prison drove the disease not only inside its walls, but also in the neighboring community, according to models of the general population.

Dr. Mathema sees the parallel with coronavirus. People inside jails are more likely to be immune-compromised; they may have diabetes, hypertension, mental illness, substance use problems or other chronic health issues.

Crowded living conditions only increase the risk of infection. "We have to figure out ways to de-densify," he said.

The [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#), the [American Correctional Association](#) and other groups offer guidance for corrections departments on containing the virus: start frequent temperature screenings; take oral medical histories; limit visitors and vendors; increase cleaning; restrict movement; create spaces for isolating; coordinate with health providers; and plan for possible staff shortages.

Laurie Reid, a retired U.S. Public Health Service officer and correctional care nurse, was a liaison between the C.D.C. and the U.S. Marshals Service for 23 years. Ms. Reid said the measures being recommended may be enough to curb the spread of the disease. But she worries that smaller jails may lack the needed masks, gloves, medical equipment, staff and — above all — room to separate people from one another.

"Really, it's going to come down to space," she said. "I guarantee you smaller jails are just praying that nothing happens."

Roberto Potter, a professor of criminal justice at the University of Central Florida who worked with the C.D.C.'s corrections team, sees the spread into jails as inevitable. "It will only take that one asymptomatic case to come in and potentially spread the disease," he said.



Much attention has been focused on the nation's biggest jails: About 150 of them each hold more than 1,000 people. Los Angeles County, the most populous U.S. county, with the nation's largest jail population, has more than 3,000 jail bookings on the average week. The bookings in most jails are much lower, averaging a little over 70 a week, and half book about 30 people a week or fewer.

One is Lamar County in Southern Mississippi, where Sheriff Danny Rigel said he was doing his best to follow C.D.C. guidelines.

He weathered Hurricane Katrina and other disasters, one reason his jail is stocked with N95 masks, nitrile gloves, disposable gowns, surgical masks and disinfectant.

His staff uses a forehead scanner to take the temperature of every arriving officer and person arrested. He has a fogging machine to disinfect police cars, and deputies wear masks when fingerprinting or driving detainees. A nurse is on site 24 hours a day.

His jail is single-celled, with no dorms and no "drunk tank" that holds groups. Its 164 beds are less than two-thirds full, though he fears they'll fill up because the state has stopped picking up people sentenced to prison, leaving them in jails indefinitely.

"If we have an outbreak in the jail, we're going to be in a bind, like everyone else," he said. "This is like a big hurricane that we hope won't get here."

The way to "de-densify" a jail sounds simple: reduce bookings and accelerate releases, something over which sheriffs have limited control. Judges determine who exits jail by setting bond amounts and other conditions of pretrial release.

Police officers decide whether to arrest and book a person into jail, or issue a citation with a court date. Sheriff Rigel tells his deputies to write citations — and not to book people into jail — for misdemeanors except for drunken driving and domestic abuse charges.

Law enforcement officials elsewhere, including New York, Houston and Southern California, have been taking a similar approach. So far this year, an average of 1,450 people a week have been booked into the jails in San Bernardino County, Calif., roughly the same as in 2017. That number fell to 877 for the week ending March 25.

Jodi Miller, the public information officer for San Bernardino County, said issuing citations for misdemeanors undoubtedly made a difference.

"It is difficult to know precisely why," she said. "It may also be people are staying home and not out committing crimes."

In Los Angeles County, Sheriff Alex Villanueva announced the jail would book only those whose bond amounts were \$50,000 or more, up from \$25,000. Sheriff Villanueva has already released 1,700 people with low bonds or who had less than 30 days left on their sentences. The sheriff also promised to identify an additional 2,800 older people or those held on low bail awaiting trial so that the district attorney and public defender could evaluate them for potential release.

Houston is home to another of the biggest jail populations, and there Harris County Sheriff Ed Gonzalez has refused to book people arrested on certain low-level offenses and has pushed for the "compassionate release" of inmates over age 50 facing nonviolent charges. In addition, Houston judges ordered the release of people jailed on the lowest nonviolent felony charges, known in Texas as state jail felonies.



Few such measures have been taken 250 miles to the northwest in Tarrant County, home to Fort Worth, where at least 640 people were booked into the jail last week, down 9 percent from the 2017 average. Of the two-thirds booked on a single charge, over half were charged with misdemeanors such as petty theft, trespass and marijuana possession or with nonviolent state jail felonies.

Many are released within a few hours or days, said Phillip Hall, a defense lawyer, “but they are still bringing germs into the jail.”

On a [recent talk radio show](#), Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** said he wouldn’t follow the lead of cities where officials have declined to prosecute low-level crimes, promising that law enforcement would take action “when bad guys cross their path.”

“It is business as usual,” he said. “We are not going to let things slide by.”

Medical experts say much more needs to be done to avert jailhouse equivalents of the plague. Wan Yang, an epidemiologist at Columbia, sees the grim numbers at Rikers Island as a warning to other jails.

“With very quick turnover, it’s going to increase the risk,” she said. “Prevention is the key.”

Map source: Vera Institute of Justice, county jail [incarceration trends](#). Data shows estimated weekly admissions, releases and average daily populations for the average week in 2017, the year with the most recent available data, and may not reflect currently detained populations. Some counties have more than one jail facility; totals shown are for all jails countywide.

This article was published in partnership with [The Marshall Project](#), a nonprofit news organization covering the U.S. criminal justice system. Sign up for [its newsletter](#), or follow The Marshall Project on [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#). Anna Flagg is a senior data reporter for The Marshall Project, and Joseph Neff is an investigative reporter there.

PHOTO: (PHOTOGRAPH BY FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES)

Load-Date: July 13, 2020

End of Document

[**Man fatally shot ex-girlfriend as they argued at her workplace, Tarrant authorities say**](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

March 4, 2020 Wednesday

Copyright 2020 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: crime



Length: 320 words

Byline: Emerson Clarridge

Star-Telegram

Body

A 23-year-old woman was shot to death by her former boyfriend at her workplace near Haslet, authorities alleged Wednesday as they announced they were searching for him.

Michael Walker Jr., 23, and Atiyeh Chatmon were in a relationship that ended this weekend, the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office said.

They were on a phone call Tuesday evening that erupted into a verbal argument. After the call ended, Walker arrived at Chatmon's workplace and continued to argue with her. He shot her in the chest, the sheriff's office alleged, and left the scene.

"We have our team of investigators on this. We know who he is, and we are working every angle to locate him and bring him to justice," Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** wrote in a statement.

Chatmon, who lived in Fort Worth, was shot in the 1900 block of Golden Heights Road about 5:45 p.m. She died during surgery.

Someone who knows Walker's location should call the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office at 817-884-1213.

A person who heard a gunshot called 911 about 5:50 p.m. Tuesday, and deputies arrived on the scene at 6, the sheriff's office said.

The office where Chatmon was killed is in a development in north Tarrant County called the Fort Worth Design District. According to its website, the district is "a business enclave made for creative entrepreneurs in fashion, design, architecture, technology, and other fields that prize both design and aesthetics. About 40 acres, Fort Worth Design District features retail shop spaces, studios and workshops, showrooms, light industrial spaces for makers, distributors and manufacturers and office suites."

At the center of the development are the Box Office Warehouse Suites, commercial lease space built entirely out of shipping containers, the website says. The victim was shot in one of those offices.

A representative of the office complex declined to comment Wednesday as to which business Chatmon worked at.

Haslet shooting

Load-Date: March 4, 2020

End of Document

[***Frisco choir teacher charged with online solicitation***](#)

Frisco Enterprise (Texas)



March 1, 2020

Copyright 2020 Star Local News
Distributed by Newsbank, Inc. All Rights Reserved

Section: NEWS

Length: 360 words

Byline: Chris Roark

Body

The Tarrant County Sheriff's Department on Wednesday arrested Brett Kevin Yzquierdo, a choir teacher at Reedy High School in Frisco, and charged him with online solicitation of a minor, a third-degree felony.

Yzquierdo, 29, is from Plano.

According to an arrest affidavit, the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office Human Trafficking Unit participated in an undercover online operation on Feb. 21 by posing as children under the age of 17. The purpose was to establish communication with adults seeking to meet children online for sex.

The affidavit states the investigator set up a profile on the social media site Grindr, pretending to be a 15-year-old male. At 10:54 a.m. Feb. 21 the investigator received a message from someone with the profile name "Friends."

The report states the two exchanged photos. "Friends" told the investigator he is a teacher. The investigator replied "I'm probably the same age as the kids ur watching."

"Friends" asked the investigator what grade he is in, to which the investigator replied, "10th."

The affidavit states the investigator said, "Lol well being 15 sucks, I can't do anything." "Friends" replied, "Lol oh so not quite 18 (laughy face), that doesn't matter to me tbh (to be honest) lol."

According to the affidavit the two continued to correspond through the app before continuing their conversation through texts.

At 2:49 p.m., "Friends" texted the investigator, and the conversation turned sexual in nature with "Friends" asking various sexual questions.

Investigators were able to determine the phone number from "Friends" belonged to Yzquierdo, that his driver license photo matched the one on the Grindr account and that he was a choir teacher at Reedy.

Yzquierdo was arrested on a warrant with assistance from the Frisco Police Department and booked into Collin County Jail.

"Evil walks among us," said Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** in a press release. "Our promise is that we will never stop hunting down people who commit these crimes. We will find you, we will arrest you, and we will work to prosecute you to the fullest extent of the law."

Anyone with information is asked to contact Det. Jessica Brittain at 817-884-1436.



Load-Date: March 3, 2020

End of Document

[Frisco high school choir teacher charged with soliciting minor for sex](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

February 29, 2020 Saturday

Copyright 2020 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: crime

Length: 537 words

Byline: Jack Howland

Star-Telegram

Dateline: Fort Worth

Body

A choir teacher in the Frisco Independent School District was arrested after an undercover operation revealed he sent a series of sexual messages to a person he believed to be a 15-year-boy.

Brett Kevin Yzquierdo, 28, of Plano, was charged with third-degree online solicitation of a minor, according to an arrest warrant provided by the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office. The agency learned during the investigation Yzquierdo has been employed as a choir teacher at Reedy High School in Frisco.

He was hired in August 2019, the Frisco Independent School District said in a statement. He has been placed on administrative leave pending the outcome of the Sheriff's Office investigation.

Parents in the district have been informed of the investigation, according to the statement.

Frisco ISD has no reason to believe the "isolated incident" involved any students, spokesman Matt Wixon said in the statement.

"Allegations and charges of this nature are disturbing and the District takes these matters very seriously," Wixon said. "The safety of every FISD student is our top priority.

His name doesn't appear on the online high school staff page. There is no choir teacher listed.

Detective Jessica Brittain, a Sheriff's Office veteran of 11 years, began messaging with Yzquierda on Feb. 21 on the dating app Grindr while purporting to be a 15-year-old boy, the warrant states. The photo on the



account was of a corrections officer with the Sheriff's Office who authorized the use of his photos in the undercover operation.

Yzquierdo initiated a conversation and sent a selfie to the profile created by Brittain, according to the warrant. When she asked what brought him onto the app, he said it was his first time and he was hoping to see what it was all about.

He sent a message to the profile asking his age, and when Brittain told him -- under her alias -- that he was younger than 18, Yzquierda reportedly responded, "Lol that's ok too, I don't honestly care."

He told Brittain he was chaperoning on a trip for work, explaining he was a teacher, and Yzquierda said, "I didn't really think of that lol," the warrant states. After they moved their conversation to text message, he told him his name was Brett and he taught choir.

The warrant shows Brittain sent a message saying "being 15 sucks," which didn't deter Yzquierda.

"Lol oh so not quite 18 (laughy face), that doesn't matter to me tbh lol," he reportedly said in a text.

The two then engaged in a discussion about sex acts, with the undercover agent posing questions as well as answering questions from Yzquierda.

The undercover agent asked Yzquierda if he had ever been with someone his age, and he said, "Lol noooooo."

Brittain was able to confirm Yzquierda was behind the Grindr account by comparing his personal photos to the photo on his Texas driver's license. She also confirmed he was a choir teacher at Reedy High School.

The Sheriff's Office arrested him with the help of the Frisco Police Department, according to a news release.

Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** said in the release, "Our promise is that we will never stop hunting down people who commit these crimes."

"We will find you, we will arrest you and we will work to prosecute you to the fullest extent of the law," he said.

Load-Date: March 3, 2020

End of Document

[***A paranoid militia infiltrating Texas police is bent on rebellion, 'ready to rise up'***](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

February 28, 2020 Friday

Copyright 2020 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: politics_government

Length: 935 words

Byline: Bud Kennedy

Star-Telegram

Dateline: FORT WORTH

Body

A revolution-minded, conspiracy-bent militia group named the Oath Keepers is recruiting law officers in Hood County to take up arms in what the founder predicts will be a "bloody civil war" against the U.S. government.

A national director of the Las Vegas-based Oath Keepers, John D. Shirley, moved to rural Hood County in 2015 and has been appointed by county commissioners as a constable, giving him both access to confidential information and a political platform to recruit more militia members.

A regional recruitment rally announced for Monday was canceled by Harbor Lakes Golf Club, citing misrepresentation. It was supposed to launch Shirley's "Oath Keepers of Hood County" chapter.

The Oath Keepers' current recruiting pitch focuses on gun rights and the Second Amendment. But unlike other gun libertarians, the Oath Keepers promote paranoid fears of a "New World Order" conspiracy and spread veiled anti-Semitism in distrusting "elites," similar to discredited Austin showbiz personality Alex Jones.

Mainly, the group asks for money. Its website begs law officers and veterans to militarize and also pay \$1,200 for a "lifetime membership" or \$50-\$120 for annual memberships.

"They view themselves as ready to rise up" to oppose the government, said Mark Pitcavage of the Anti-Defamation League, which watches militia hobbyists and so-called patriot-movement groups along with monitoring neo-Nazis and race or religious hate groups.

Officially, the Oath Keepers are nonpartisan and nondiscriminatory. The ADL labels the group as "anti-government extremist."

But the group rose in 2009 along with the Tea Party months after the election of President Barack Obama.

Founder Stewart Rhodes had worked and campaigned for U.S. Rep. Ron Paul, a gun-libertarian Republican.

IMG_3398.jpg Oath Keepers founder Stewart Rhodes at a 2013 rally in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.

In a Jan. 22 speech posted on the Oath Keepers' Facebook page, Rhodes claimed Americans have a legal right to the same weapons as the U.S. military.

"A weapon of war is what you want in your hands," he said.

Accusing "pencil-neck lawyers" in government of conspiring against gun owners, Rhodes said "they know we will resist. And that's precisely why they want your semiautomatic rifles. ... They are useful in resisting tyranny."

The Oath Keepers' mantra is a list of 10 "Orders We Will Not Obey" -- say, turning cities into concentration camps, or forcing Americans into detention camps.

Neither seems likely in Hood County.

At the height of the recent debate over new stricter Virginia gun laws, Rhodes said in a speech: "We are being pushed towards a revolutionary war."

He blamed presidential candidate Mike Bloomberg and Democratic campaign donor George Soros, both of Jewish descent, using the term "elites."

"Texans beware -- they're coming for us," he said.

IMG-3405.JPG Constable John D. Shirley of rural Hood County is on the national board of Las Vegas-based Oath Keepers.

Shirley, a retired Houston police officer, has said he was one of Rhodes' first allies in 2009 and spoke at a 2009 Tea Party rally, calling for law officers and veterans to organize. He has been described as the group's law enforcement recruiter.

He operates a false Twitter account, "@HoodCoTxConst2," that is labeled the public office's official Twitter feed but actually contains personal political content.

It uses the official badge as artwork. Commenters or those sending direct messages may falsely believe they are sending information to a law enforcement agency and not to a political account.

IMG-3406.JPG A false Twitter account uses a county badge but promotes Constable John D. Shirley's political views.

The badge appears to be used illegally for a personal campaign account.

In a guest column in the online publication Hood County Today, Shirley wrote that the Oath Keepers shouldn't be called anti-government, because "I am a public servant OF the government."

He went on: "The U.S. Constitution, the document this organization holds as sacrosanct, is the foundational document of our GOVERNMENT."

His Oath Keepers plans were first reported in the Hood County News.

Hood County Judge Ron Massengill did not return a message asking about Oath Keeper infiltration of law enforcement.

Sheriff Roger Deeds left a message saying he is not a member of the Oath Keepers but "I have heard of it."

One of Shirley's two opponents on Tuesday in the Republican Party primary, Keith Martin, responded to a message and said he is not a member but "I am aware of the organization."



Shirley's other opponent, James D. Edwards, did not return messages left on both his personal and campaign Facebook pages.

I asked a Tarrant County Sheriff's Office spokesman whether our county has a policy against outside memberships in militias like the Oath Keepers.

Tarrant County has no policy. Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** of Dalworthington Gardens had no comment.

His Democratic opponent, Vance Keyes of Fort Worth, had plenty of comment.

Keyes wrote by email that the Oath Keepers have no place in law enforcement.

"I am absolutely concerned about militia groups infiltrating law enforcement," Keyes wrote.

"Their presence in policing undermines our obligation and ability to provide impartial justice ... free from the thinly veiled, and often outright, racial bias that exist in such organizations.

" They destroy sincere efforts to strengthen police/community relations in minority communities. Their anti-government rhetoric is also an affront to police professionals that take seriously their obligation to public service and the rule of law."

The Oath Keepers are selling poison. And charging \$1,200.

Hood County map

Load-Date: March 20, 2020

End of Document

[EXCLUSIVE: Texas Sheriff Talks Trump, Immigration, 2020, 'The Beto Effect' And More; 'Mr. president, thank you for that support'](#)

The Daily Caller

February 18, 2020 Tuesday 10:45 PM EST

Copyright 2020 The Daily Caller, Inc. All Rights Reserved

Section: POLITICS; us; us

Length: 250 words

Byline: Stephanie Hamill, Video Columnist, stephaniehamill@dailycaller.com

Body

[Link to Image](#)



Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** sat down with the Daily Caller's Stephanie Hamill to discuss illegal immigration, his views on President Donald Trump, the 2020 presidential election and the “Beto effect” in his state.

Waybourn also explained how Trump's policies are helping keep Texas communities safe. ([RELATED: 'There's Still A Crisis At The Border': Border Patrol Union VP Reacts To Mexico Deporting 2,000 Migrants.](#))

“Mr. president, thank you for that support, thank you for what you're doing on the [border](#), and thank you for unleashing [Bill Barr](#) on the criminal justice system because he is working vigorously for you through his U.S. attorneys to help us at a local level,” said Waybourn.

WATCH: [Link to Video](#)

The views and opinions expressed in this commentary are those of the author and do not reflect the official position of The Daily Caller.

Check out TheDC's fantastic videos and subscribe to our [YouTube channel to avoid missing out.](#)

[SUBSCRIBE!](#)

NOW CHECK OUT The Daily Caller's most popular shows:

[Nike Sides With Colin Kaepernick, Many Customers Revolt](#)

[Inside The Daily Caller's Exclusive Oval Office Interview With President Donald Trump](#)

[Would You Rather Date A Trump Supporter or MS-13 Gang Member?](#)

[New Details About The 'Muslim Extremist' Compound In New Mexico](#)

['Trophy Culture' Hijacks New Jersey High School Cheer Squad](#)

[Fact Checking White House 'Truth Seekers' On North Korea](#)

[Democrats' New Campaign Message: 'Drain The Swamp'](#)

['Fake News' Defends Brutal MS-13 Gang](#)

Graphic

Left: President Donald Trump (Photo Credit Getty), Right: Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill E. Waybourn**(Photo Credit Daily Caller.)

Load-Date: February 18, 2020



[Meet the Texas Republicans running for Congress in District 12](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

February 11, 2020 Tuesday

Copyright 2020 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: politics_government

Length: 1305 words

Byline: Anna M. Tinsley

Star-Telegram

Body

The Star-Telegram sent questionnaires to all candidates. Responses have been edited for clarity and length.

Kay Granger

Kay Granger U.S. Rep. Kay Granger, R-Fort Worth

Occupation: United States Congresswoman, TX-12

Age: 77

Website: www.kaygranger.com

Public offices you've held or run for, with years: Chair, Fort Worth Zoning Commission, Fort Worth City Council (1989), first female Mayor of Fort Worth (1991), U.S. House of Representatives (1996-Present).

Have you ever been arrested, charged with a crime or otherwise been part of a criminal proceeding? If yes, please explain: NO

Have you been involved in a civil lawsuit or bankruptcy proceeding? If yes, please explain: NO

Why are you seeking this office?

With so much at stake, now is not the time to send an inexperienced representative to Washington. I have the experience and conservative track record we need to fight against liberal democrats in Washington. I have stood with President Trump to secure the border, rebuild and fund our military, and protect life and



the 2nd Amendment. I am proud to be endorsed by President Trump and leading pro-life organizations like National Right to Life.

What would your top 3 policy priorities be?

1) Build the wall, secure the border and cut off the flow of drugs and human trafficking. 2) Rebuild our military and provide the resources our men and women in uniform need. 3) Continue to grow our local economy by keeping taxes low and cutting regulations on small business and our local industries. 4) Defend life and the 2nd Amendment.

Why should voters choose you over your opponent(s)?

I am from this district, I live in the district, and I come home every weekend. My opponent is not from here and doesn't even own a home in this district. He is using dark money from the East Coast to try and buy this seat. Our seat is not for sale. I have a proven track record of delivering conservative results for this community, and I will continue to fight for our world class businesses like Lockheed and Bell, which provide thousands of high-skilled jobs and millions of dollars to the local economy.

The federal government is accumulating record debt, with massive deficits even in a strong economy. What specific steps would you endorse to reduce the deficit?

First, we need to have a stable and predictable budget process. There are a number of budget proposals I have supported over the years that would do just that. If we are certain how much there is to spend two years out, then we can prioritize and make reductions along the way. Second, we need to continue to make spending cuts, which I have done on the Appropriations committee. Third, and most urgently, there needs to be a broad reexamination of our entitlement systems. ... We need to make entitlements more efficient and ensure we are improving services for entitlement recipients.

What changes should be made in U.S. trade policy?

I support the President's trade policy as it relates to the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) and China. USMCA is a huge win for our farmers and ranchers, and the recently signed China agreement will create a more level playing field while benefiting our local economy. The President has taken a bold approach to improving our trade deals, and I will continue to support him. We must always negotiate from a position of strength, and that's exactly what the President has done.

What changes to immigration law do you support? Would you vote to build any additional border wall or fence? Do you support a path to citizenship for those currently here illegally?

I support the wall and I was proud to work with President Trump to increase funding for the wall. I will continue to work with President Trump to secure the border and cut off the flow of drugs and human trafficking. Nobody in Congress has done more to ensure we have funding for the wall, and that's why the President has endorsed me for re-election.

What steps should the federal government take to combat climate change, if any?

I am staunchly opposed to the Green New Deal and other socialist proposals that will cost billions, kill jobs and endanger our vital oil and natural gas industry. Government is rarely the solution to any of our problems. We need to continue to cut regulations and taxes on industry, and allow them to use their own technologies to be good stewards of the environment.

Chris Putnam



Chris PutnamChris Putnam

Occupation: Retired Technology Industry Executive

Age: 50

Website: www.putnamfortexas.com

Public offices you've held or run for, with years: City Council, Mayor Pro Tem (Colleyville 2015-2018)

Have you ever been arrested, charged with a crime or otherwise been part of a criminal proceeding? If yes, please explain: No

Have you been involved in a civil lawsuit or bankruptcy proceeding? If yes, please explain: No

Why are you seeking this office?

Tarrant, Parker, and Wise County republican voters are hungry for an authentic, unapologetic, conservative fighter to represent them in Washington DC. The Texas 12th is deeply politically and socially conservative and deserves representation that reflects its values.

What would your top 3 policy priorities be?

Securing the border/immigration reform, protecting the right to life, and shrinking big government.

Why should voters choose you over your opponent(s)?

Ms. Granger has failed us on border security and immigration. The crisis we have today is a direct result of the inaction by Congress including the Republican majority that could have addressed the problem when they had control of both Houses of Congress and the Presidency just 3 years ago. As a senior member of the House, Ms. Granger could have led on this issue but did nothing. In fact, she has voted to fund DACA and Obama's amnesty program.

Ms. Granger said on national television that she is a "pro-choice Republican" and continues to fund Planned Parenthood. She now claims to be pro-life.

What changes should be made in U.S. trade policy?

I believe in Free Trade, economic freedom, and limited government. A free market is always best but when one trading partner is not playing fair, such as in the case of China, the government has the right to intervene.

What changes to immigration law do you support?

We first have to eliminate the incentives that cause people to immigrate here illegally like free education and healthcare -- things that are already too expensive for our own citizens. We also need to strengthen our asylum laws which are being abused.

I support a federal ban on Sanctuary Cities and withholding all federal funding for Sanctuary states or cities. Also, I support protections for law enforcement officers who enforce federal immigration law in Sanctuary cities/states.

I'm a strong supporter of expanding the ICE 287G program practiced by our own Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn**, who has publicly endorsed our campaign.



Would you vote to build any additional border wall or fence?

Yes, we have to secure the border period and should use all appropriate methods including barriers, high-tech surveillance, and others. Not simply to control illegal immigration, but also to get better control of drug and sex trafficking which has exploded during this crisis.

Do you support a path to citizenship for those currently here illegally?

The first priority needs to be securing the border and eliminating incentives that encourage illegal immigration. Then we can have a national discussion about how to deal with the millions already here. I do not support any form of blanket amnesty and believe DACA is unconstitutional. I am open to a discussion about earned paths to citizenship.

What steps should the federal government take to combat climate change, if any?

Very few, beyond sensible regulations on pollutants. We should make significant cuts to the billions we currently spend annually on climate change.

Load-Date: February 13, 2020

End of Document

[***Kay Granger has Trump's support. Here's why it might not be enough to win her primary.***](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

February 10, 2020 Monday

Copyright 2020 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram
Found on DFW.com

Section: politics_government

Length: 1400 words

Byline: Anna M. Tinsley

Star-Telegram

Dateline: Fort Worth

Body

The Republican primary for the 12th Congressional District is one of the hottest races in town.



In this race, U.S. Rep. Kay Granger -- a 77-year-old former Fort Worth mayor, teacher and insurance agent who has represented this district since 1997 -- is seeking a 13th term in office.

She's being challenged by Chris Putnam, a well-funded 50-year-old former Colleyville city councilman who has put more than \$250,000 of his own money into this campaign and turned up the heat by questioning, for instance, whether Granger is pro-choice.

"Putnam represents Granger's first credible election challenge in either the Republican primary or general election in 24 years," said Mark P. Jones, a political science professor at Rice University. "Given that she has not had to campaign for two dozen years ... one would not want to completely count out Chris Putnam."

Some may have thought this GOP race was all but over when Granger, the highest ranking Republican on the powerful House Appropriations Committee, drew a coveted endorsement from President Donald Trump.

They would have been wrong.

Chris Putnam Chris Putnam is challenging Kay Granger for CD 12 in the Republican primary.

Recently, Putnam picked up support from The Club for Growth, an anti-tax group that is funding about \$1 million in ads against Granger. Club for Growth officials say they try to get the candidates they believe are the most conservative into office.

At stake is a two-year term that pays \$174,000 a year. The district includes the western part of Tarrant County, all of Parker County and the eastern part of Wise County.

Early voting for the March 3 primary runs from Feb. 18-28.

The winner will face the winner of the Democratic primary, either Lisa Welch or Danny Anderson.

Opponent says Kay Granger is pro-choice

One of the biggest issues in the race right now is whether Granger is pro-choice.

Commercials on behalf of Putnam have been airing, showing a video clip from 2007 in which Granger referred to herself as a "pro-choice Republican."

Kay Granger pro-choice YouTube clip

The ad, funded by the Protect Freedom PAC, replays a TV interview where Granger said 13 years ago that abortion is a decision a woman makes "with her own self and her own physician, and her own family."

"If that is the best that Putnam and company can come up with, I don't think Granger has all that much to worry about," Jones said.

Granger maintains that she is pro-life and that her position on the issue has evolved since 2007. She has voted to ban federal health coverage that includes abortion, restrict interstate transportation of minors for abortions and ban partial-birth abortion except to save a mother's life, drawing a 0% score from NARAL Pro-Choice America, records show.

Trump tweeted support for Granger in December, stating that she "has worked hard for Texas and been a strong supporter of our #MAGA Agenda. She's strong on #2A and Securing our Border and is 100% pro-life. Kay has my Complete and Total Endorsement!"

trump endorsement



Rebecca Deen, chairwoman and associate professor at UT Arlington's political science department, said she's not sure Trump's endorsement is enough to lock in a win for Granger, but she said it helps balance "the impact of her 2007 statement about being a pro-choice Republican."

National Right to Life, which praised Granger's perfect 100% pro-life record in the 116th Congress, endorsed the incumbent.

"You are a strong advocate for life," the group's letter of support for Granger stated. "This endorsement reflects your commitment to strengthening a culture of life throughout the nation and in the U.S. House. We look forward to working with you to protect the most vulnerable members of the human family."

Putnam released audio where Granger recently said at a campaign event that she was pro-choice. Her campaign said she misspoke.

Putnam said he has made his position on the issue clear. "I will not stop defending the unborn and will lead on pro-life issues in Congress."

The Texas Right to Life PAC has endorsed Putnam and encouraged others to support him, too.

"The political establishment fears candidates like Chris Putnam because he has a record proving voters can trust his resolve to defend our most foundational rights, especially the Right to Life, regardless of what the establishment wants," the group said in a statement.

Is Kay Granger conservative enough?

Granger is known for working behind the scenes to help her district, from spearheading the Panther Island enterprise -- a \$1.17 billion project that would reshape the Trinity River north of downtown Fort Worth -- to being a staunch defender of the military and F-35 fighter jets, built in Fort Worth by Lockheed Martin.

An independent review of Panther Island last summer found confusion surrounding the project and suggested changes to the management structure. In October, the Trinity River Vision Authority changed the role of J.D. Granger, the former executive director of the TRVA and the son of Granger.

Putnam made the news in 2017 when he tweeted he would "call ICE to let them know" about a public Chorizo & Menudo breakfast community gathering in Fort Worth where attendees talked about a then-new Texas immigration law. "Blog other meet times/locations so we can help enforce the law," Putnam tweeted.

Some say this primary fight is a battle between grassroots and establishment Republicans.

Others disagree.

"There is a conservative vs liberal divide," Julie McCarty, who headed the NE Tarrant Tea Party that has renamed itself the True Texas Project, told the Star-Telegram by email. "Granger is a 24-year dinosaur in politics who believes in cronyism and has one of the most liberal voting records of any Republican in Congress."

The Congressional Leadership Fund is among those backing Granger, releasing ads on her behalf, such as one that features Trump thanking Granger for her work on his agenda.

"When he needs help, President Trump turns to Kay Granger because he knows no one delivers for Texas the way she does," said Calvin Moore, a spokesman for the leadership fund.

Some describe the race as a Washington insider versus a conservative outsider.



Granger has raised \$1.5 million in this race, which includes more than \$730,000 contributed from other committees, and has nearly \$774,000 in cash on hand. Putnam has received \$535,593, which includes a \$250,000 loan from himself, and he has \$407,000 in the bank, federal election records show.

Political observers note that House incumbents generally win primary elections.

"But every cycle, there usually is an upset or two," said Kyle Kondik, managing editor for Larry J. Sabato's Crystal Ball at the University of Virginia Center for Politics. "It is hard to know what the real state of play is in the TX-12 primary, but the amount of money being spent and the involvement of outside groups like the Club for Growth suggests that this may indeed be a competitive race."

Granger, Putnam earn multiple endorsements

Putnam and Granger have sent out a flurry of emails announcing endorsements, above and beyond those showing Trump and the National Right to Life's support for Granger and The Club for Growth and Texas Right to Life's support for Putnam.

Among them:

Former Navy SEAL Marcus Luttrell, the Susan B. Anthony List, National Association of Realtors and state Reps. Charlie Geren, Craig Goldman and Phil King for Granger.

Parker County Commissioner George Conley, Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn**, Hudson Oaks Mayor Marc Povero and former Tarrant County GOP Chairmen Steve Hollern, Tim O'Hare and Darl Easton for Putnam.

"These ... are nice, adding legitimacy to the candidates, but we are talking voters who barely know who their legislator is, much less state rep and county party chairs," said Matthew Eshbaugh-Soha, who heads the political science department at the University of North Texas in Denton.

The Club for Growth endorsement is key for Putnam because it comes with big bucks that can take his campaign far.

And in a year where some might be tempted to skip the Republican primary to vote for a presidential candidate in the crowded Democratic primary field, those who vote in the GOP primary likely will be the most ardent Republicans.

"I'm not sure that's good news for the congresswoman, as those folks might be more persuaded by the efforts of Club for Growth," Deen said.

Even so, "Putnam has a tall hill to climb" in this race, Eshbaugh-Soha said.

Load-Date: February 10, 2020

End of Document

[**Tarrant County sheriff's officials arrest 41 in anti-human trafficking sting operation**](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

February 7, 2020 Friday





Section: crime

Length: 251 words

Byline: Mitch Mitchell

Star-Telegram

Body

Deputies and investigators fanned out across Tarrant County and nabbed 41 men accused of buying sex from prostitutes.

All 41 are facing either prostitution or other criminal charges, according to a news release from the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office.

Those with prostitution charges face a criminal misdemeanor, however, if they have been convicted on this charge before, the status of the crime can be enhanced.

Eight of those arrested face charges of online solicitation of a minor or prostitution involving a girl under the age of 18 and those are felony charges, according to the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office.

The national initiative is held every year and focuses on curtailing the demand which drives sex trafficking, said David McClelland, Tarrant County Sheriff's Office chief of staff.

This year, investigators with the Tarrant County Sheriff's Department conducted the operation between the end of January and the beginning of this month, McClelland said.

"Human trafficking is modern-day slavery," Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** said. "There are over 300,000 people being trafficked in Texas alone, with 79,000 being children. These criminals are in our state and in our county, and we will go after them with the gust of a hound dog. We will find you and we will work to prosecute each and every person that deals in this horrific crime."

The Tarrant County Sheriff's Department was one of three agencies recognized nationally in the initiative for their work in this effort, McClelland said.

Load-Date: February 9, 2020

End of Document



[Despite Trump endorsement, Kay Granger's primary shows no signs of cooling](#)

Newstex Blogs

The Texas Tribune

January 24, 2020 Friday 4:06 AM EST

Copyright 2020 Newstex LLC All Rights Reserved

Length: 965 words

Byline: Patrick Svitek

Body

Jan 24, 2020(The Texas Tribune: <http://texastribune.org> Delivered by Newstex) A little over a month ago, President Donald Trump endorsed U.S. Rep. Kay Granger[1], R-Fort Worth, for reelection, giving her the best possible vote of confidence she could ask for as she faces a primary challenger questioning her pro-Trump credentials. The race is far from over, however.

On Thursday, the national conservative group Club for Growth endorsed her challenger, Chris Putnam, and unveiled plans for a seven-figure ad blitz, ensuring the primary will remain hotly contested even after Trump's intervention. It was a more notable endorsement than usual for the group, which has cooled its efforts to unseat incumbents in recent years while aligning with the president after spending big to beat him in the 2016 primary. In Texas, the Club for Growth is coming off a 2018 cycle where all but one of its candidates prevailed as it spent millions on ads that made presidential loyalty a bright dividing line[2]. For now, though, the group appears to be more narrowly focusing on Granger. In a statement announcing the Putnam endorsement, the Club for Growth's president, David McIntosh, said the incumbent "has recklessly voted for out-of-control deficit spending, backroom bloated budget deals, and debt limit increases." McIntosh also singled out Granger's work to get federal dollars for Panther Island, a controversial flood control project on the Trinity River in Fort Worth that Granger's son previously oversaw. Granger's campaign responded to the endorsement with a reminder of her Trump endorsement — and a swipe at Putnam over his own fiscal record as a Colleyville City Council member. "Kay is proud to be endorsed by President Trump and she's proud of her record of delivering conservative results for her district," Granger spokesman Keats Norfleet said in a statement. "It's ironic that they would choose to support a candidate that voted to raise property taxes and grow the budget while serving on his local city council." After backing Putnam, the Club for Growth wasted little time kicking off an aggressive ad campaign against Granger. The group launched a digital ad[3] saying Granger has a "spending problem" and has "gone Washington," while an allied super PAC, Protect Freedom PAC, unveiled a TV spot[4] pillorying her for failing to "defend the unborn." Mainly at issue is a 2007 MSNBC interview[5] in which Granger described herself as a "pro-choice Republican." Over the years, however, she has given more mixed signals on where she stands on abortion, and earlier this month, she was among over 200 congressional Republicans who asked the Supreme Court to consider reversing Roe v. Wade, the landmark case that made abortion legal nationwide. In any case, Granger's supporters have appeared well-prepared for the line of attack. Trump's endorsement of her proclaimed she is "100% pro-life,"[6] while her campaign has been rolling out endorsements from state and national anti-abortion groups, including National Right to Life on Thursday morning. Putnam has the backing of the group's state affiliate, Texas Right to Life. Granger can also count on the support of the Congressional



Leadership Fund, the chief super PAC aligned with House Republican leadership. The group polled the primary in mid-December and found Granger had a massive lead. After a sleepy start to her reelection campaign, Granger appears to be taking it more seriously. She brought on a seasoned consultant, Norfleet, and has started cranking out endorsements in recent weeks and capitalizing on Trump's support, making it the subject of her debut TV ad. Her campaign has also stopped entirely ignoring Putnam, starting with a mid-December statement on the presidential endorsement that said there is "simply too much at stake to send an unproven, inexperienced representative to fight for our values in Washington." Putnam's campaign has also been ramping up in recent weeks. After Trump backed Granger, Putnam got the endorsements of Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** as well as hard-right groups such as Empower Texans. Putnam has also gone on TV with two spots attacking Granger, linking her[7] to Democratic Speaker Nancy Pelosi. That is on top of Putnam's persistent charges that Granger has not been supportive enough of Trump. He points to her call[8] for Trump to drop out of the presidential race in 2016 after the surfacing of the "Access Hollywood" tape, as well as her initial statement advocating for "due process" in the Trump impeachment process — not forceful enough of a defense in Putnam's eyes. Putnam has scoffed at Granger's recent embrace of Trump as an election-year about-face. The next turn in the primary will come Jan. 31, the deadline by which Granger and Putnam have to disclose their campaign finances from the last three months. Putnam made clear he would be a viable candidate after the third quarter, thanks in part to his personal wealth. He loaned himself \$250,000 while collecting \$206,000 in contributions. Granger got \$283,000 in donations over the same period and ended it with \$563,000 cash on hand to Putnam's \$448,000. Related News [1]: <https://www.texastribune.org/directory/kay-granger/> [2]: <https://www.texastribune.org/2018/05/14/texas-republican-runoffs-youre-either-trump-or-youre-not/> [3]: <https://youtu.be/paw5b1LV474> [4]: https://youtu.be/es40QQ_TJz4 [5]: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cTNRytKDK70> [6]: <https://www.texastribune.org/2019/12/17/trump-endorses-kay-granger-reelection/> [7]: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NEx7KJygPvo> [8]: <https://www.wfaa.com/amp/article/news/state/texas-news/texas-congresswoman-kay-granger-calls-for-trump-to-step-down/287-332397021>

Load-Date: January 24, 2020

End of Document

[Billboards warning about human trafficking coming to Dallas-Fort Worth](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

January 16, 2020 Thursday

Copyright 2020 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram
Found on DFW.com

Section: crime

Length: 528 words



Byline: Mitch Mitchell

Star-Telegram

Body

Tarrant County agency officials announced a billboard campaign on Thursday that they hope will educate residents about the dangers that lurk on the internet and social media.

Predators have long used the the internet and social media to engage with vulnerable populations in order to lure them into situations where they can be exploited. The billboard display will feature a girl holding a cellphone and say: "Trafficking Starts Here."

Clear Channel is donating time on nine digital billboards throughout the Dallas-Fort Worth area to create public awareness around the human trafficking issue, said Felicia Grantham, Tarrant County 5-Stones Taskforce founder.

Despite the decades of public education efforts dedicated to stopping human trafficking, educating the public remains one of the needs in the process of helping victims, according to Grantham.

"We really need the awareness from the community," Grantham said. "This is still a hidden crime. The more people we have who are looking for signs, the more victims we can help."

Sex trafficking generates an estimated \$99 billion each year, making it the second-largest illicit crime industry behind the sale of illegal drugs, according to a lawsuit filed in December by a Tarrant County woman who alleged that hotels are complicit in the sex trafficking industry.

More than 60% of sex trafficking offenses occur in hotel chains, while eight out of 10 arrests for human trafficking occur in or around hotels, the lawsuit says.

"Human trafficking is a particularly vile crime," said Fort Worth Police Chief Edwin Kraus. "It preys on the most vulnerable in our society -- those that are seeking love, seeking acceptance, seeking money -- and once they are caught up in this, they receive none of that. They are used as a product for the profits of the trafficker."

Many of the victims of human trafficking are betrayed by their relatives, families, close associates and others they should have been able to depend on to protect them, said Judge Brent Carr, another presenter at the Tim Curry Justice Center, where the announcement was made.

Carr put together the Tarrant County RISE (Reaching Independence through Self-Empowerment) Program, which is dedicated to identifying those involved in prostitution and making resources available to them that will divert them away from the criminal justice system.

"Sometimes we have people in our justice system that pose no threat to the community, but they are the product of years of torment and victimization and we need to do better," Carr said.

Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** said some people he talks to about human trafficking still believe he is talking about an activity that occurs in some exotic country miles away.

"We need everybody involved if we are going to take this scourge and run it out of the Tarrant County area," Waybourn said.



Those who wish to get involved in the Tarrant County 5-Stones Taskforce effort can attend a meeting between 11 a.m. and noon on the last Tuesday of every month at 1000 Calvert St. in Fort Worth or visit the 5-Stones Taskforce website. For more information on how to get involved in the anti-trafficking effort, call 817-392-4533.

Load-Date: January 16, 2020

End of Document

[Tarrant County Taskforce launches billboard campaign aimed at human trafficking](#)

Fort Worth Business Press (TX)

16 January 2020

Copyright 2020 Fort Worth Business Press
Distributed by Newsbank, Inc. All Rights Reserved

Section: NEWS

Length: 365 words

Byline: Neetish Basnet nbasnet@bizpress.net

Body

Numbers from the Office of the Attorney General suggest there are about 234,000 victims of labor trafficking and about 79,000 victims of youth and minor sex trafficking in Texas at any given time.

To combat the misfortune locally, the Tarrant County 5Stones Taskforce has launched a billboard campaign that highlights the use of the internet and social media by predators.

Various levels of government and community agencies are behind the task force, formed in 2016 to support the Fort Worth Police Department in its anti-trafficking efforts.

"Most of human trafficking [now] is done on social media through mobile phones," said FWPD Chief Ed Kraus. "That's how the victims are often recruited and that's how the victims are often sold over and over again."

More than 50 local community organizations are in partnership with the taskforce and fighting against human trafficking.

The new billboard campaign is part of the taskforce's "Trafficking Starts Here" initiative, also recently launched in light of January being Human Trafficking Awareness month.

The goal of the new billboard campaign is creating and spreading awareness about human trafficking and giving voice to the victims.



"Sometimes we have people in the justice system that pose no threat to the community, but they are the product of years of torment and victimization," Tarrant County Judge Brent Carr said. "We need to do better. And our community is working very hard to make sure we have a brighter day for people who ended up in some very sad circumstances, frankly."

Child trafficking does occur in the Tarrant County community in a much higher rate than many might have been aware of, said Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn**.

"If you are a trafficker, we are coming for you," Waybourn said.

The taskforce conducts several projects throughout the year, such as a Texas Government-partnered long-term mentorship program that assists and provides wrap-around care to high-risk youth and families.

Clear Channel Outdoor, an advertising company headquartered in San Antonio, offered to donate digital billboards for the Trafficking Starts Here campaign. Web design firm Lion's Share Digital provided website services.

Load-Date: January 17, 2020

End of Document

[Church deacon who 'died in the house of the Lord' remembered for life of service](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

January 11, 2020 Saturday

Copyright 2020 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: local

Length: 381 words

Byline: Emerson Clarridge

Star-Telegram

Body

That Tony Wallace was in church when he died, while tragic, befitted his life of service.

He had grown up in the red pews of the 6th Avenue Church of Christ in Mineral Wells.



A man of deep faith, Wallace, 64, had become a deacon at West Freeway Church of Christ in White Settlement.

Two weeks ago, on the last Sunday morning in December, Wallace and Richard White, another member of the church, were shot to death during communion by a man the church had tried to help.

Wallace was holding a communion tray when he was fired upon.

"He died in the house of the Lord. Serving," his daughter Sarah said Saturday at his funeral. Wallace's other daughter, Tiffany, held her sister as her voice choked with emotion.

Wallace lived in Fort Worth and had worked for much of his life as a nurse and a nursing supervisor.

Wallace's love for his family was clear. Many recalled his attention to "Julie and the girls," his wife and daughters. Wallace also had four grandchildren.

"He so loved them all," said Ron Rutledge, a West Freeway member, during the service at Altamesa Church of Christ in Fort Worth.

Wallace had worked at Cook Children's Medical Center and at the Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital Hemodialysis Unit.

Wallace's brother Carlos recalled his brother's time as an entrepreneur in his youth, earning money shining boots as the family moved around the country and to Germany. Their father was in the military.

Nurses, some wearing scrubs, attended the service, as did Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** and Fort Worth Police Chief Ed Kraus.

The circumstances of Wallace's death were hardly a focus of his funeral. Many of the remembrances were of his work as a nurse and his religious life.

Minister Jon Morrison delivered the eulogy and said Wallace would leave "a legacy of faith."

He had been "snatched in a moment of turmoil," the minister said.

Wallace's daughter Sarah recalled adventures with her father, their road trips and his predictable, corny jokes.

He guided his daughters as they had their first kiss, first dance and first love.

"That first love was our dad," she said.

And, they listened to their father's long speeches, in which he would dispense advice, often backed with a Bible verse.

Sarah Wallace said she would give anything to hear one of those long speeches again.

Load-Date: January 12, 2020

End of Document

[Minister: Texas gunman grew angry in past over cash requests](#)



Copyright 2020 The Post and Courier All Rights Reserved

Section: A; Pg. 8

Length: 971 words

Byline: JAKE BLEIBERG and JAMIE STENGLE Associated Press ;

Body

DALLAS - The man who fatally shot two people at a Texas church was ruled mentally incompetent to stand trial in 2012 and was repeatedly fed by the congregation before he grew angry because church officials refused to give him money, according to court records and the pastor.

It's unclear whether Keith Thomas Kinnunen's extensive criminal record and psychological history would have barred him from legally buying the shotgun he used during Sunday's attack at the West Freeway Church of Christ in the Fort Worth-area town of White Settlement.

Kinnunen, 43, shot worshipers Richard White and Anton "Tony" Wallace in the sanctuary before a member of the church's volunteer security team shot and killed him, according to police and witnesses.

Minister Britt Farmer told The Christian Chronicle that he recognized Kinnunen after seeing a photo of him without the fake beard, wig, hat and long coat he was wearing as a disguise. Kinnunen visited the congregation several other times this year and was given food, the minister said.

"We've helped him on several occasions with food," Farmer said in the interview. "He gets mad when we won't give him cash."

Authorities have said Kinnunen's motive remains under investigation and they declined to comment on how he obtained the gun he used, although a Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives said it had successfully traced the weapon.

Court records portray Kinnunen as being deeply troubled long before Sunday's attack.

In 2012, a district judge in Oklahoma ruled him mentally incompetent to stand trial and ordered him committed to a psychiatric facility for treatment.

Kinnunen was charged with felony assault and battery with a dangerous weapon after he attacked the owner of a Chickasha, Oklahoma, doughnut shop in 2011, court records state. He was separately charged with arson that year after allegedly starting a fire in a cotton field by tying tampons soaked in lamp oil to the crop.

Earlier on the day of that fire, Kinnunen soaked a football in the accelerant, lit it on fire and then threw it back and forth with his son, who was a minor, according to the arrest affidavit. The boy told police he was afraid his father would get mad if he asked to stop.

A forensic psychologist who examined him in 2012 for both cases wrote that "Kinnunen currently evidences signs that are consistent with a substantial mental illness and that meet the inpatient criteria of a 'person requiring treatment.'"

Records show Kinnunen was found competent to stand trial in February 2013, however both criminal cases were ultimately reduced to misdemeanors, to which he pleaded guilty.

One of Kinnunen's ex-wives, Cynthia L. Glasgow-Voegle, also filed for a protective order against him in 2012, Oklahoma records show.

"Keith is a violent, paranoid person with a long line of assault and battery w/ and without firearms," Glasgow-Voegle said in the petition. She also wrote that Kinnunen was prone to religious fanaticism and "says he's battling a demon."

Kinnunen got "more and more" into drugs and "it messed with his head" during his second marriage, said Angela Holloway, whose divorce from him was finalized in 2011.

Holloway, a 44-year-old Fort Worth resident, said she hadn't spoken to Kinnunen in years and learned from news reports that he was the church attacker. She said she and Kinnunen used to attend church together and that there were times he appeared to be off drugs, but that he was frightening by the end of their six-year marriage.

"He was really disturbed," Holloway told The Associated Press.

Holloway said she doesn't know whether Kinnunen was ever diagnosed with a mental illness and that she wasn't sure if he could legally have guns, but that he consistently did.

"I don't know how he got them, I just know that he did have them," she said.

Seconds after Kinnunen opened fire in the church Sunday, Jack Wilson, a 71-year-old firearms instructor, shot him once in the head.

The actions of Wilson and other armed churchgoers quickly drew praise from some Texas lawmakers and gun-rights advocates. Texas officials hailed the state's gun laws, including a measure enacted this year that affirmed the right of licensed handgun holders to carry a weapon inside places of worship unless a facility bans them.

"We can't prevent every incident, we can't prevent mental illness from occurring, and we can't prevent every crazy person from pulling a gun, but we can be prepared like this church was," Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton told reporters Monday.

President Donald Trump tweeted Monday night and Tuesday morning about the attack, both times highlighting the role of armed citizens in stopping the shooter. "If it were not for the fact that there were people inside of the church that were both armed, and highly proficient in using their weapon, the end result would have been catastrophic. A big THANK YOU to them!" Trump tweeted Tuesday.

But other Texas lawmakers, while praising the churchgoers' actions, called for a special legislative session to address gun violence after a devastating year that included mass shootings in El Paso and the West Texas cities of Odessa and Midland.

"As lawmakers, we must come together to address the rise in gun violence we have seen in Texas," state Sen. Beverly Powell, D-Fort Worth, said in a statement Monday. "Yesterday's gunman had a long criminal record, including charges of aggravated assault and possession of an illegal weapon. We must respect the



Second Amendment while also working together to keep guns out of the hands of those who wish to do harm to Texans worshipping in a church, attending school or shopping for their children."

Associated Press writers Paul J. Weber in Austin, Jill Bleed in Little Rock, Arkansas, Sean Murphy in Oklahoma City and news researcher Rhonda Shafner in New York contributed to this report.

Graphic

This June 16, 2015, photo provided by the River Oaks Police Department, in Texas, shows Keith Thomas Kinnunen. Authorities say that Kinnunen is the man who carried out an attack Sunday, Dec. 29, 2019, at West Freeway Church of Christ in White Settlement, Texas. (River Oaks Police Department via AP)

HOGP

In this still frame from livestreamed video provided by law enforcement, churchgoers take cover while a congregant armed with a handgun, top left, engages a man who opened fire, near top center just right of windows, during a service at West Freeway Church of Christ, Sunday, Dec. 29, 2019, in White Settlement, Texas. The footage was broadcast online by the church according to a law enforcement official, who provided the image to The Associated Press on condition on anonymity because the investigation is ongoing. (West Freeway Church of Christ/Courtesy of Law Enforcement via AP)

West Freeway Church of Christ/Courtesy of Law Enforcement via AP

Jack Wilson, 71, poses for a photo at a firing range outside his home in Granbury, Texas, Monday, Dec. 30, 2019. Wilson trains the volunteer security team of the West Freeway Church of Christ, where a gunman shot two people Sunday before being shot by Wilson. (AP Photo/Jake Bleiberg)

Jake Bleiberg

Church and community members, including Matt Pacholczyk, left, and his wife, Faith Pacholczyk, stand outside West Freeway Church of Christ for a candlelight vigil, Monday, Dec. 30, 2019, in White Settlement, Texas. A gunman shot and killed two people before an armed security officer returned fire, killing him during a service at the church on Sunday. (Tom Fox/The Dallas Morning News via AP)

Tom Fox

Church and community members gather outside West Freeway Church of Christ in White Settlement, Texas, for a candlelight vigil, Monday, Dec. 30, 2019. A gunman shot and killed two people before an armed security officer returned fire, killing him during their service on Sunday. (Tom Fox/The Dallas Morning News via AP)

Tom Fox

Stephen Willeford, who confronted and exchanged gunfire with the Sutherland Springs church shooter in 2017, joins church and community members gathered outside West Freeway Church of Christ for a candlelight vigil Monday night in White Settlement, Texas.



Tom Fox/ap

Residents embrace near police and fire cars that surround the scene of a shooting at West Freeway Church of Christ in White Settlement, Texas, Sunday, Dec. 29, 2019. (Yffy Yossifor/Star-Telegram via AP)

Yffy Yossifor

Police and fire departments surround the scene of a shooting at West Freeway Church of Christ in White Settlement, Texas, Sunday, Dec. 29, 2019. (Yffy Yossifor/Star-Telegram via AP)

Yffy Yossifor

Texas Department of Public Safety regional director Jeff Williams speaks during a news conference, as Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn**, left, and White Settlement Police Chief J.P. Bevering, right, stand behind him, Sunday, Dec. 29, 2019, in front of West Freeway Church of Christ, in White Settlement, Texas. Police say congregants shot and killed a man who opened fire at the church. (AP Photo/David Kent)

David Kent

An FBI agent stands outside West Freeway Church of Christ as authorities continue to investigate a fatal shooting at the church, Sunday, Dec. 29, 2019, in White Settlement, Texas. (AP Photo/David Kent)

David Kent

Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick, right, puts his hand on West Freeway Church of Christ senior preaching minister Britt Farmer after speaking at a news conference following a fatal shooting at his church, Sunday, Dec. 29, 2019, in White Settlement, Texas. (Juan Figueroa/The Dallas Morning News via AP)

Juan Figueroa

Load-Date: December 31, 2019

End of Document

[2 deaths in church shooting](#)

Denton Record-Chronicle (Texas)

December 30, 2019 Monday

Copyright 2019 Denton Record-Chronicle
Distributed by Newsbank, Inc. All Rights Reserved

Section: A; Pg. 1

Length: 1193 words

Byline: Dana Branham

Body



Nataly Keomoungkhoun, Tom Steele, Dana Branham and LaVendrick Smith

The Dallas Morning News

A gunman killed two people during a Sunday morning service at a church in White Settlement before members of the congregation fatally shot him, authorities say.

Police in White Settlement, about eight miles west of Fort Worth, were called about 10a.m. to the West Freeway Church of Christ at 1900 South Las Vegas Trail after the members, who were part of the church's security team, had ended the attack.

MedStar spokeswoman Macara Trusty soon reported that the the gunman and one of his victims had died at a hospital. The second victim was resuscitated after going into cardiac arrest on the way to a hospital, but authorities announced at an evening news conference that the person died later.

The names of the gunman and the people he killed have not been released.

Two other people were treated and released at the scene for minor injuries they suffered when they hit their heads while they were ducking for cover, Trusty said.

'Today evil walked boldly among us'

White Settlement Police Chief J.P. Bevering said the Texas Department of Public Safety will lead the investigation into the shooting.

Authorities did not release any information about a possible motive in the shooting.

Law enforcement officials said Sunday that there was no ongoing threat to the public in connection with the shooting. They praised the members of the church's security team for ending the attack within seconds.

Jeoff Williams, regional director for the Texas Department of Public Safety, said there was an enormous police response Sunday morning to learn more about what led to the shooting.

He said the nation has seen so many shootings "that we've actually gotten used to it."

"I would like to point out that we have a couple of heroic parishioners who ... saved countless lives," Williams said. "Our hearts are going out to them and their families as well."

Matthew DeSarno, special agent in charge of the FBI Dallas office, said the agency was offering its resources to help with the investigation.

"We are working very hard to find motive to get to the bottom of what happened," DeSarno said. "As you see from the group assembled behind me, an incident like this does not get solved and we don't get to the bottom of it without significant partnership."

Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** said Sunday was "a horrific day in Tarrant County."

"Today evil walked boldly among us," he said. "But let me remind you, good people raised up and stopped it before it got worse."

Bevering, the White Settlement police chief, offered his condolences to the victims and the churchgoers who survived the shooting.

"We're all hurting right now, and I just want your prayers for everybody at this time," he said.



Hours after the shooting, as churchgoers left the scene, John Richardson stood next to his wife, Diana, outside a Waffle House near the church.

The couple has been married for 47 years and have attended West Freeway Church of Christ for more than half of their marriage, he said.

Richardson was in good spirits after witnessing the shooting, saying he and his wife have been through worse. Years ago, they were involved in a tragic car accident that left Diana with a traumatic brain injury.

"Once you've been through something traumatic like that, you already appreciate life that much more," Richardson said.

He said he had no hate for the shooter, who he called one of God's creations.

"You can't have hate for these people," Richardson said. "You can't have hate for anybody."

Live-stream captures shooting

A live-stream video that captured the shooting appeared to have been removed from the church's YouTube page shortly after the attack, but copies are circulating on social media.

In the video, the shooter, who is wearing what seems to be a dark-colored hood, gets up from a pew in the back of the room and walks up to a man in a suit who is standing in the corner.

As the two speak and the man points to his right, the shooter reaches into his jacket and pulls out what appears to be a shotgun.

A man sitting nearby stands up and reaches toward the back of his waistband as several others start to take cover, but most people in the sanctuary appear to be unaware of what is happening.

The shooter fires twice while stepping backward down the aisle, striking the man who stood up and then the man he first approached.

Another man then pulls out a handgun and fires once, striking the shooter just as he turns toward the front of the room. Six seconds have elapsed since the shooter pulled out his gun.

After the gunman's first shot, nearly everyone in the room startles, trying to find the source of the noise. As the gunman fires again, most of the worshippers begin ducking behind the pews, and a church leader standing on stage dives onto the floor.

Several people in the opposite corner run up the aisle toward an exit, leaving papers and a book scattered in their wake. One woman crawls. An older man, who has turned to watch what's happening, hardly moves.

Screams fill the air as the gunman is shot and falls to the ground.

A woman runs shrieking toward the victims as someone tries to help the first man who was shot, who is out of view. The second victim, who tumbled onto what appears to be a bench after he was shot, sits up.

Meanwhile, at least five other worshippers pull out handguns and slowly approach the shooter. The man who shot the gunman kicks away the gunman's firearm and picks it up.

State officials react

Gov. Greg Abbott called the shooting an "evil act of violence" in a statement Sunday afternoon.



"Places of worship are meant to be sacred, and I am grateful for the church members who acted quickly to take down the shooter and help prevent further loss of life," Abbott said. "Cecilia and I ask all Texans to join us in praying for the White Settlement community and for all those affected by this horrible tragedy."

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton's office asked for prayers for the victims and their families and said the office will assist in any way needed.

Erin Nealy Cox, U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Texas, said details about the shooter are under investigation.

"No one should be subjected to gunfire in a house of worship," Nealy Cox said in a tweeted statement.

Sunday's attack came 20 years after a gunman walked into a Wednesday evening prayer service at Wedgwood Baptist Church in September 1999 and killed four teenagers and three adults before fatally shooting himself. Seven more people were injured.

A law went into effect in September 2017 that allows churches to hire armed guards. Licensed handgun owners are also allowed to bring firearms into the church as long as the church allows it, and a law passed earlier this year required churches to give notice to their congregations if they want to ban guns.

Churches, synagogues and mosques previously had been off-limits to gun owners, but lawmakers decided to lift the restriction as a response to the 2017 Sutherland Springs church shooting in which 26 victims were fatally shot and 20 more were wounded. The gunman in that attack also died.

Load-Date: December 31, 2019

End of Document

'A horrific day'

THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

December 30, 2019 Monday, 1 EDITION

Copyright 2019 THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

DallasNews.com

Section: NEWS; Pg. A01

Length: 1357 words

Byline: DANA BRANHAM, NATALY KEOMOUNGKHOUN, TOM STEELE and LAVENDRICK SMITH

Body

A gunman killed two people during a Sunday morning service at a church in White Settlement before members of the congregation fatally shot him, authorities said.



Police in White Settlement, about eight miles west of Fort Worth, were called before 11 a.m. to the West Freeway Church of Christ at 1900 South Las Vegas Trail after two members who are part of the church's security team opened fire on the gunman.

MedStar spokeswoman Macara Trusty soon reported that the gunman and one of his victims had died at a hospital. The second victim was resuscitated after going into cardiac arrest on the way to a hospital, but authorities announced at an evening news conference that the person died later.

The names of the gunman and the people he killed have not been released.

Two other people were treated at the scene for minor injuries they suffered when they hit their heads while they were ducking for cover, Trusty said.

"We lost two great men today, but it could have been a lot worse, and I am thankful our government has allowed us the opportunity to protect ourselves," said Britt Farmer, the church's senior minister.

Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick, speaking at the evening news conference, highlighted changes in state law that ensured the right to carry concealed weapons in churches.

He credited the church's volunteer security team for protecting fellow members.

"The heroism today is unparalleled," Patrick said. "This team responded quickly, and within six seconds the shooting was over."

The FBI said Sunday evening that the gunman had been arrested in different jurisdictions but declined to go into detail about any charges he'd faced. Although the man had roots in the area, it appears he may have been transient.

White Settlement police Chief J.P. Bevering said the Texas Department of Public Safety would lead the investigation into the shooting.

Authorities did not release any information about a possible motive. Law enforcement officials said there was no ongoing threat to the public, and they praised the members of the church's security team for ending the attack within seconds.

Jeoff Williams, regional director for the Texas Department of Public Safety, said there was an enormous police response Sunday morning to learn more about what led to the shooting.

He said the nation has seen so many shootings "that we've actually gotten used to it."

"I would like to point out that we have a couple of heroic parishioners," Williams said. "Our hearts are going out to them and their families as well."

He said their quick actions saved the lives of many other churchgoers.

"The citizens in this community have a lot to be proud of," Williams said.

Matthew DeSarno, special agent in charge of the FBI's Dallas office, said the agency was offering its resources to help with the investigation.

"We are working very hard to find [a] motive to get to the bottom of what happened," DeSarno said. "As you see from the group assembled behind me, an incident like this does not get solved, and we don't get to the bottom of it, without significant partnership."



Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** said Sunday was “a horrific day in Tarrant County.”

“Today evil walked boldly among us,” he said. “But let me remind you, good people raised up and stopped it before it got worse.”

Bevering, the police chief, offered his condolences to the victims as well as the churchgoers who survived the shooting.

“We’re all hurting right now, and I just want your prayers for everybody at this time,” he said.

Hours after the shooting, as churchgoers left the scene, John Richardson stood next to his wife, Diana, outside a Waffle House near the church.

They have been married 47 years and have attended West Freeway Church of Christ for more than half of that time, he said.

Richardson said that in the years since his wife suffered a brain injury in a car crash, he has learned to keep such tragedies in perspective.

“Once you’ve been through something traumatic like that, you already appreciate life that much more,” he said.

He said he had no hate for the gunman, whom he called one of God’s creations.

“You can’t have hate for these people,” Richardson said. “You can’t have hate for anybody.”

A livestream video that captured the shooting was removed from the church’s YouTube page shortly after the attack, but copies are circulating on social media.

In the video, the gunman, who is wearing what seems to be a dark-colored hood, gets up from a pew in the back of the room and walks up to a man in a suit who is standing in the corner.

As the two speak and the man points to his right, the gunman reaches into his jacket and pulls out a shotgun.

A man sitting nearby stands up and reaches toward the back of his waistband as several others start to take cover, but most people in the sanctuary appear to be unaware of what is happening.

The gunman fires twice while stepping backward down the aisle, striking the man who stood up and then the man he first approached.

Another man then pulls out a handgun and fires once, striking the gunman just as he turns toward the front of the room. Six seconds have elapsed since the gunman pulled out his gun.

After the gunman’s first shot, nearly everyone in the room is startled, trying to find the source of the noise. As the gunman fires again, most of the worshippers begin ducking behind pews, and a church leader standing on stage dives onto the floor.

Several people in the opposite corner run up the aisle toward an exit, leaving papers and a book scattered in their wake. One woman crawls. An older man who has turned to watch what’s happening hardly moves.

Screams are heard as the gunman is shot and falls to the ground.

A woman runs shrieking toward the victims as someone tries to help the first man who was shot, who is out of view. The second victim, who tumbled onto what appears to be a bench after he was shot, sits up.



Meanwhile, at least five other worshippers pull out handguns and slowly approach the gunman. The man who shot the gunman kicks away the gunman's firearm and picks it up.

The Fort Worth Star-Telegram reported that church elder Mike Tinius said the gunman had drawn the suspicion of church security shortly before the shooting. He said he'd never seen the man and had no idea what his motive for the attack might have been.

"By the sequence of events, it should be assumed that he came in with an idea," he said.

Gov. Greg Abbott called the shooting an "evil act of violence" in a statement Sunday afternoon.

"Places of worship are meant to be sacred, and I am grateful for the church members who acted quickly to take down the shooter and help prevent further loss of life," Abbott said. "Cecilia and I ask all Texans to join us in praying for the White Settlement community and for all those affected by this horrible tragedy."

Erin Nealy Cox, U.S. attorney for the Northern District of Texas, said details about the shooter are under investigation.

"No one should be subjected to gunfire in a house of worship," Nealy Cox said in a tweeted statement.

Sunday's attack came just over 20 years after a gunman walked into a Wednesday evening prayer service at Fort Worth's Wedgwood Baptist Church and killed four teenagers and three adults before fatally shooting himself. Seven more people were injured in the September 1999 attack.

A state law went into effect in September 2017 that allows churches to have armed volunteer security. Handgun owners may legally bring firearms into church as long as the church allows it, and a law passed earlier this year requires churches to give notice to their congregations if they want to ban guns.

Churches, synagogues and mosques previously had been off-limits to gun owners, but lawmakers decided to lift the restriction as a response to the 2017 Sutherland Springs church shooting, in which 26 victims were fatally shot and 20 more were wounded. The gunman in that attack killed himself after being shot by two men who chased him until he crashed his vehicle.

dana.branham@dallas

news.com, nataly.keomoungk houn@dallasnews.com, tsteele@dallasnews.com,

lavendrick.smith@

dallasnews.com

Twitter: @danabranham,

@natalykeo,

@tomsteele, @LaVendrickS

Gunman fatally shoots 2 worshippers

Load-Date: December 30, 2019



[Evil Strikes At Texas Church Rifleman slain by parishioners after killing two during worship](#)

The New York Post

December 30, 2019 Monday

Copyright 2019 N.Y.P. Holdings, Inc. All Rights Reserved

Section: Sports+Late City Final; Pg. 8

Length: 589 words

Byline: Jackie Salo and Kate Sheehy

Body

A black-clad man with a rifle stashed under his coat fatally shot two people in a Texas church on Sunday before being slain by parishioners in a caught-on-tape shootout.

The bloodshed erupted in the middle of a service at the West Freeway Church of Christ in White Settlement, a Fort Worth suburb in Tarrant County at about 10:50 a.m., authorities said.

Footage of the service - which was being live-streamed by the church on YouTube - shows the killer in a large coat, black hat and with what appeared to be a long, bushy black beard enter from the rear and shake the hand of a woman before sitting alone in a pew at the side of the room.

He soon rises and approaches a man standing by the wall.

As congregants, including many older couples, focus on the service, the gunman appears to ask the man a question.

The man responds by pointing to his right, where another man is sitting along the wall.

The seated man stands up and appears to pull something out from the back of his waistband when the killer shoots him, causing him to fall to the ground.

The killer then shoots the man he had questioned before being gunned down by two congregants, including a former FBI agent working security, according to officials and CBS affiliate KVTU.

Meanwhile, several other male worshippers whip out their own firearms and move toward the shooter as he remains down.

The state recently passed a law allowing licensed gun holders to carry weapons in church.

As the bullets flew, congregants cried and screamed while ducking for cover under the pews.

A man who had been in front of the church on the low stage started crawling down the aisle on his hands and knees.



"I love you!" one congregant shouted, according to ABC affiliate WFAA.

The killer and one of his victims died en route to a hospital.

The other victim flatlined and was transported to a hospital where he died, CNN reported.

The first slain victim worked security at the church, a West Freeway elder told The New York Times.

"He was trying to do what he needed to do to protect the rest of us," said the elder, Mike Tinius.

There was no information on the second fatal victim as of Sunday night.

Two other people were treated for minor head injuries they sustained while ducking for cover, a medical official told the Dallas Morning News.

Authorities hailed the two parishioners who brought down the killer as "heroic."

"Today, evil walked boldly among us. But let me remind you, good people raised up and stopped it before it got worse," Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** told reporters at a press conference.

An FBI spokesman said the bureau was investigating.

"We are working very hard to find motive, to get to the bottom of what happened," said Matthew DeSarno, special agent in charge of the FBI's Dallas field office.

Authorities said there was no continuing threat to the church.

The attack came two years after a mass shooting at the First Baptist Church in Sutherland Springs, Texas, killed 26 people and wounded 20 more on Nov. 5, 2017.

The gunman in that attack, Devin Kelley, had been feuding with his mother-in-law, who attended the church. He committed suicide before he could be apprehended.

After Sunday's shooting, Jeoff Williams, the regional director for the Texas Department of Public Safety, addressed the press.

"Unfortunately," he said, "this country has seen so many of these that we've actually gotten used to it at this point."

ksheehy@nypost.com

Graphic

Horror In The Pews: A congregant takes aim before shooting and killing a gunman who had just fatally shot two people in the West Freeway Church of Christ near Fort Worth on Sunday. [West Freeway Church of Christ]

Load-Date: December 30, 2019



Firearms instructor took out gunman at Texas church service

NBC - 10 WSLS (Roanoke-Lynchburg, Virginia)

December 30, 2019 Monday

Copyright 2019 Media General Communications Holdings, LLC
Distributed by Newsbank, Inc. All Rights Reserved

Section: NEWS

Length: 1212 words

Body

Alarms went off in Jack Wilson's head the moment a man wearing a fake beard, a wig, a hat and a long coat walked into a Texas church for Sunday services.

By the time the man approached a communion server and pulled out a shotgun, Wilson and another security volunteer were already reaching for their own guns.

The attacker shot the other volunteer, Richard White, and then the server, Anton "Tony" Wallace, sending congregants scrambling for cover. The gunman was heading toward the front of the sanctuary as Wilson searched for a clear line of fire.

"I didn't have a clear window," he said, referring to church members who "were jumping, going chaotic." Wilson, a 71-year-old firearms instructor who has also been a reserve sheriff's deputy, said: "They were standing up. I had to wait about half a second, or a second, to get my shot. I fired one round. The subject went down."

Wilson's single shot quickly ended the attack that killed Wallace, 64, and White, 67, at the West Freeway Church of Christ in the Fort Worth-area town of White Settlement. He said the entire confrontation was over in no more than six seconds. More than 240 congregants were in the church at the time.

"The only clear shot I had was his head because I still had people in the pews that were not all the way down as low as they could. That was my one shot," Wilson said Monday from his home in nearby Granbury.

As Wilson approached the fallen attacker, he noticed five or six other members of the volunteer security team he had trained with their guns drawn. Wilson said they had their eyes on the man since he arrived. During the service, White and Wilson had stationed themselves at the back of the church, watching him.

The Texas Department of Public Safety on Monday identified the attacker as Keith Thomas Kinnunen, 43. His motive is under investigation.

Speaking outside the church Monday, Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton said authorities "can't prevent mental illness from occurring, and we can't prevent every crazy person from pulling a gun. But we can be prepared like this church was."



Britt Farmer, senior minister of the church, said Sunday, "We lost two great men today, but it could have been a lot worse."

Wilson described the attacker's gun as a short-barreled 12-gauge shotgun with a pistol grip. Shotguns with barrels less than 18 inches long are restricted under federal law and can be legally owned in Texas only if they are registered with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

After the shooting, Texas officials hailed the state's gun laws, including a measure enacted this year that affirmed the right of licensed handgun holders to carry a weapon in places of worship, unless the facility bans them.

That law was passed in the aftermath of the deadliest mass shooting in Texas history, which was also at a church. In the 2017 massacre at First Baptist Church of Sutherland Springs, a man who opened fire on a Sunday morning congregation killed more than two dozen people. He later killed himself.

President Donald Trump also tweeted his appreciation for state's gun legislation Monday night, saying, "Lives were saved by these heroes, and Texas laws allowing them to carry arms!"

Isabel Arreola told the Fort Worth Star-Telegram that she sat near the gunman in White Settlement and that she had never seen him before. She said he was wearing what appeared to be a disguise and made her uncomfortable.

"I was so surprised because I did not know that so many in the church were armed," she said.

Sunday's shooting was the second attack on a religious gathering in the U.S. in less than 24 hours. On Saturday night, a man stabbed five people as they celebrated Hanukkah in an Orthodox Jewish community north of New York City.

Wallace's daughter, Tiffany Wallace, told Dallas TV station KXAS that her father was a deacon at the church.

"I ran toward my dad, and the last thing I remember is him asking for oxygen. And I was just holding him, telling him I loved him and that he was going to make it," Wallace said.

"You just wonder why? How can someone so evil, the devil, step into the church and do this," she said.

White's daughter-in-law, Misty York White, called him a hero on Facebook: "You stood up against evil and sacrificed your life. Many lives were saved because of your actions. You have always been a hero to us but the whole world is seeing you as a hero now. We love you, we miss you, we are heartbroken."

Matthew DeSarno, the agent in charge of the FBI's Dallas office, said the assailant was "relatively transient" but had roots in the area.

Paxton said Monday that the shooter appeared to be "more of a loner." "I don't think he had a lot of connections to very many people," he said.

Investigators searched Kinnunen's home in nearby River Oaks, a small city where police said his department's only contact with the gunman was a couple of traffic citations. But Kinnunen appeared to have more serious brushes in other jurisdictions. He was arrested in 2009 on charges of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon in Fort Worth and in 2013 for theft, according to Tarrant County court records.



He was arrested in 2016 in New Jersey after police found him with 12-gauge shotgun and rounds wrapped in plastic in the area of an oil refinery, according to the Herald News Tribune in East Brunswick. It was not immediately clear how those charges were resolved.

In a 2009 affidavit requesting a court-appointed attorney, Kinnunen listed having a wife and said he was living with four children, according to court records. He told the court he was self-employed in landscaping and irrigation work.

Kinnunen's extensive criminal record also included assault charges in Oklahoma and Arizona.

Court records from Grady County, Oklahoma, obtained by Dallas television station KXAS, show that Kinnunen's ex-wife sought a protective order in 2012 in which Cindy Glasgow-Voegel described her husband as a "violent, paranoid person with a long line of assault and batteries with and without firearms. He is a religious fanatic, says he's battling a demon."

Church officials held a closed meeting and prayer vigil just for church members Monday evening. Farmer told the crowd that he had encountered Kinnunen in the past.

"I had seen him. I had visited with him. I had given him food," Farmer said.

White Settlement's website says it was named by local Native Americans in the 1800s for white families then settling in the area. City leaders who worried that the name detracted from the city's image proposed renaming it in 2005, but voters overwhelmingly rejected the idea.

Wilson said the church started the security team about 18 months ago after moving to a new building and becoming concerned about crime in the area. Wilson has been a firearms instructor since 1995, spent six years in the Army National Guard and was a Hood County reserve deputy. He said some of the security team members he trained were at first afraid to touch a gun.

"I don't feel like I killed a human, I killed an evil," Wilson said. "That's how I'm coping with the situation."

Associated Press writers Paul J. Weber in Austin, Jamie Stengle in Dallas, Jill Bleed in Little Rock, Arkansas, and news researcher Rhonda Shafner in New York contributed to this report.

Graphic

In this still frame from livestreamed video provided by law enforcement, churchgoers take cover while a congregant armed with a handgun, top left, engages a man who opened fire, near top center just right of windows, during a service at West Freeway Church of Christ, Sunday, Dec. 29, 2019, in White Settlement, Texas. The footage was broadcast online by the church according to a law enforcement official, who provided the image to The Associated Press on condition on anonymity because the investigation is ongoing. (West Freeway Church of Christ/Courtesy of Law Enforcement via AP) Texas Department of Public Safety regional director Jeff Williams speaks during a news conference, as Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn**, left, and White Settlement Police Chief J.P. Bevering, right, stand behind him, Sunday, Dec. 29, 2019, in front of West Freeway Church of Christ, in White Settlement, Texas. Police say congregants shot and killed a man who opened fire at the church. (AP Photo/David Kent) An officer walks



near the scene after a church shooting at West Freeway Church of Christ on Sunday, Dec. 29, 2019 in White Settlement, Texas. (Juan Figueroa/The Dallas Morning News via AP) A person stands near the scene of a church shooting at West Freeway Church of Christ on Sunday, Dec. 29, 2019 in White Settlement, Texas. (Juan Figueroa/The Dallas Morning News via AP) An officer stands near the scene after a church shooting at West Freeway Church of Christ on Sunday, Dec. 29, 2019 in White Settlement, Texas. (Juan Figueroa/The Dallas Morning News via AP) Authorities continue to work the scene of a fatal shooting where multiple people were shot at a church, Sunday, Dec. 29, 2019, in White Settlement, Texas. (Juan Figueroa/The Dallas Morning News via AP) Authorities continue to work the scene of a fatal shooting where multiple people were shot at a church, Sunday, Dec. 29, 2019, in White Settlement, Texas. (Juan Figueroa/The Dallas Morning News via AP) Authorities continue to work the scene of a fatal shooting where multiple people were shot at a church, Sunday, Dec. 29, 2019, in White Settlement, Texas. (Juan Figueroa/The Dallas Morning News via AP) An FBI agent stands outside West Freeway Church of Christ as authorities continue to investigate a fatal shooting at the church, Sunday, Dec. 29, 2019, in White Settlement, Texas. (AP Photo/David Kent) An elderly couple walks from West Freeway Church of Christ hours after a fatal shooting at the church, Sunday, Dec. 29, 2019, in White Settlement, Texas. The couple declined to comment to reporters. (AP Photo/David Kent)

Load-Date: January 11, 2020

End of Document

[Monday Sunrise Briefs: America responds to attacks on worship; Catch me up on the weekend news: How America responds to attacks on worshippers in New York and Texas. Steps toward peace in Afghanistan, Ukraine.](#)

The Christian Science Monitor
December 30, 2019 Monday

Copyright 2019 Christian Science Publishing Society All Rights Reserved

Section: World

Length: 916 words

Byline: David Clark Scott Audience Engagement Editor

Body

Two attacks this weekend - one at a rabbi's home in New York and another at a church in Texas - raised anew questions about how Americans respond to assaults at places of worship.

Saturday's knife attack (injuring five people) during a large Hanukkah celebration was the 13th anti-Semitic attack in New York since Dec. 8. "This is violence spurred by hate, it is mass violence and I consider this an act of domestic terrorism," New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo said. Jewish leaders Sunday spoke of resilience, defiance, and vigilance.



A gunman opened fire Sunday morning at a church near Fort Worth, Texas, killing two people before two churchgoers pulled out handguns and fatally shot him. "Today evil walked boldly among us," said Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn**. "But let me remind you, good people raised up and stopped it before it got worse."

In both attacks, police are searching for a motive.

2. Footsteps to peace? In Afghanistan and Ukraine, two separate peace initiatives brought cautious hope to their respective regions. The Taliban agreed to a temporary cease-fire - a move President Trump presaged at Thanksgiving - in order to provide an opening to sign a peace agreement with the U.S., said the Taliban ruling council Sunday. The U.S. wants to start bringing home its troops from Afghanistan (about 12,000) and end its 18-year military engagement there.

Meanwhile, Ukrainian forces and Russia-backed rebels in eastern Ukraine exchanged some 200 prisoners on Sunday. The swap is seen as a trust-building step toward ending the five-year war that has left more than 14,000 dead. Hopes for peace have risen since the 2019 election of Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy, who has been more amenable to negotiations with Russia.

3. A stepping stone to Mars. A U.S. astronaut set a record Saturday for the longest single spaceflight by a woman, breaking the old mark of 288 days. Christina Koch, an electrical engineer from Livingston, Montana, is expected to spend a total of 318 days in space. Koch's mission will help NASA learn about the effects of long spaceflights, to support future missions to the Moon and Mars.

Look Ahead

Tuesday, Dec. 31

European goal-setting: French President Emmanuel Macron gives a New Year's Eve address amid the longest strike in decades, over his plans to raise the retirement age. German Chancellor Angela Merkel also delivers her annual New Year's message.

Wednesday, Jan. 1

More digital privacy: California's sweeping new privacy law effectively becomes the U.S. national standard. Similar to Europe's General Data Protection Regulation of 2018, the new law allows state residents to request exactly what personal information Silicon Valley giants are collecting about them - and to have it deleted.

Respect for parents: A new Illinois law requires restaurants, stores, and other buildings with public restrooms to have a diaper changing station. California has a similar law.

More focus, more nimble: The U.S. takes its turn at the helm of the G7 this year. President Trump is no fan of multilateral organizations. But a White House official says the group of the seven large industrialized nations could be "incredibly useful" and told Reuters the group needs to focus on fewer topics.

Friday, Jan. 3

Awe in the heavens: One of the best annual meteor showers in the Northern Hemisphere, the Quadrantid, peaks late Friday night and into early Saturday.

Justice and Mercy Watch



This week, my daughter reminded me of one of the most poignant moments of grace in 2019. It was the hug of mercy seen around the world.

Brandt Jean was in a Texas courtroom on Oct. 2, at the sentencing hearing for Amber Guyger, a white police officer who fatally shot Brant's brother, Botham Jean, in his own apartment. The off-duty Dallas cop testified that she mistakenly thought she was entering her apartment (one floor below) and that Botham (a black man) was an intruder. Guyger was convicted of murder. At the hearing, Brandt looked at Guyger and said: "If you truly are sorry - I know I can speak for myself - I forgive you, and I know if you go to God and ask him, He will forgive you."

Then, Brandt asked the presiding judge if he could give Guyger a hug. A long embrace followed as sobbing filled the courtroom (Watch the video). Guyger was sentenced to 10 years in prison. Brandt was praised for his courage, but also criticized for too easily forgiving police brutality. As The Monitor's editor wrote at the time, Brandt's actions "point to lessons from the black church that are universal, as well as blessings that are limited only by how often they are bestowed."

Hidden gem

Start your week with a recent story that inspired Monitor readers:

In search of an authentic Christmas, ax required

Sneak preview

In tonight's Daily Edition, watch for our final installment of the 10 Commandments, a moral code for modern life.

Finally, check out the Monitor's Christmas week audio interviews from the subscription-only Daily Edition:

'Translating for myself': Ann Scott Tyson on seeing China from the inside (audio)'The moment when life changes': Harry Bruinius on finding the story (audio)'Merry Christmas: A reading of holiday classics by Monitor staff'From Midwest to Middle East': Taylor Luck on keeping an open heart (audio)'Big changes on a human scale': Ryan Lenora Brown on reporting a continent (audio)

This is a beta test - an experiment with an early Monday morning news update. Please give us your feedback via the link below and let us know what you think. Thank you!

Load-Date: March 25, 2020

End of Document

[**Only Two Murdered In Texas Church Shooting Hailed As Second Amendment Christmas Miracle**](#)

Newstex Blogs

Wonkette

December 30, 2019 Monday 5:30 PM EST

Copyright 2019 Newstex LLC All Rights Reserved



Length: 1267 words

Byline: Doktor Zoom

Body

Dec 30, 2019(Wonkette: <http://wonkette.com/> Delivered by Newstex) A man with a shotgun opened fire in a church[1] in White Settlement (yes, really[2]), Texas, yesterday, killing two parishioners before two members of the church's armed volunteer security team shot and killed the gunman. Police and state and local officials praised the quick response by the security volunteers for preventing a far worse massacre, and advocates of guns everywhere triumphantly pointed[3] to the incident as proof guns save lives, at least after some lives are already lost. Jack Cummings, a minister at the West Freeway Church of Christ (yes, really), told[4] the New York Times that even before the shooting started, the shooter had been "acting suspiciously," so the security volunteers were keeping an eye on him. The team, he said, has existed for at least 10 years and is made up of members of the church's congregation who are licensed to carry firearms and practice shooting regularly.

"They saved a lot of lives today," Mr. Cummings said. "Because this thing would have been a massacre otherwise." One of those killed in the shooting was a member of the security team, Cummings said. Authorities said the entire incident played out in just six seconds. The church livestreams its services, so the shooting was captured on video. Here's CNN's description:[5] The video, obtained by CNN affiliate KTVT, shows the shooter seated in a pew toward the rear of the church during the service. The shooter, dressed in dark clothes, approaches someone in the back corner and appears to talk to them. That individual gestures toward the center of the church. The shooter pulled out a long gun and opened fire on the man before shooting a second man. It appears that a man, toward the left of the screen, draws a handgun and fires. The shooter falls to the ground immediately. Three muzzle flashes are seen on the video. The Dallas Morning News offers a more detailed description[6] of the video, which notes that the gunman killed one man who was reaching for a gun; another man in the church then killed the shooter with a handgun. The shooter was described [7] by FBI Special agent Matthew J. DeSarno as being "relatively transient with roots to this area." The man had been arrested multiple times in several different municipalities, although further details, including the shooter's name, haven't yet been released. The FBI is leading the investigation. The shooter was not on any sort of "watch list," DeSarno said, but investigators will try to determine whether he was driven by any sort of ideology. Authorities said the motive is unknown, and nobody knows yet whether the shooter targeted the victims. The church's pastor, Britt Farmer, was just one of many crediting the Second Amendment and Texas's firearms laws, which were recently changed to explicitly allow concealed carry in churches, for minimizing the bloodshed. At a press conference, Farmer said,[8] We lost two great men today, but it could have been a lot worse, and I am thankful our government has allowed us the opportunity to protect ourselves. Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** also praised[9] the quick action of the security team: "Today evil walked boldly among us," he said. "But let me remind you, good people raised up and stopped it before it got worse." Texas Lieutenant Governor Dan Patrick called attention to[10] revisions to Texas law enshrining the right of concealed carry permit-holders to have guns in houses of worship, which were passed after the last big shooting in a Texas church,[11] in 2017. He too praised the volunteer for "saving untold number of lives." Gov. Greg Abbott said much the same[12]. This really does appear to have been an ideal "good guy with a gun" scenario, in which a potential massacre was stopped by an armed citizen, and we're sure it will be used as proof that we need a lot more people carrying concealed weapons in schools and churches and shopping malls and movie theaters, because look how well this worked, with only two people dead. But even with the armed security volunteers on alert and watching the guy, he managed to kill two church members, one of them a security volunteer reaching



for his gun. Whole lot of guns in that church, and because they all knew each other, nobody accidentally fired on another good guy, thinking it was a bad guy (which almost happened, you'll recall, in the Gabby Giffords shooting[13] in 2011 -- an armed bystander[14] saw someone holding a handgun and considered shooting, but it turned out to be another good guy, who had taken the shooter's gun). So with all the good guys already prepared for trouble, the bad guy with a criminal record and a shotgun still killed two people (no word yet on whether he had any felonies that would have shown up in a background check). "Success" is now defined as limiting the body count. But in New York, this weekend's horrific machete attack [15] on a Hanukkah celebration in a rabbi's house, where nobody had a gun, ended when one of the unarmed celebrants threw a coffee table[16] at the attacker and called police when the guy drove off. It's almost as if the problem is the guns, just maybe. [Dallas Morning News[17] / CNN [18]/ NYT[19]] Yr Wonkette is entirely supported by reader donations. Please help us keep the writers paid, the servers humming, and Dox caffeinated. [1]: <https://www.dallasnews.com/news/crime/2019/12/29/2-dead-1-in-critical-condition-after-reported-shooting-at-church-in-white-settlement/> [2]: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/White_Settlement,_Texas#History [3]: <https://twitter.com/TomiLahren/status/1211401892053438464> [4]: <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/12/29/us/fort-worth-church-shooting.html?action=click...ule=Top%20Stories...ype=Homepage> [5]: <https://www.cnn.com/2019/12/29/us/church-shooting-texas/index.html> [6]: <https://www.dallasnews.com/news/crime/2019/12/29/2-dead-1-in-critical-condition-after-reported-shooting-at-church-in-white-settlement/> [7]: <https://www.cnn.com/2019/12/29/us/church-shooting-texas/index.html> [8]: <https://www.dallasnews.com/news/crime/2019/12/29/2-dead-1-in-critical-condition-after-reported-shooting-at-church-in-white-settlement/> [9]: <https://www.dallasnews.com/news/crime/2019/12/29/2-dead-1-in-critical-condition-after-reported-shooting-at-church-in-white-settlement/> [10]: <https://www.dallasnews.com/news/crime/2019/12/29/2-dead-1-in-critical-condition-after-reported-shooting-at-church-in-white-settlement/> [11]: <https://www.wonkette.com/donald-trump-says-more-stupid-shit-about-guns> [12]: <https://www.dallasnews.com/news/crime/2019/12/29/2-dead-1-in-critical-condition-after-reported-shooting-at-church-in-white-settlement/> [13]: <https://www.wonkette.com/gabby-giffords-was-shot-eight-years-ago-today-she-helped-introduce-a-dem-gun-bill> [14]: <https://slate.com/technology/2011/01/joe-zamudio-and-the-gabrielle-giffords-shooting-how-an-armed-hero-nearly-shot-the-wrong-man.html> [15]: <https://www.wonkette.com/anti-semitic-attack-monsey> [16]: <https://twitter.com/Mottel/status/1211345572088729600> [17]: <https://www.dallasnews.com/news/crime/2019/12/29/2-dead-1-in-critical-condition-after-reported-shooting-at-church-in-white-settlement/> [18]: <https://www.cnn.com/2019/12/29/us/church-shooting-texas/index.html> [19]: <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/12/29/us/fort-worth-church-shooting.html?action=click...ule=Top%20Stories...ype=Homepage>

Load-Date: December 30, 2019

End of Document

[Police: Parishioners kill man who fatally shoots 2 at church](#)

Post & Courier (Charleston, SC)

December 30, 2019 Monday

Copyright 2019 The Post and Courier All Rights Reserved



Section: A; Pg. 6

Length: 558 words

Body

WHITE SETTLEMENT, Texas (AP) - A man pulled out a shotgun at a Texas church service and fired on worshippers Sunday, killing two people before he was shot to death by congregants who fired back, police said.

Authorities at a Sunday evening news conference praised the two congregants who opened fire as part of a volunteer security team at West Freeway Church of Christ in White Settlement. It was unclear if the two people who were killed were the two who shot at the gunman.

"This team responded quickly and within six seconds, the shooting was over. Two of the parishioners who were volunteers of the security force drew their weapons and took out the killer immediately, saving untold number of lives," said Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick, who also hailed the state's gun laws.

Britt Farmer, senior minister of the church, said, "We lost two great men today, but it could have been a lot worse."

Authorities said there were more than 240 parishioners in the West Freeway Church at the time of the shooting.

White Settlement Police Department Chief J.P. Bevering said the gunman had sat down in a pew before getting up, taking out a shotgun and firing at a parishioner, who was killed. He said the church's security team then "eliminated the threat."

Officials have not released the names of the victims or the gunman. FBI Special Agent in Charge Matthew DeSarno said they're working to identify the gunman's motive, adding that he is "relatively transient" but had roots in the area.

DeSarno also said the gunman had been arrested multiple times in the past but declined to give details.

An elder at the church told the [New York Times](#) that one of those killed was a security guard who responded to the shooter, calling him a dear friend.

"He was trying to do what he needed to do to protect the rest of us," said the elder, Mike Tinius.

"It's extremely upsetting to see anyone committing violence," he said.

Tinius said he didn't know the gunman and that the shooting appeared to be random.

A woman who answered the phone at the West Freeway Church of Christ told the AP she could not answer any questions and that she was told to direct inquiries to authorities.

In a livestream of the church service, the gunman can be seen getting up from a pew and talking to someone at the back of the church before pulling out a gun and opening fire. Parishioners can then be heard screaming and seen ducking under pews or running as papers fly to the floor.



Two people with minor injuries that were sustained while ducking for cover were treated at the scene, MedStar Mobile Healthcare spokeswoman Macara Trusty said.

Gov. Greg Abbott asked the state to pray for the victims, their loved ones and the community of White Settlement, about 8 miles (12 kilometers) west of Fort Worth.

"Places of worship are meant to be sacred, and I am grateful for the church members who acted quickly to take down the shooter and help prevent further loss of life," Abbott said in a tweeted statement.

It is not the first deadly shooting to take place at a church in Texas. In November 2017, [Devin Patrick Kelley](#) opened fire on the congregation at a church in Sutherland Springs, killing more than two dozen worshippers, before taking his own life. And in 1999, a gunman killed seven people in [Wedgwood Baptist Church](#) in Fort Worth before detonating an explosive device and killing himself.

Graphic

An officer walks near the scene after a church shooting at West Freeway Church of Christ on Sunday, Dec. 29, 2019 in White Settlement, Texas. (Juan Figueroa/The Dallas Morning News via AP)

Juan Figueroa

A person stands near the scene of a church shooting at West Freeway Church of Christ on Sunday, Dec. 29, 2019 in White Settlement, Texas. (Juan Figueroa/The Dallas Morning News via AP)

Juan Figueroa

An officer stands near the scene after a church shooting at West Freeway Church of Christ on Sunday, Dec. 29, 2019 in White Settlement, Texas. (Juan Figueroa/The Dallas Morning News via AP)

Juan Figueroa

Authorities continue to work the scene of a fatal shooting where multiple people were shot at a church, Sunday, Dec. 29, 2019, in White Settlement, Texas. (Juan Figueroa/The Dallas Morning News via AP)

Juan Figueroa

Authorities continue to work the scene of a fatal shooting where multiple people were shot at a church, Sunday, Dec. 29, 2019, in White Settlement, Texas. (Juan Figueroa/The Dallas Morning News via AP)

Juan Figueroa

Authorities continue to work the scene of a fatal shooting where multiple people were shot at a church, Sunday, Dec. 29, 2019, in White Settlement, Texas. (Juan Figueroa/The Dallas Morning News via AP)

Juan Figueroa

In this still frame from livestreamed video provided by law enforcement, churchgoers take cover while a congregant armed with a handgun, top left, engages a man who opened fire, near top center just right of windows, during a service at West Freeway Church of Christ, Sunday, Dec. 29, 2019, in White Settlement,



Texas. The footage was broadcast online by the church according to a law enforcement official, who provided the image to The Associated Press on condition on anonymity because the investigation is ongoing. (West Freeway Church of Christ/Courtesy of Law Enforcement via AP)

HONS

Texas Department of Public Safety regional director Jeff Williams speaks during a news conference, as Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn**, left, and White Settlement Police Chief J.P. Bevering, right, stand behind him, Sunday, Dec. 29, 2019, in front of West Freeway Church of Christ, in White Settlement, Texas. Police say congregants shot and killed a man who opened fire at the church. (AP Photo/David Kent)

David Kent

An FBI agent stands outside West Freeway Church of Christ as authorities continue to investigate a fatal shooting at the church, Sunday, Dec. 29, 2019, in White Settlement, Texas. (AP Photo/David Kent)

David Kent

An elderly couple walks from West Freeway Church of Christ hours after a fatal shooting at the church, Sunday, Dec. 29, 2019, in White Settlement, Texas. The couple declined to comment to reporters. (AP Photo/David Kent)

David Kent

Load-Date: December 29, 2019

End of Document

[Project 21 Leader Packing in Pulpit Praises Response in Texas Church Shooting](#)

The Foundation For Research On Equal Opportunity

December 30, 2019 Monday

Copyright 2019 Content Engine, LLC.

All Rights Reserved

Copyright 2019

All Rights Reserved

Length: 617 words

Byline: David Almasi

Body

There were two horrific, violent assaults on people exercising their faith this past weekend. One would likely have been much worse if not for the fast action of armed members of the congregation.



Allowing armed security, including packing a pistol in the pulpit and pews, has been a long-standing position advocated by Project 21 Co-Chairman **Council Nedd II** – an Anglican bishop and a Pennsylvania state constable.

Speaking about the recent attacks on Hassidic Jews in New York and Christians in Texas, Council said: An increase in violent attacks on religious activities shows police can't protect everyone all the time. The Texas church shooting proved that private armed security, armed staff and armed parishioners can keep a bad situation from becoming much worse. It's another example of our Second Amendment constitutional rights protecting our First Amendment rights.

At the West Freeway Church of Christ near Ft. Worth, Texas, two parishioners and the gunman **died** after the gunman pulled a shotgun out during a service. The gunman was subdued within six seconds after six members of the congregation pulled handguns and rushed the gunman – at least one of them firing. Texas Lieutenant Governor Dan Patrick **called** the heroism of the parishioners “unparalleled.” Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn added** that “evil walked boldly among us,” but that “good people raised up and stopped it before it got worse.”

In New York, a man was arrested after attacking a group of Hassidic Jews celebrating Hannukkah at a rabbi's home in the Jewish community of Monsey. The assailant used a knife in an attack that injured five people – one seriously. After being repelled from the home and blocked from entering the neighboring synagogue, the assailant fled and was later apprehended in New York City.

After the attack on the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh last year, Council **wrote** in a Daily Caller commentary that he was “truly a shepherd for my own flock” at his central Pennsylvania parish because he decided to “have a gun at [his] side during services with no regrets.”

What he wrote then is just as relevant a year later:

It's bad enough that the assaults on faith from the glitterati, government and now gunmen endanger the principles of religious freedom upon which our nation was founded. We don't need to fight the last and worst part of it by trampling our Second Amendment freedoms trying to decide who should be denied the right to keep and bear arms.

He added:

[I]t's a bishop's duty to act as a shepherd for his flock. That's why I have an ornate staff called a crozier. Like a shepherd, it's my duty to steer my congregation away from figurative wolves who would corrupt them spiritually. And now I am also physically protecting them from literal threats to their security because the crozier is no longer enough...

Awareness and swift response are much more appropriate.

In his duties as a member of the law enforcement community, Council's constable duties often have him stationed outside of local synagogues for added protection for Friday services.

In making a case for added security in places of faith over two years ago, Council **wrote** about the growing intolerance to organized religion in another Daily Caller commentary:

From the founding of my parish, St. Alban's, in the mid-1970s, we usually left our doors unlocked. That changed about five years ago. The sad fact is that people are more willing to ignore, defile and deface sacred space these days. The lines that no one would dare cross before now largely go unacknowledged. Maybe the crozier is no longer enough.

The post Project 21 Leader Packing in Pulpit Praises Response in Texas Church Shooting appeared first on The National Center.

Load-Date: February 24, 2020



End of Document

Texas Church Not a Protection Free Zone

State Capital Newsfeed

McHenry County Blog(Illinois)

December 30, 2019 Monday 4:00 AM EST

Copyright 2019 Newstex LLC All Rights Reserved

Length: 214 words

Body

Dec 30, 2019(McHenry County Blog: <http://mchenrycountyblog.com/Delivered> by Newstex) When the signs prohibiting guns went up on doors of my Crystal Lake Methodist Church, it seemed like poor judgment. Every time our Deputy Sheriff attended, squad car parked near the door, I'd tell him I felt safer. I understand some of our members even complained about his attending wearing his uniform and gun. Now comes a story out of Texas[1] in which armed members of a small congregation with 250 worshipers shot and killed a man who started shooting. One church member, who worked as a security guard, was one who drew his gun. He was killed by the gunman. Another man died after being taken to a hospital. Regional Director of the Texas Department of Public Safety observed that he and other 'heroic parishioners who stopped short of just anything that you can even imagine, saved countless lives' He said the shooting was over in six seconds. Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** said, 'Today evil walked boldly among us, But let me remind you, good people raised up and stopped it before it got worse.' At least that church was not a 'Protection Free Zone.' [1]:

<https://www.dallasnews.com/news/crime/2019/12/29/2-dead-1-in-critical-condition-after-reported-shooting-at-church-in-white-settlement/>

Load-Date: December 29, 2019

End of Document

Texas, N.F.L., Carlos Ghosn: Your Monday Evening Briefing

The New York Times

December 30, 2019 Monday 03:26 EST

Copyright 2019 The New York Times Company All Rights Reserved

Section: BRIEFING

Length: 1209 words

Byline: Andrea Kannapell, Tom Wright-Piersanti and Hiroko Masuike



Highlight: Here's what you need to know at the end of the day.

Body

Here's what you need to know at the end of the day.

(Want to get this briefing by email? Here's [the sign-up](#).)

Good evening. Here's the latest.

1. Police officers have been stationed in front of synagogues and yeshivas across New York and New Jersey, and are stepping up patrols after a surge of anti-Semitic crimes in the region.

Federal prosecutors filed [hate crimes charges against Grafton Thomas](#), 38, the man accused of bursting into a Hanukkah celebration at a Hasidic rabbi's home and stabbing five people Saturday night in Monsey, N.Y. Its county, Rockland, is believed to have one of the largest populations of ultra-Orthodox Jews outside of Israel.

Officials said he expressed anti-Semitism in his journal and had used his phone to search "Why did Hitler hate the Jews" four times in the last month, as well as "German Jewish Temples near me," and "Zionist Temples."

Mr. Thomas's family says he has a history of mental illness, including schizophrenia. In court, when a judge asked him "Are you clear in your head?" he answered, "Not clear, your honor."

2. A clearer picture emerged of a church shooting on Sunday near Fort Worth.

The authorities identified a 43-year-old former drifter with an extensive criminal past, Keith Thomas Kinnunen, as the gunman who opened fire during services at the church above.

The gunman, wearing a fake beard that had drawn notice, stood up amid the congregation with a shotgun. Within six seconds, he had killed two people and was shot dead by the head of the church's volunteer security team. Texas law allows guns to be carried in churches.

"Evil walked boldly among us," said the Tarrant County sheriff, **Bill Waybourn**. "Let me remind you, good people raised up and stopped it before it got worse."

3. The upsurge in violent hate attacks across the country has prompted federal law enforcement agencies and other groups to look for ways to counteract radicalization online.

But what is there, besides expunging content? A company called Moonshot CVE (Countering Violent Extremism) will be trying another way: [sending messages to redirect people searching terms that would lead them to hate-filled material](#), like "RaHoWa," short for Racial Holy War and the name of a white power band, or "Ku Klux Klan phone number."

Moonshot was created by Vidhya Ramalingam, an American, and Ross Frenett, who first studied extremism in his native Ireland. Both worked at a London think tank that focused on Islamic and other forms of extremism.



4. The last time we saw Carlos Ghosn, the former Nissan chairman was leaving the Tokyo Detention House in April, above.

We just learned that [he's in Lebanon](#).

Mr. Ghosn had been in and out of jail in Japan since he was first arrested in 2018 on charges of financial wrongdoing. He posted a \$9 million bail and was told not to leave the country.

Did he make a deal, or did he flee? We're trying to find out.

5. Fund-raising numbers for the last three months of the year show a clear top four in the 2020 Democratic primary.

The fund-raising deadline is Tuesday, with full reports to be released by Jan. 31, but our reporter's quarterly look ahead shows that [Senator Bernie Sanders continues to lead the field](#) with nearly five million contributors this year. He's expected to announce a fourth-quarter haul of around \$26 million.

His progressive counterpart, Senator Elizabeth Warren, is slipping in polls and donations. Former Vice President Joe Biden rebounded from a weak third quarter, and Pete Buttigieg rounds out the group with more than 700,000 donations this quarter, his biggest total yet.

And as President Trump prepares to run for re-election on strong stock market and unemployment numbers, [Democrats have their own economic message](#): that those top-line figures don't reflect the actual experience of working- and middle-class Americans.

6. Armed with legions of lobbyists, American companies have been pushing hard — and successfully — to weaken parts of the Trump administration's tax overhaul that take aim at overseas havens, [a Times investigation found](#).

The result: The government may collect hundreds of billions of dollars less in the next decade, money that was supposed to offset much of the overhaul's corporate tax cuts.

We also found that many of the companies have managed [to avoid publicly disclosing how much they owe](#) under some of the new rules. That makes it virtually impossible for outsiders to work out how much companies are saving.

7. The N.F.L. playoffs have arrived.

[The top spots](#) belong to the Baltimore Ravens in the A.F.C. and the San Francisco 49ers in the N.F.C., above. The Green Bay Packers and the Kansas City Chiefs also earned first-round byes. For less fortunate teams, heads are starting to roll: The [Giants and the Browns](#) fired their head coaches.

And if you'll allow us to indulge in a little gloomy homerism, [it has been a dreadful decade for New York sports](#). The Mets were generally miserable. The Jets were pitiful. And the Knicks ... well, the less said, the better.

It's enough to make one long for the good old days — like [100 years ago this Christmas](#), when the Yankees acquired Babe Ruth from the Red Sox.

8. Presenting the 2019 Good Tech Awards, our columnist Kevin Roose's annual look at the technology companies that [improved people's lives](#) in tangible ways.



There's an open-source platform that collects air quality data and makes it free and accessible. There are three Massachusetts start-ups that addressed the opioid crisis.

And there's Pinterest — yes, that Pinterest — which enacted tough and principled content moderation, the sort that its competitors have stridently avoided.

9. The podcast “Armchair Expert,” hosted by Monica Padman and Dax Shepard, above, has [drawn its millions of listeners](#) in to revealing interviews with celebrities, experts and more.

Our writer visited the studio and found that the secret to the “invisible truth serum” that seems to permeate the conversations, as Monica Lewinsky put it, is that the hosts frequently share their own vulnerabilities, encouraging openness in guests.

And speaking of empathy, our Talk columnist [spoke with Lily Tomlin](#), whose career has been marked by generous performances. She talked about the evolution of comedy, wanting people to see themselves in her characters and coming out on her own terms.

10. And finally, what will we be eating next year?

[If the food watching industry is right](#), CBD-infused drinks and edible flowers will be big. (That's a salad above, not a bouquet.) Floral flavors, too.

Interest in the coming Tokyo Olympics is expected to widen the appeal of Japanese culinary trends. Buttered toast with ice cream, anyone?

And anything good for the planet should do well. People are shifting to a [plant-based diet](#), which overlaps with veganism. And regenerative farming is the new organic.

Have a [blue-marble](#) evening.

Melina Delkic helped compile tonight's briefing.

Your Evening Briefing is posted at 6 p.m. Eastern.

And don't miss Your Morning Briefing. [Sign up here](#) to get it by email in the Australian, Asian, European, African or American morning.

Want to catch up on past briefings? [You can browse them here](#).

What did you like? What do you want to see here? Let us know at briefing@nytimes.com.

PHOTO: (PHOTOGRAPH BY FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES)

Load-Date: January 1, 2020

End of Document

WEAPONS AND WORSHIP; SIX SECONDS OF HORROR

ABC News Transcript NIGHTLINE

December 30, 2019 Monday



Length: 1415 words

Anchors: BYRON PITTS

Reporters: BYRON PITTS (NEW YORK, NY USA); MARCUS MOORE (NEW YORK, NY USA)

Body

CONTENT: SHOOTING, CHURCH, WILSON, WALLACE, PARISHIONERS

BYRON PITTS (ABC NEWS)

(Off-camera) Good evening, thank you for joining us. Six seconds of horror captured on camera. A church service in Texas descending into chaos as gunshots rang out. Now the new details tonight on the shooter and the hero finally speaking out about the split second decision to put an end to evil. Here's ABC's Marcus Moore.

CHRIS WALLACE (GRANDSON OF ANTON "TONY" WALLACE)

He said, drop it. And then all he did was pull out a gun and started shooting. And then they all surrounded him with guns, then they shot him, and all I heard like three shots.

MARCUS MOORE (ABC NEWS)

(Voiceover) It is a scene no child should ever bear witness. Tragedy shattering a peaceful Sunday morning service.

CHRIS WALLACE (GRANDSON OF ANTON "TONY" WALLACE)

So like the gunman was like just sitting there for a good minute or two. And he was just standing there, and he gunman stood up and turned around to him. So probably like three feet away from my papa.

MARCUS MOORE (ABC NEWS)

(Voiceover) Chris Wallace describing the horror when a gunman shot his grandfather, Tony Wallace, inside this church near Ft. Worth, Texas. Livestream video capturing every moment.

CHRIS WALLACE (GRANDSON OF ANTON "TONY" WALLACE)

It's kind of like heartbreaking, but sometimes you got to be strong about it and just keep on going.

MARCUS MOORE (ABC NEWS)

(Voiceover) His papa one of two parishioners killed this weekend. And tonight new details on the shooter and the man who brought him down, now hailed as a hero for preventing a much bigger tragedy inside the West Freeway Church of Christ.

JEFF WILLIAMS (DIRECTOR TEXAS DEPT OF PUBLIC SAFETY)



The citizens who were inside that church undoubtedly saved 242 other parishioners.

MARCUS MOORE (ABC NEWS)

(Voiceover) This shooting joining the growing list of attacks involving places of worship, from Charleston to Pittsburgh, and the problem appears to be growing. Sunday's shooting was the second attack on a religious gathering in less than 24 hours. In a Jewish community just outside New York City, a man stabbed five people as they celebrated Hanukkah. Back in Texas, authorities identifying 42-year-old Keith Thomas Kinnunen as the shooter. They say he has had run-ins with law enforcement in the past but they have not figured out a motive for this attack.

SHERIFF **BILL WAYBOURN** (TARRANT COUNTY)

Today evil walked boldly among us. But let me remind you, good people raised up a stopped it before it got worse.

MARCUS MOORE (ABC NEWS)

(Voiceover) Video shows that it was 10:50 Sunday morning when the shooter entered the church.

MELANIE DAVIS (PARISHIONER WEST FREEWAY CHURCH OF CHRIST)

I mean, the shooter was sitting next to my mother. She knew from growing up in the church that this, she didn't recognize this gentleman.

MARCUS MOORE (ABC NEWS)

(Voiceover) Over 200 parishioners were in attendance, including 71-year-old Jack Wilson, a reserve deputy sheriff.

JACK WILSON (FMR RESERVE DEPUTY SHERIFF & FIREARMS INSTRUCTOR)

We noticed that his right hand was visible but his left hand never was visible. So I'm assuming at this point that the shotgun was, you know, was in his pocket all the way up under his armpit, and he's holding it in place with his left hand.

MARCUS MOORE (ABC NEWS)

(Voiceover) In the video you see the gunman wearing a dark hoodie sitting in the back pew. He then gets up, walks to the back, and appears to say something to a deacon, and then pulls out a long gun, aims, and begins to shoot. The attack lasting just six seconds.

JACK WILSON (FMR RESERVE DEPUTY SHERIFF & FIREARMS INSTRUCTOR)

That's a long six seconds. And a lot of things go down in six seconds.

MARCUS MOORE (ABC NEWS)

(Voiceover) Wilson, who is in charge of church security, pulls out his own gun, fires a single shot, kills the gunman before he can harm anyone else.

DISPATCH (FEMALE)

Active threat. 1900 South Las Vegas Trail.



MARCUS MOORE (ABC NEWS)

(Voiceover) Cries amidst the chaos erupting. At least five other parishioners pulled out handguns and carefully approached the gunman. Toward the back of the church, one man kicks away the suspect's gun and picks it up. All of it happening as parishioners duck in the pews and children run for safety.

FIRST RESPONDER (MALE)

We're going to need help with a patient here.

PARISHIONER (MALE)

It was a sad thing that he had to come into the congregation and hurt people, and it was a sad thing that we had to hurt him.

MARCUS MOORE (ABC NEWS)

(Voiceover) Authorities and parishioners now praising Wilson's split second decision to intervene.

JACK WILSON (FMR RESERVE DEPUTY SHERIFF & FIREARMS INSTRUCTOR)

I don't feel like I'm a hero, I was doing what I needed to do to protect the people of the congregation. And I, you know, in the same scenario I would do it again.

MARCUS MOORE (ABC NEWS)

(Voiceover) Wilson, who was a former law enforcement officer, also trained the church's volunteer security team. He says it is not just about having the gun, but knowing how to use it.

JACK WILSON (FMR RESERVE DEPUTY SHERIFF & FIREARMS INSTRUCTOR)

My philosophy is, if you're going to wear a firearm for self-protection of yourself and others, you need to be proficient. And if you produce it, what I tell the students in my classes, you have to be willing to use it if you produce it if it doesn't stop the threat. And that's what I live by, that's what I teach. Otherwise, there's no sense in wearing it.

MARCUS MOORE (ABC NEWS)

(Voiceover) The heroism by Wilson and fellow churchgoers highlighting the passage of a recent law allowing licensed Texans to carry weapons into churches and other places of worship.

BRAD GARRETT (ABC NEWS)

(Off-camera) The obvious pro of having armed individuals in the church is they were able to immediately return fire and stop the suspect from killing other people. The downside is, you're really talking about shooting in a combat environment. And the problem with that is, even those of us who have been trained to do that will make mistakes. So the big concern is, crossfire and shooting innocent people. You have to accept the reality that if those people aren't highly trained and know how to function in a combat crisis situation, you can have fatalities that were not intended.

DISPATCH (MALE)

We have six ambulances en route.



MARCUS MOORE (ABC NEWS)

(Voiceover) That new law passed in the aftermath of the deadliest shooting in Texas history, also at a church. In 2017 the massacre at First Baptist Church in Sutherland Springs, killed 26 people. A gunman opened fire during the Sunday morning service. My colleague Matt Gutman spoke with a survivor.

MATT GUTMAN (ABC NEWS)

(Off-camera) When you're like this and you're covering your head, what are you thinking?

ROSA SOLIS (SHOOTING SURVIVOR)

I shouldn't have gone to church that day. He told me not to go. Let's not go, let's just wait until next week. And I'm never going to see my grandchildren again, and I'm going to die.

MARCUS MOORE (ABC NEWS)

(Voiceover) It wasn't until local resident Steve Willeford, who was armed and outside the church opened fire, that the gunman began to retreat.

FREEMAN MARTIN (REGIONAL DIRECTOR TEXAS DEPT OF PUBLIC SAFETY)

As he exited the church, a local resident grabbed his rifle and engaged that suspect.

STEPHEN WILLEFORD (NEIGHBOR OF FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH)

I'm no hero. I am not. I just wish I could have gotten there faster.

MARCUS MOORE (ABC NEWS)

(Voiceover) While an autopsy confirmed that Willeford did shoot the gunman, the attacker ultimately killed himself.

SHERIFF (MALE)

Two gunshot wounds were from the armed citizen, one of those was in the leg, and the other in was in the torso.

MARCUS MOORE (ABC NEWS)

(Voiceover) At the time Willeford was a concerned neighbor, but he has since become a member of the First Baptist Church he fought to protect. And today he tells ABC he's headed to White Settlement, Texas, as a representative of that church.

MARCUS MOORE (ABC NEWS)

(Voiceover) In solidarity with the residents grieving the violence and tragedy that tried to bring their community to a halt. Tonight, behind closed doors, this church finishing the service that was tragically cut short on Sunday, remembering those lives they lost and honoring the brave who saved so many. For "Nightline," I'm Marcus Moore in White Settlement, Texas.

BYRON PITTS (ABC NEWS)

(Off-camera) Our thanks to Marcus.



GRAPHICS: FEEL THE BEAT

BYRON PITTS (ABC NEWS)

(Voiceover) Up next, 48 hours with Kygo. Behind the scenes adventure with the powerhouse deejay sending fans to a higher level.

COMMERCIAL BREAK

Load-Date: January 2, 2020

End of Document

[Worshippers stopped Texas gunman in six seconds](#)

The Union Leader (Manchester, NH)

December 30, 2019 Monday

Copyright 2019 Union Leader Corp. All Rights Reserved

Section: A; Pg. 001

Length: 451 words

Byline: By Maria Caspani Reuters

Body

A gunman who opened fire in a Texas church, killing one person and leaving another in critical condition, died after parishioners at the Sunday morning service shot him in response, authorities said.

The Fort Worth Fire Department said three people, including the person who they believed to be the shooter, were transported from the scene in critical condition.

Two of the people, including the shooter, died while en route to the hospital, and the third person was successfully resuscitated by paramedics, according to Macara Trusty, a spokeswoman for local emergency services MedStar. Two more people suffered minor injuries as they ducked for cover inside the church, she said.

The incident took place in White Settlement, a suburb northwest of Fort Worth, at the West Freeway Church of Christ.

White Settlement police chief J.P. Bevering said that the gunman was shot by two worshippers who were armed and returned fire. "The threat is stopped based on the heroic actions of the two parishioners in the church," Bevering said.

Texas Governor Greg Abbott said in a statement: "Places of worship are meant to be sacred, and I am grateful for the church members who acted quickly to take down the shooter and help prevent further loss of life."



Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** said Sunday was "a horrific day in Tarrant County."

"Today evil walked boldly among us," he said. "But let me remind you, good people raised up and stopped it before it got worse."

The shooting was captured on video as the church service was apparently being streamed on YouTube, according to the Dallas Morning News.

The newspaper gives this account: "In the video, the shooter, who is wearing what seems to be a dark-colored hood, gets up from a pew in the back of the room and walks up to a man in a suit who is standing in the corner. As the two speak and the man points to his right, the shooter reaches into his jacket and pulls out what appears to be a shotgun.

"A man sitting nearby stands up and reaches toward the back of his waistband as several others start to take cover, but most people in the sanctuary appear to be unaware of what is happening. The shooter fires twice while stepping backward down the aisle, striking the man who stood up and then the man he first approached.

"Another man then pulls out a handgun and fires once, striking the shooter just as he turns toward the front of the room. Six seconds have elapsed since the shooter pulled out his gun."

"You feel like your life is flashing before you. I was so worried about my little one," witness Isabel Arreola told CBS 11.

In November 2017, 26 people were killed and 20 wounded when a gunman opened fire at First Baptist Church in Sutherland Springs, Texas.

Load-Date: December 30, 2019

End of Document

[Five People Stabbed At Hanukkah Celebration In Rabbi's Home; One Person Killed, One Wounded In Texas Church Shooting; Pentagon: U.S. Strikes Five Facilities In Iraq And Syria; Key National Security Officials Arrive At Mar-a-Lago To Discuss Strikes With Trump; Wall Street's Final Trading Days Of 2019; Kremlin: Putin, Trump Talked Counterterrorism Efforts And "Matter Of Mutual Interests" In Call. Aired 6-7p ET](#)

CNN CNN NEWSROOM 6:00 PM EST

December 29, 2019 Sunday

Copyright 2019 Cable News Network All Rights Reserved

Section: NEWS; Domestic

Length: 7588 words



Byline: Jessica Dean, Alison Kosik, Jennifer Rodgers, Dana Bash, Paul Vercammen, Ryan Browne, Jeremy Diamond, Samantha Vinograd, Stephanie Elam

Guests: Oren Segal, Lis Wiehl

Highlight: It was the seventh night of Hanukkah that 38-year-old Grafton Thomas went ahead with his machete type knife, and walked into the house and went on that stabbing spree, stabbing five people, one of them, the rabbi's son. This morning, inside a Church of Christ near Ft. Worth, Texas, police say a man opened fire on worshippers during Sunday services, shooting two people, one died before two armed people in the congregation shot and killed the gunman. Key national security officials arrive at President Trump's Florida resort to discuss the U.S. airstrikes in Iraq and Syria following attacks that injured several American servicemen and killed one civilian contractor.

Body

JESSICA DEAN, CNN HOST: A man walked inside the home and started stabbing people.

[18:00:03]

Thankfully, no one died but five victims were taken to the hospital with injuries. The person in this surveillance video reported from a neighbor's home is believed to be the suspect running toward his car immediately following that attack.

He got away from the scene but police caught him a few minutes later, they say, covered with blood.

Then this morning, inside a Church of Christ near Ft. Worth, Texas, police say a man opened fire on worshippers during Sunday services. He shot two people, one of them died before two armed people in the congregation shot and killed the gunman.

CNN's Alison Kosik is in Monsey, New York. She gets our coverage started (ph). Alison, it's the evening after that terrifying, awful stabbing attack. How are people responding?

ALISON KOSIK , CNN CORRESPONDENT: Well, as you can imagine, this community is in disbelief after that violence that happened in the home behind me at the rabbi's house. And now, we're learning just how the suspect got into that house. He walked in through the unlocked front door.

And it wasn't unusual for the Rabbi Chaim Rottenberg to have the door open, to have an open door policy during a celebration like what was happening last night. It was the seventh night of Hanukkah. Almost 100 people were gathering inside the home. But it's at that time that 38-year-old Grafton Thomas went ahead with his machete type knife, a long machete type knife, and walked into the house and went on that stabbing spree, stabbing five people, one of them, the rabbi's son.

One of the guests is being hailed as a hero, Joseph Gluck. He is said to have -- he told us that he threw a coffee table at the suspect and also wrote down his license plate number before the suspect fled. And that's a good thing because electronic system on the George Washington Bridge caught him driving across the bridge into New York City to Harlem. And that's where police caught up with Thomas.



We actually have a video, a New York Police Department video of that apprehension where you see police cars stopping Thomas' car and getting him out of the car as they arrest him. He was arraigned earlier today, given a \$5 million bond. His next hearing is on Friday.

Now, we did hear from a close friend and church pastor of Thomas' who defended Thomas, saying he's not a terrorist and he's not violent. Jessica, back to you.

DEAN: All right. Alison Kosik for us, thanks so much.

Oren Segal is here with me now. He runs the Anti-Defamation League Center on extremism. And, Oren, the people in Monsey where that man with the knife hurt and terrorized so many people last night. We saw them today though outside celebrating Hanukkah, coming together, pushing through, letting their light shine. What does that say to you about the people, about the community in Monsey?

OREN SEGAL, DIRECTOR, ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE'S CENTER ON EXTREMISM: I think the community in Monsey, the Jewish community more broadly, is not defined by the attacks that occur. It's defined by the resilience. And I think today, whether it's in Monsey or Poway or Pittsburg or anywhere else in this country, I think people are going to have special meaning when they light those candles tonight.

DEAN: Right, and come together, yes. Well, it's actually the second stabbing there in Monsey since November. An orthodox Jewish man was stabbed near a synagogue. And then look at this list. I know you're very aware of it. But for our viewers out there, look at this list of anti-Semitic attacks and assaults in New York. This was just this week, just this week. Oren, what is going on here? What is happening?

SEGAL: It's difficult to say. Yes, we've had more than ten, at least ten attacks against the Jewish community in one week. But when you take some context and put that around there, we've had a 17 percent increase in anti-Semitic incidents between January and November of this year in comparison to the previous year.

DEAN: Seventeen percent in one year?

SEGAL: In one year. And so we are seeing more mass shootings. We're still recovering from what happened in Jersey City.

And so trying to identify why this is happening, I think, is the real challenge. I will say anti-Semitism and violence is not the sole domain of any one movement or group.

DEAN: But this happens -- right. They're seeing it from kind of all different corners is what you're seeing.

SEGAL: Correct.

DEAN: Yes. The man who stabbed the people in the Hanukkah celebration last night, based on what you know so far, and I know you just said this is not coming from one specific group or type of person, but is there any sort of threat, is there any sort of thing that marks someone, a profile, anything like that that would lead you to think there is a profile in any way, shape or form?

SEGAL: I think there's still a lot to be investigated and determined about what this person's motivation was. And so what we have seen is that anti-Semitism, and violent anti-Semitism in particular, knows no one profile.

[18:05:01]

Anti-Semitism is the age old hatred. And whether you're on the left or on the right, different movements abuse and exploit anti-Semitism in order to further their world view. And so it's not easy to pinpoint a



particular profile, and especially now with the series of attacks, I think we need to wait and we have to demand that law enforcement investigate not only prosecute but understand what was the motivation. That data is important.

DEAN: Then try to get to the bottom of what's pushing people to do this. Is this is something that their long-held beliefs they're just not acting out on or are they radicalized in some way.

SEGAL: And there's the fact that these are orthodox Jews who are more visibly -- you can see that they're Jewish based on what they wear. Is that part of this as well, since we've seen so many of those in Brooklyn.

But here is where we need to realize. Again, this is not going to define the Jewish community. It's how we stand up. ADL has been on the ground in Monsey, they way we were in Jersey City, they way we are in Brooklyn, educational training, holding people accountable, whether they're elected officials or public officials of any kind for their comments and what they say. We need to push back and stop the mainstreaming of the narratives of anti-Semitism in order to maybe see an impact on the ground.

DEAN: Okay. So you mentioned elected officials. We saw New York's governor, Cuomo, today. He called these attacks a spreading cancer, domestic terrorism. That's what he said. Is this strong enough language, in your opinion, and do you think leaders are doing enough to push back on all of this?

SEGAL: Listen, the governor's comments are very, very important. I mean, we've seen even the congressional caucus of blacks and Jews come together and make an important statement condemning this act. We have people, all types of people, different leaders coming out and speaking out and that's important but it's not enough. It needs to be consistent.

And when we see other who engage in the type of anti-Semitic rhetoric and hatred, we need to make sure that other leaders and everyday people feel empowered to say, no, that's not okay, not now.

DEAN: Yes, to stand up and call it out for what it is. All right, Oren Segal, thanks so much for being with us tonight. We appreciate it.

New York's governor did condemn that stabbing attack, as we mentioned, and vowed to prosecute the suspect to the fullest extent of the law.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

GOV. ANDREW CUOMO (D-NY): I consider this an act of domestic terrorism. Let's call it what it is. These people are domestic terrorists and the law should reflect that and they should be punished as if it was an act of terrorism.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

DEAN: With me now, former federal prosecutors, Lis Wiehl and Jennifer Rodgers. Thanks to both of you for joining us.

Lis, I want to start with you. What legally changes when an attack happens during a religious ceremony or is committed against people specifically because of their religion? Are there additional charges that can then be brought forward?

LIS WIEHL, FORMER FEDERAL PROSECUTOR: Yes, there can be charges of hate crime if you can prove that an individual went out and specifically targeted a group or a specific individual because of their religious beliefs and then went ahead, and in this case, stabbing or shooting, as we saw in Texas, because of those



beliefs and went ahead and committed those violent crimes. Then, yes, you can tack on a hate crime. And hate crimes that are tacked onto the offenses already being charged, right?

And so in New York, for example, New York has a very good, I would say, strong hate crime legislation. Not every state has it. New York does. In an A1 violation, that's an A1 felony, sort of the heaviest felony, you can say if you're charged with that and convicted of that, that can be more than 20 years and upwards, a minimum of 20 years and upward attached to your sentence.

But the trick there is getting into intent and showing from the prosecutor's side that you wanted to go after those specific people because of their religion. That's always the intent issue for prosecutors.

DEAN: Right, okay. And, Jennifer, what legal protections exist for religious groups or ethnic groups on the federal level? Is that also categorized as hate crimes? Are there other things beyond that?

JENNIFER RODGERS, CNN LEGAL ANALYST: That's right. Federal law also has a hate crime statute and sentencing enhancement for hate crimes. So in this case, it looks like the case is going to be charged locally. Grafton Thomas has already been charged by Ramapo Police. So it may stay in the state system. And as Lis was saying, there are very good statutes on the state level as well. But if it did go federal, then there are statutes there as well and sentencing enhancements that raise the penalty significantly for hate crimes like this one. It looks like it is, so far. DEAN: Right. And, Lis, legally, is there a difference between, say, this attack that occurred in the rabbi's house during the religious celebration rather than in a synagogue perhaps, that because it's in a home versus maybe an official place of worship, like a synagogue, a church, is there a difference, legally, there?

WIEHL: It might make issue of intent a little bit more difficult because a crafty defense lawyer could say, well, how did he know that it was -- he was just going into a home?

[18:10:05]

And how did he know as opposed to orthodox, a church or a synagogue? Then, clearly, you would know you would be going past signage and all of that.

I mean, I think that a jury bringing in their common sense would realize this was the seventh day of Hanukkah, this was a rabbi's house.

DEAN: In a predominantly Jewish community that's very --

WIEHL: Right. That would be a jury question. It's not a legal question.

I just want to touch on one question that you brought up about domestic terrorism and federal laws when we're hearing our governor talk about domestic terrorism. There is no federal law saying that domestic terrorism is illegal. I mean, it's a lot of talk right now, which when you really get down to the legal technicalities of domestic terrorism, there is no one federal law.

And that's why there's a lot of talk among politicians about should there be a law, there should be stronger language. That's why there's all this talking going back and forth, because there is, as crazy as that sounds, no one federal law saying domestic terrorism is a federal law in and of itself. That sounds kind of a little strange, but it is.

DEAN: No. And for you guys, as a prosecutor, right, you don't have that one thing to go to and say this is -

WIEHL: You don't have that one tool.



DEAN: Right. Jennifer, is there any legal recourse that takes into account the environment in which the attack or a threat occurs, like during a time of heightened panic or terror that's targeted toward a specific group? It's the week of Hanukkah, that they're all gathered together. Does that play into this at all?

RODGERS: Well, what it goes into is, as Lis was saying, the intent. So prosecutors will have to prove that Grafton Thomas acted with the intent to harm a specific religious group. So they'll be looking at things like what was he posting on social media, what was he telling people, what did he say during the attack itself, if anything, to try to figure out exactly why he targeted those people. So, let's say he posted something saying, it's Hanukkah, I'm going to go out and hurt some Jewish people, that would be the kind of evidence that they would use to establish the hate crime element of his offense. So it can be circumstantial evidence but it's just a piece of the puzzle.

DEAN: And I just want to touch on this. We're getting some new video in that I want to show everybody from Brooklyn that despite these violent attacks, the Jewish community in New York is coming together tonight to mark this eighth night of Hanukkah. Again, this is in Brooklyn just a few moments ago.

You see the menorah being lit by religious leaders and community leaders there. And, again, just kind of a show of solidarity coming out of Brooklyn in the state where this horrific stabbing happened last night, this attack on members of the Jewish faith. The community in Brooklyn coming out to show their support and to also shine the light of Hanukkah, as one of our guest said in the 5:00 hour.

Lis Wiehl and Jennifer Rodgers, thanks for giving us some context and understanding around the legality of all of this. We appreciate it.

WIEHL: Got it.

DEAN: Thanks.

President Trump tweeting today from Florida the anti-Semitic attack in Monsey, New York on the seventh night of Hanukkah last night is horrific. We must all come together to fight, confront and eradicate the evil scourge of anti-Semitism. Melania and I wish the victims a quick and full recovery.

Meantime, a gunman opened fire inside a church before one of the parishioners fired back. We're going to have an update on the deadly shooting out of Texas.

You're live in the CNN NEWSROOM.

[18:15:00]

DEAN: Some breaking news into CNN now that you hate to hear. We have just learned Georgia Congressman and legendary civil rights icon John Lewis has been diagnosed with stage four pancreatic cancer and must now undergo treatment.

He released a statement today regarding his prognosis. He said, I've been in some kind of fight for freedom, equality, basic human rights for nearly my entire life. I've never faced a fight quite like this one I have now.

This month, in a routine medical visit and subsequent tests, doctors discovered stage four pancreatic cancer. This diagnosis has been reconfirmed. He goes on to write, please keep me in your prayers as I begin this journey. We go right to CNN's Dana Bash on the phone. And, Dana, this is shocking sad news. What more can you tell us?

DANA BASH, CNN CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT: Yes, it is shocking and sad, very dire diagnosis. He put out the statement in the way that he has approached every fight that he has undertaken



since he was a young man fighting in the civil rights movement, saying he is not going to give up, he is going to continue to battle, but this is clearly not a good prognosis.

He says I am clear-eyed about the prognosis even though he said in his statement that medical advances have made this type of cancer treatable in many cases. Pancreatic cancer, historically, has really not been very treatable because most times they find it at a late stage, and stage four is pretty dire, Jessica.

DEAN: Right. And talk to us a little bit about Congressman Lewis. He's a lion. He's such a huge part of the House, of the Hill. Help us understand the huge role he plays there.

BASH: A huge role. I should also say before I get to that that he is saying in his statement that he is not going to -- he is going to continue to work, he's going to return to Washington when Congress comes back and he's going to have to be in treatment but will try to vote and to participate in the work of Congress as much as he can.

But when it comes to his role in American history and more recently his 30-plus years of Congress, it's hard to overstate how much of an impact he's had, first of all, on that bridge in Selma, Alabama. I had the honor of going back with him.

He does this every year. He makes a pilgrimage, a bipartisan pilgrimage, takes some reporters with him in order to tell the story of what happened in 1965 when he was walking across that bridge with so many other civil rights activists just for the sole purpose of getting the right to vote for African-Americans.

And he got his head bashed in. He almost didn't survive. He said he remembers feeling like he was going to die. He was 25 years old. And that moment was really a turning point in the movement for African-Americans to get the right to vote, that led to the Voting Rights Act.

And that was such a critical time that, as I said, he makes a point of bringing people back every single year. Sometimes it's the president, sometimes it's first term members of Congress from across the aisle, Republicans and Democrats. So it's really, really special even that he does.

But also in Washington, you kind of alluded to this, Jessica, John Lewis is the heart and soul of the Democratic caucus and even beyond the Democratic caucus. When there's a big fight coming up, whether it's a policy fight or even a political fight, the Democratic caucus turns to him many, many times for the leadership that they know he can give, for the heart and the soul that they know he can provide.

You know, he always says, we need to get into trouble, good trouble, to kids that he meets and to adults who are trying to make change.

DEAN: It is, and he has had, and he has really been a thread through so much of our nation's history.

[18:20:02]

Well, we certainly wish him well. Dana, thank you. We got to watch some of the video, as you were talking about your trip with him. We got to see you crossing that bridge with him. Thank you for giving us some of that background and information. We really appreciate you.

BASH: Thanks, Jessica.

DEAN: All right, Dana, thanks.

The U.S. strikes targets in Iraq and Syria. The Pentagon says forces hit a militia that's been attacking American military personnel. We'll have more on that.



You're live in the CNN NEWSROOM.

DEAN: More on our breaking news out of Texas right now where one person is dead after a gunman opened fire during a Sunday morning church service. That terrifying moment happened at the West Freeway Church of Christ in the town of White Settlement near Ft. Worth. One victim died but was resuscitated and is now in critical condition. The other victim and the shooter died on the way to the hospital.

CNN's Paul Vercammen is joining us now. And, Paul, we're learning parishioners actually shot the gunman after he opened fire. What else do you know?

PAUL VERCAMMEN, CNN CORRESPONDENT: Well, that's exactly right, Jessica. Let's characterize what we've seen in a streaming video of the service. In the back left corner facing the altar of the church we see a man pull out a rifle or a long gun and then he opens fire. We then see a parishioner open fire and knock down that man.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

SHERIFF **BILL WAYBOURN**, TARRANT COUNTY, TEXAS: It's a horrific day in Tarrant County. Our prayers and thoughts are with the folks over here at the church and the people that are lost. But today, evil walked among us. Let me remind you, good people raised up and stopped it before it got worse.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

VERCAMMEN: In the Ft. Worth area, the Med Star Ambulance company says it transported three victims to the hospital and was administered CPR to all of them. Two died. One of them was the shooter. Now, there was a third victim who, for their intents and purposes, was dead. This person had no pulse, no heartbeat, but there were these emergency paramedic measures, extreme CPR efforts and they brought this person back to life. They are calling it a miracle.

Also, we should not e, there were two parishioners who were wounded inside the church. [18:25:03]

They said that they hurt themselves while ducking in the middle of the gunfight.

Also we talked to Lisa Farmer. She is the wife of the minister of the church. She talked to her husband over the phone. She said that he is okay. She added that it was chaos in there and she told us a little bit about the man who passed away, the parishioner. She called him a close friend, wonderful man, lovely man who would do anything for anybody.

She also said that her husband told her that the shooting happened during communion. She also wanted us to know we are just a loving congregation doing the Lord's work, she added. So if there is any silver lining In all of this, it's that that one parishioner who is said to be dead was revived by paramedics.

DEAN: Yes, that is incredibly miraculous. Paul Vercammen, thanks so much for that update. We appreciate it.

Russia's Vladimir Putin is thanking President Trump for sharing information. We're going to have more on their first phone chat in several months. That's just ahead.

DEAN: This hour, Defense Secretary Mark Esper and other key national security officials are in West Palm Beach where President Trump is vacationing at his Mar-a-Lago resort. They are set to discuss today's U.S. air strikes on five facilities in Iraq and Syria. The Pentagon says they are linked to an Iran-backed militia and that the strikes were retaliation for a series of attacks that injured American military personnel and left



a U.S. civilian contractor dead. The Iraqi prime minister is calling the operation a violation of the country's sovereignty.

CNN Pentagon Reporter, Ryan Browne is in Washington. Ryan, what do we know about these strikes and how they were carried out?

RYAN BROWNE, CNN PENTAGON REPORTER: Well, Jessica, we're being told by U.S. officials that the strikes were conducted by U.S. F-15 Fighter Jets targeting five targets, two which were in Syria, three which were in Iraq, very close to the border between both countries. The strikes targeted a headquarters and operations center and weapons storage facilities belonging to this Iran-backed militia group, Kata'ib Hezbollah.

Now, the group has a very complex relationship. The U.S. accuses it of being funded, directed and supplied by Iran. It also has a relationship with the Iraqi government. And that's why you see the Iraqi prime minister criticizing these strikes as a violation of sovereignty which is calling into question the future of the 5,000 U.S. troops that are currently stationed in Iraq where they primarily fight ISIS and train local security forces, again, a very complex situation there, and the potential for additional retaliation.

The U.S. had believed that these Iranian-backed groups had conducted a series of increasingly sophisticated rocket attacks against U.S. Iraqi bases. And you mentioned the one that left a U.S. contractor dead, kind of an escalation, if you will. You see the U.S. after threatening to retaliate for some time finally conducting a strike. It will be interesting to see whether or not Iran and its allies conduct a retaliation of their own.

[18:30:03]

But it's something definitely the U.S. will be watching for in the coming days. And it's likely what prompted this high-level meeting between the Defense Secretary, the Secretary of State, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs, and the President today in -- down in Palm Beach.

DEAN: Right. And a U.S. official says the Pentagon had a plan. They took it to President Trump, Saturday, for approval. What else do we know about that process kind of playing out?

BROWNE: Well, I think it underscores the fact that the U.S. was worried about all these complex dynamics, at least the Pentagon was.

You had the Iraqis. You have the Iranians. You have their militia forces. You have the U.S. in Syria where they often operate in close proximity to Iranian troops and Iranian-backed militia groups.

So given all that complexity, the U.S. relationship with Baghdad, some of the potential for Iran retaliation elsewhere in the region, I think you -- it's likely that the U.S. felt that presidential-level approval, even though U.S. forces have the right to self-defense and this was a response to an Iranian-backed attack, that they felt that this is the reason that it required presidential-level direction and approval to conduct this operation.

It's likely the reason it was elevated so -- to so high a level.

DEAN: Right. And you also learned that the U.S. military helped carry out three airstrikes in Somalia. What else do you know about that?

BROWNE: Well, it's an interesting operation. It comes almost just hours after a massive al Qaeda-linked terrorist attack by the group, Al-Shabaab, left over 75 people dead in the Somali capital, Mogadishu.



The U.S. military is saying it helped with working with the Somali government there, carrying out attacks on members of that terror group.

Somali officials are saying that the targets of that attack were linked -- or the target of the strikes was linked to that massive terror attack. Again, just underscoring the fact that the U.S. is continuing to combat terrorist groups in that country, in Somalia. Despite some successes, the group retains the ability to carry out deadly attacks like the one that just occurred in Mogadishu.

DEAN: Well, yes. All right, Ryan Browne in Washington for us, thanks so much.

BROWNE: You bet.

DEAN: Two best friends, one epic night. Ring in the new year with Anderson Cooper and Andy Cohen. It's "NEW YEAR'S EVE LIVE." It begins at 8:00 p.m. right here on CNN.

But, first, here is Alison Kosik with a look at the week ahead on Wall Street.

KOSIK: Hi, Jessica. It's likely to be another quiet week on Wall Street as 2019 draws to a close.

The stock market is closed on Wednesday for New Year's Day, and there is plenty for investors to celebrate. The major averages are on track for gains of over 30 percent this year.

It's been quite a decade, too. Despite the financial crisis, the S&P 500 rose over 200 percent during the past 10 years. That's its 17th highest 10-year return in the last 100 years.

So what's ahead for 2020? Analysts seem to think more gains are ahead, just smaller ones. They point to several risks for the market.

The trade war isn't necessarily over. Earnings estimates and valuations may be too high. Inflation could pick up. And there is political uncertainty that comes with the 2020 election.

In short, plenty of reasons for investors to stay cautious.

In New York, I'm Alison Kosik.

[18:36:38]

DEAN: President Trump took a break from the golf course today to speak with Russia's President. The Kremlin is saying Vladimir Putin called President Trump to thank him for intel that helped foil terror attacks in Russia.

The two leaders also discussed what's being called matters of mutual interest, again according to the Kremlin. The White House still hasn't confirmed the call.

Jeremy Diamond joins me now from West Palm Beach, Florida, where the President is now in his second week of vacation. Jeremy, do we have any more details about their conversation?

JEREMY DIAMOND, CNN WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENT: No, we don't. And it's been hours, frankly, since the Kremlin has put out this readout of the call between President Trump and Russian President Vladimir Putin, and nothing so far from the White House.

But here's what we know from the Kremlin, is that Russian President Vladimir Putin called President Trump earlier today to thank him for intelligence information that was provided by the United States to the Russian Security Services.



Now, apparently, that information led to the arrest of two Russian nationals on Friday who were plotting a New Year's Eve terrorist attack in Saint Petersburg, Russia.

This is not, however, the first time that U.S. intelligence has helped thwart a terrorist attack in Russia. The same thing happened back in 2017.

Now, beyond that, the Russians are also saying that President Trump and Russian President Vladimir Putin also discussed issues of mutual interest between the two countries. We don't know what those issues are, but, of course, there's a range of issues that that could potentially include.

Of course, this call between President Trump and the Russian President came just as President Trump was launching these five strikes in Iraq and in Syria against this Iranian-backed militia following a string of rocket attacks at U.S. forces at Iraqi bases.

So, of course, that could potentially have been included in the call. But, so far, no information -- no further information from the White House or from the Kremlin about the contents of that conversation -- Jess.

DEAN: All right, Jeremy Diamond in Florida for us, thanks so much.

CNN national security analyst Sam Vinograd joining us now. Sam, it's always great to have you because you have such great perspective on all of this.

The last time the two of these men spoke was back in July. They discussed wildfires in Siberia and trade. How significant is today's phone call, in your opinion?

SAMANTHA VINOGRAD, CNN NATIONAL SECURITY ANALYST: Well, it's significant in the first instance because they discussed counterterrorism, which is important that we continue to work with the Russians on all of that.

But, Jessica, why is it a guessing game what happened on this phone call? Why have we outsourced our public relations to Putin?

There is a process after presidential calls to come up with a readout from the U.S. government side to clearly articulate what was discussed with a foreign leader.

When it comes to Russia, we know that the Kremlin excels at information warfare and wants to control the narrative. So the White House has really given itself a self-inflicted wound by not clarifying soon after the call exactly what was discussed. We don't know what President Trump said, other than you're welcome. And the key question is really whether he used this call to advance U.S. interests.

Every time President Trump gets on the phone with a foreign leader like Vladimir Putin, he should have a clearly articulated U.S. national security objective, which, in this case, should be raising election interference, for example.

DEAN: Right. And you were responsible for putting together some of these readouts when you worked for President Obama, so you know why we do this.

[18:40:03]

And then, you're -- you kind of explained it. But you're saying that it really helps give everybody an idea of, clearly, what was talked about, and that Russia, in this case, can then go about and kind of nudge the --

VINOGRAD: They can manipulate --



DEAN: -- the P.R. war, right?

VINOGRAD: They can manipulate the narrative.

DEAN: Right.

VINOGRAD: Again, Putin playing U.S. publicist is not a good thing for U.S. national security.

And in this case, as we look at the counterterrorism cooperation, that is, overall, something that we shouldn't shirk away from. President Trump is not the first president to work with the Russians on counterterrorism. President Obama actually did as well.

And if we have intelligence, for example, about an impending attack in Russia or any other country that could harm civilians, we should share that. That should be articulated in the readout.

But this whole notion of mutual areas of mutual interest or whatever should be clearly defined by the United States so that seeds of doubt about what was discussed --

DEAN: Right!

VINOGRAD: -- are really not fomented anymore.

And we don't even know who was allowed to listen to this call or get a readout within the U.S. government based upon this bunker mentality that the President and his inner circle have really institutionalized for these head of state phone calls.

DEAN: And it's not the first time that Russia has put out a statement on a phone call between these two men before the United -- before the White House has. Back in July, during that call I was just referring to -
-

VINOGRAD: Right.

DEAN: -- it happened again. They -- the Kremlin got out in front of this, and then the White House was delayed. They did release a readout, but it was delayed. They -- or it took them hours to acknowledge that call.

Do you think this is different? Do you think this is kind of the same thing? Is it intentional, or is it just it's the holidays and we'll get to it when we get to it kind of thing?

VINOGRAD: Well, he's getting through a lot of tweeting, and he's meeting with his national security team.

And typically, before you go into a call, the statement is actually drafted in advance so that the team has something ready to go right after the call.

And the President should learn from past mistakes and should learn and should know -- his Press Secretary and others, his national security advisor, should educate him on the fact that the Russians manipulate these calls to, again, try to control the narrative.

His team should have had a statement ready to go. They should have tweaked it after the call and normally coordinate on the statement to an extent with the other country, done that, and then issued it quickly to, again, avoid this self-inflicted wound.

DEAN: Right. And it's interesting because it's -- talking to you -- you know, they're saying, well, we gave them this information to thwart this terrorist attack. It's a thank-you call.



But it's never as simple as a thank-you call when it's between the United States and Russia in terms of, you're right, people -- or there are strategies there. There are games being played on both sides even if something is, ostensibly, as simple as a --

VINOGRAD: Well, it's --

DEAN: -- thanks for the information call.

VINOGRAD: It's interesting because President Trump is so transactional with every relationship. He never really seems to give anything away, you know, for free. He wants money for things. He wants favors in return.

So with President Putin, we did hand over this intelligence reportedly -- again, I strongly support our doing so -- but what did he do on this phone call to advance U.S. national security?

He was being thanked for helping Russian security, but what did he do to, again, advance U.S. goals?

And I can tell you, ahead of every presidential phone call, the national security team gives the President talking points that, again, advance U.S. national security interests.

It is, unfortunately, as we've learned, up to the President whether he uses those talking points or not on calls with leaders like Vladimir Putin.

DEAN: Right. And I know you alluded to this earlier, but we also want to show your tweet from just a little bit ago.

You said, with Putin playing publicists, is anyone else wondering which U.S. officials were authorized to listen to the call and/or receive a readout?

You hit on this, but, for you, that's the most important part of this, is just to clarify what was on the call. Because it could have been perfectly, you know, normal and --

VINOGRAD: Right.

DEAN: -- and adhered to their strategy, but we don't know because we don't have that readout.

VINOGRAD: We don't, and we know from separate reporting that the White House has instituted policies restricting those allowed to listen to the call and then restricting -- to calls, in general, and restricting where a written readout goes and who even gets a verbal readout within the U.S. government.

That hamstring's officials' ability to incorporate those readouts into policymaking. And so, it's very unclear who actually knows what happens on this call -- happened on this call. And the administration would do itself a great service if it would issue a clearly worded statement on specifically what was discussed.

DEAN: Yes, following that protocol.

VINOGRAD: Yes, if only.

DEAN: All right, Sam Vinograd, thank you so much.

VINOGRAD: Thank you.

DEAN: We appreciate it. Great to see you.



Well, more now on the breaking news we told you about earlier in this hour. We have just learned Georgia Congressman and legendary civil rights icon John Lewis has been diagnosed with stage four pancreatic cancer and will undergo treatment.

He released this statement today regarding his prognosis, saying, quote, I have been in some kind of fight for freedom, equality, basic human rights for nearly my entire life. I have never faced a fight quite like the one I have now. This month in a routine medical visit and subsequent tests, doctors discovered stage four pancreatic cancer. This diagnosis has been reconfirmed.

[18:45:00] He goes on to write, please keep me in your prayers as I begin this journey.

We're going to have more on this breaking news ahead on the CNN NEWSROOM.

DEAN: With 2020 just days away, we're now counting down the biggest entertainment stories of the year. Here is CNN's Stephanie Elam.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

EMILIA CLARKE, ACTRESS: Dracarys.

STEPHANIE ELAM, CNN CORRESPONDENT (voice-over): Winter came and went. The final battle for the iron throne. Avengers packed a punch at the box office. And Lizzo storms the airways with her "Juice."

ELAM (on camera): Here's a look at the top entertainment news in 2019.

ELAM (voice-over): Number nine, "Jeopardy!" host Alex Trebek's courageous battle against pancreatic cancer.

ALEX TREBEK, HOST, "JEOPARDY!": I have some news to share with all of you.

ELAM (voice-over): Trebek announced his stage four diagnosis in March and vowed to aggressively fight the disease.

He underwent intense chemotherapy and resurfaced just five months later to announce he was on the mend --

MIKE POMPEO, SECRETARY OF STATE: I'm happy to report I'm still here.

ELAM (voice-over): -- and ready to return to "Jeopardy!" for its 36th season.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

[18:50:03]

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

POMPEO: -- course of the last 72 hours.

I will leave it to Secretary Esper to talk about the military activity, but I want to put it into the context of our policy with respect to the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The attack that took place at an -- against an Iraqi facility threatened American forces. This has been going on now for weeks and weeks and weeks. This wasn't the first set of attacks against this particular Iraqi facility and others where there are American lives at risk. And today, what we did was take a decisive



response that makes clear what President Trump has said for months and months and months, which is that we will not stand for the Islamic Republic of Iran to take actions that put American men and women in jeopardy.

We will -- we will always honor that commitment to take decisive action when that takes place, and we continue to demand that the Islamic Republic of Iran act in a way that is consistent with what I laid back -- out back in May of 2018 for what it is that we expect Iran to do so that it can rejoin the community of nations.

And with that, I'll turn it over to the Secretary of Defense.

MARK ESPER, SECRETARY OF DEFENSE: Thank you.

As we reported earlier today, the Department of Defense took offensive actions in defense of our personnel and interests in Iraq by launching F-15 Strike Eagles against five targets associated with Kata'ib Hezbollah, which is an Iranian-sponsored Shiite militia group.

The targets we attacked included three targets in western Iraq and two targets in eastern Syria that were either command and control facilities or weapons caches for Kata'ib Hezbollah. The strikes were successful. The pilots and aircraft returned back to base safely.

I would add that in our discussion today with the President, we discussed with him other options that are available. And I would note, also, that we will take additional actions as necessary to ensure that we act in our own self-defense and we deter further bad behavior from militia groups or from Iran.

Thank you.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

DEAN: All right. You're hearing there from secretaries talking about the strikes against the Iranian militia. Let's go now to CNN's Jeremy Diamond, who is live in West Palm Beach where the President has been spending his holiday.

Jeremy, we know that the President's secretaries flew down to be with him today to talk this through. What else are we learning from what we just heard there?

DIAMOND: Well, what we're really learning here is the real reason for these three top defense officials, foreign policy officials, actually be at Mar-a-Lago.

It wasn't just to brief the President, but it was to send a very clear message. And it appears to be a message aimed primarily at Iran and at those Iranian proxies as the U.S. monitors any fallout from those strikes that it carried out on those five targets in Iraq and Syria against this Iranian-backed militia group.

Essentially, the message that the U.S. is saying here is, look, we have briefed the President on additional potential responses that he has at his disposal; and to send a clear message that if there is indeed any retaliation from that group or from Iran itself, that the U.S. is prepared to, once again, act in a military fashion.

We also heard from the Secretary of Defense, Mark Esper, making clear that these were pilots that carried out this mission.

Not just unmanned drones but indeed real pilots who were out there in aircraft over Iraq, over Syria to carry out these strikes -- three targets in western Iraq, two targets in eastern Syria -- and that those pilots returned safely after successfully carrying out their mission.



We have not heard, however, from the President of the United States in person today about these strikes. Instead, it seems that he wants this message to be coming from several of his top officials.

Again, the Secretary of State, Mike Pompeo; the Secretary of Defense, Mark Esper; and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Mark Milley.

DEAN: All right, Jeremy Diamond for us in Florida, stand by. Thanks so much.

I also have Sam Vinograd here, our CNN security analyst, to talk through some of this as we're getting this new -- more details, new information.

You heard from Secretary of State Mike Pompeo there. And essentially, it sounded to me like what he was saying was the message to Iran is we're not going to tolerate this type of behavior.

What are you -- what were you getting from what you were hearing from them?

VINOGRAD: Well, what I was hearing was that this was a calibrated response.

Secretary of State Pompeo, Esper, and the other official briefing made very clear that this was meant to send an initial message to Iranian-backed militias. But the real reason why they did go down to Florida on such short notice is they are prepared to do more.

[18:55:00]

You know, President Trump had been criticized for not responding in a military way to Iran shooting down a U.S. drone. We also, of course, have had ongoing attacks against American forces in Iraq by Iranian-backed militias. And so, the message to Iran is, stop attacking our forces, stop interfering in Iraq and in Syria, or there will be consequences.

Now, the fact that Secretary of State Pompeo was there is very interesting because he is signaling that this is not just a military approach. There are other tools in the U.S. tool kit that the administration is prepared to use, whether that be more diplomatic tools, more sanctions which the administration has rolled out, or more military responses.

DEAN: It's very interesting. And we also heard, as Jeremy noted, that these were manned aircraft. This was not a drone strike. What does that say to you in terms of their preparation? That they knew this was coming? What can we read into that?

VINOGRAD: Well, what we can read into it is that the U.S. military is very good at conducting precision strikes.

DEAN: Right.

VINOGRAD: And typically, in these high stakes situations, the U.S. military will develop various con-opts or concept of operations to achieve goals through a variety of means.

Now, drones may have been on the table, and then manned aircraft is another -- obviously, another option on the table. Those are presented to the Commander and, in this case, we learned, the President of the United States, along with the cost-benefit analysis.

That cost-benefit analysis includes the risk to American personnel that may be involved in carrying out the mission as well as the risks of retaliation, for example.



The immediate near-term threat, of course, is that Iranian-backed militias, with support from the Iranian regime, retaliate against Americans on the ground in Iraq, in Syria, or in other theaters.

Let's remember we have thousands of troops still in Iraq, not to mention thousands of American civilians working hand in hand with the U.S. military to accomplish our goals on the ground.

DEAN: And quickly, before we have to go to a break, what about this timing with China and Russia and Iran doing their own testing there, and now to have these airstrikes?

Is there anything to be put together about that as well, or do you think this is very precisely aimed at Iran?

VINOGRAD: I personally don't think that this was in response to the joint military exercises by that troublesome trio. I think that this was likely planned in advance.

And Secretary of State Pompeo said, I believe, on December 19th, that these attacks would be met with decisive action by the United States. So it looks like this was in the works for a few days and, likely, the military had these options ready to go for far longer than that.

DEAN: All right, Sam Vinograd, thanks so much for breaking that down for us.

Clearly, we've got a lot of breaking news that we are covering right now. We've got all angles covered for you. We'll be right back.

[18:59:57]

DEAN: You are live in the CNN NEWSROOM. Hi, everyone. I'm Jessica Dean in for Ana Cabrera in New York this evening.

And we begin tonight with some breaking news.

Load-Date: December 31, 2019

End of Document

[Gunman Opened Fire in Texas Church](#)

CTV Television, Inc. CTV NATIONAL NEWS 23:00:00 ET

December 29, 2019 Sunday

Copyright 2019 CTV Televisions, Inc. All Rights Reserved

Length: 362 words

Anchors: JON ERLICHMAN

Body

JON ERLICHMAN: And the peace of another religious sanctuary was shattered this morning when a gunman opened fire inside a Texas church, fatally shooting two men. Within seconds, parishioners and



security guards pulled out their own weapons and the suspect was killed. As CTV's Annie Bergeron-Oliver reports, some of the horror was caught on camera.

ANNIE BERGERON-OLIVER (Reporter): In a live stream of the West Freeway Church of Christ Sunday service, you can see all is calm, but seconds later, a man in the far right hand corner suddenly pulls out a gun. A person nearby reaches for his gun and shoots, but he, too, is shot.

BILL WAYBOURN (Tarrant County Sheriff): Today, evil walked boldly among us, and let me remind you, good people raised up and stopped it before it got worse.

BERGERON-OLIVER: Several parishioners with their own guns pulled moved towards the shooter, one of them, a member of the church's security team, was killed. A second victim died later in hospital.

JP BEVERING (White Settlement Police Chief): And the threat has stopped thanks to the heroic actions of those two service members, parishioners at the church.

BERGERON-OLIVER: Police quickly swarmed the scene as parishioners, visibly shaken, huddled together, hugging for support. John Richardson witnessed the attack and used his body to shield his wife.

JOHN RICHARDSON (Witness): I heard the first shot go off, and I wasn't sure what, just smelled the (inaudible) put her on the floor and got on top of her.

BERGERON-OLIVER: This is not the first Texas church tragedy. In 2017, a mass shooting at another Texas church less than 500 kilometres away killed 26 people. Police have not yet released a potential motive.

MIKE DRIVDAHL (Fort Worth Fire Department): Beginning of the year, end of the year, holiday, it's all very tragic. Any time that we suffer a loss in our community, it's, it not only affects the people that were here today, but it affects the first responders as well.

BERGERON-OLIVER: In September, Texas passed a controversial new bill loosening gun laws, Jon, allowing licensed owners to carry in places of worship.

ERLICHMAN: All right, thanks Annie. CTV's Annie Bergeron-Oliver.

Load-Date: December 30, 2019

End of Document

[***Security team quickly kills gunman after fatal shooting at Fort Worth-area church***](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

December 29, 2019 Sunday

Copyright 2019 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram
Found on DFW.com



Section: crime

Length: 1152 words

Byline: Kaley Johnson, Nichole Manna, Mitch Mitchell and James Hartley

Star-Telegram

Dateline: WHITE SETTLEMENT

Body

Church members acted quickly to take down a gunman who opened fire Sunday at West Freeway Church of Christ in White Settlement, authorities said.

The gunman fatally shot two people before two members of the congregation's security team returned fire during a service at about 10:50 a.m., White Settlement Police Chief J.P. Bevering said. The gunman died at the scene, Bevering said.

The shooting appeared to happen during communion, according to a livestream video of the service obtained by the Star-Telegram.

A man was standing toward the back of the sanctuary holding a tray when the gunman got up from a nearby pew, walked toward the man and appeared to say something to him.

The gunman then backed up, pulled out a long gun and fired a shot toward a man who was seated nearby, had stood up and appeared to be reaching for something in his rear waistband. The gunman then fired a shot toward the man holding the tray.

A man in the back then pointed a handgun at the gunman and fired. The gunman fell, and at least three or four more people armed with handguns walk toward the gunman.

3 critically injured in shooting at White Settlement church Three people were injured in a shooting Sunday at a White Settlement, Texas, church. One of them is believed to be the gunman. Fort Worth police and fire are assisting White Settlement police.

The gunman was being watched by members of the church security team because of his appearance, said Mike Tinius, a church elder. Tinius would not elaborate what it was about the gunman's appearance that attracted the attention of the church security personnel.

"By the sequence of events it should be assumed that he came in with an idea," Tinius said.

The gunfire came without warning, said Tinius, who was at the church when the shooting took place. He had never seen the gunman before and could not think of a motive, Tinius said.

Isabel Arreola, 38, said the gunman sat two feet behind her and her 7-year-old daughter.

His beard and the hair on his head looked fake, and he made her uncomfortable, Arreola said. She noticed him from the moment that he sat down, Arreola said.

Arreola said she could tell that one of the members of the security team was concerned about the shooter because he sat in the back right near him.



"They saved us," Arreola said. "Unfortunately, two men lost their lives while they were doing so."

Arreola said she couldn't concentrate when the man was sitting behind her. She and her husband decided they would move to the other side of the church after communion, Arreola said.

"I should have listened to my gut," Arreola said. "While he was there I couldn't sing. I couldn't pray. There was just something not right about him. But at the same time I thought that maybe I was being too hard."

One of the victims died at the scene. The other was taken to a hospital in critical condition and died later, police said.

Two others were treated at the scene for minor injuries after they hit their heads ducking for cover, a MedStar spokeswoman said.

Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick said the shooting ended in six seconds because of the quick response from the church's security team. The White Settlement police department arrived at the church, at 1900 S. Las Vegas Trail, within two minutes, Patrick said at a news conference Sunday evening.

"Had the shooter been able to indiscriminately start firing at the parishioners sitting there in front of him, or at the pastor, we would have had many more lives lost today and had many more serious injuries," he said.

He said the way the church's security team handled the shooter will be "studied and watched by law enforcement, private citizens, and churches or anyone else who trains in their own security to see how lives can be saved."

Jeff Williams, a regional director of the Texas Department of Public Safety, also emphasized the significance of the church's security team's quick actions.

"The citizens that were inside that church undoubtedly saved 242 other parishioners," he said.

Authorities did not identify the victims or the gunman. Investigators are trying to determine if the gunman was driven by a specific ideology, said FBI Special Agent in Charge Matthew Desarno. He said the man had an arrest record, but did not elaborate.

He described the shooter as "relatively transient," but said he had roots in the area.

The Department of Public Safety and the Texas Rangers will lead the investigation.

"Unfortunately this country has seen so many of these that we've actually gotten used to them at this point," Williams said. "I would like to point out that we have a couple of heroic parishioners who stopped short of anything you can even imagine and saved countless lives. Our hearts are going out to them and their families as well."

'A very tragic day'

A clerk at a gas station across the street from the church said the church has a large congregation but seemed less busy than normal Sunday morning. He said police asked him for the gas station's surveillance footage, but he did not see much on the video.

Mike Drivdahl, a Fort Worth Fire Department spokesman, said the city's police and fire departments were helping White Settlement police.



"A very tragic day when anybody in our community suffers, whether it's a community that's next to Fort Worth or in Fort Worth itself," Drivdahl said. "Our hearts and prayers go out to all the families affected by this incident."

"It not only affects the people that were here today, but it affects our first responders as well. All of our first responders carry these things with them for a long time."

Gov. Greg Abbot credited the quick action of those who took down the gunman.

"Our hearts go out to the victims and families of those killed in the evil act of violence that occurred at the West Freeway Church of Christ," he said in a statement. "Places of worship are meant to be sacred, and I am grateful for the church members who acted quickly to take down the shooter and help prevent further loss of life. Cecilia and I ask all Texans to join us in praying for the White Settlement community and for all those affected by this horrible tragedy."

Said Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn**: "Today evil walked boldly among us. Let me remind you, good people raised up and stopped it before it got worse."

Guns in church

A 2017 state law allows churches to hire armed guards. A law that went into effect in September allows licensed handgun owners to bring their firearms to church as long as the church does not oppose it.

The law followed an opinion by Attorney General Ken Paxton after the November 2017 shooting at the First Baptist Church in Sutherland Springs that left 26 people dead and another 20 wounded.

Sunday's shooting came a little more than 20 years after a gunman burst into Wedgwood Baptist Church in Fort Worth and opened fire, killing seven people before he detonated an explosive device and killed himself in front of more than 200 worshippers.

Load-Date: December 30, 2019

End of Document

SUNDAY SERVICE SHOOTING; GUNMAN TAKEN DOWN AFTER KILLING PARISHIONER

ABC News Transcript WORLD NEWS SUNDAY 6:31 PM EST

December 29, 2019 Sunday

Copyright 2019 American Broadcasting Companies, Inc. All Rights Reserved

Length: 502 words

Anchors: WHIT JOHNSON

Reporters: WHIT JOHNSON (NEW YORK, NY USA); MARCUS MOORE (LOS ANGELES, CA USA)

Body



CONTENT: SHOOTING, CHURCH, PARISHIONERS, WAYBOURN

GRAPHICS: SUNDAY SERVICE SHOOTING

WHIT JOHNSON (ABC NEWS)

(Off-camera) Good evening. Thanks for joining us on this Sunday. I'm Whit Johnson in for Tom Llamas. We begin with those disturbing attacks on religious services. First the breaking news from Texas, a gunman opening fire inside a church near Ft. Worth. The West Freeway Church of Christ livestreaming the service, as the man seen there at the top, stood up from his seat, pulled out a long gun and fired several times. Other church members right there shooting back. One victim was killed. Another in critical condition. The gunman did not survive. And tonight, the hunt for a motive to a violent attack where worshippers should feel most safe. ABC's Marcus Moore leads us off.

GRAPHICS: SUNDAY SERVICE SHOOTING

GRAPHICS: GUNMAN TAKEN DOWN AFTER KILLING PARISHIONER

MARCUS MOORE (ABC NEWS)

(Voiceover) Tonight, these shocking images out of Texas. Gunfire interrupting a quiet church service. The violence unfolding just minutes before 10:00 AM, just as parishioners started receiving communion at the West Freeway Church of Christ, near Ft. Worth. The church livestreaming the service. You can see the shooter, sitting in the back of the room, wearing a large coat. Watch as he pulls out a gun and aims it a man nearby. That man appears to reach for his own weapon, but the gunman fires first, shooting him and a second man nearby.

911 CALLER (MALE)

We're gonna need help with a patient here.

MARCUS MOORE (ABC NEWS)

(Voiceover) The gunshots sparking panic in the pews. Worshippers seen ducking for cover. One man covering his wife with his own body.

PARISHIONER (MALE)

It was a sad thing that he had to come into the congregation to hurt people, and it's a sad thing that we had to hurt him.

MARCUS MOORE (ABC NEWS)

(Voiceover) In just seconds, several parishioners opened fire, hitting the gunman, who managed to fire one last shot before falling to the ground, dying at the scene. People rushing over and pointing their weapons at the suspect on the ground.

PARISHIONER (MALE)

Everything is under control.

MARCUS MOORE (ABC NEWS)

(Voiceover) One person shot and killed. Several others hurt, one critically. The gunman also shot dead.



SHERIFF **BILL WAYBOURN** (TARRANT COUNTY TEXAS)

Today evil walked boldly among us. But let me remind you, good people raised up and stopped it before it got worse.

MARCUS MOORE (ABC NEWS)

(Voiceover) Outside, officers swarming the scene, shutting down streets. Parishioners, visibly shaken, hugging each other for comfort.

WHIT JOHNSON (ABC NEWS)

(Off-camera) All right, Marcus Moore joining us now. And, Marcus, this shooting only lasted a few seconds before a security guard and several armed citizens quickly intervened.

MARCUS MOORE (ABC NEWS)

(Off-camera) Whit, that's right. In fact one man who said he had a relative inside the church at the time, he said he is thankful for so many good guys with guns. In the meantime the investigation into a possible motive, Whit, is just getting under way.

Load-Date: January 2, 2020

End of Document

[**Lt. Col. Allen West Has Received Over 100 Endorsements From Key Influencers on His Candidacy for Chairman of the Republican Party of Texas**](#)

PR Newswire

December 16, 2019 Monday 3:00 PM EST

Copyright 2019 PR Newswire Association LLC All Rights Reserved

Length: 277 words

Dateline: GARLAND, Texas, Dec. 16, 2019

Body

PR Newswire

Since entering the race to be Chairman of the Republican Party of Texas, Allen West has received support from the former Chairs, Tom Mechler and Cathie Adams as well as the former Vice Chairman David Barton. Additionally, the pro-life hero, Abby Johnson, the Facebook phenomenon, Chad Prather, General Jerry Boykin, Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** and Vanessa Calloway have all come out to support West.



Leaders from the organizations, Latinos for Trump, Black Voices for Trump, and the Mighty Oaks Warrior Foundation have all come out strongly for Allen West. This is just a snapshot of the dozens of veterans, politicians, key influencers and grassroots leaders across Texas, who are all supporting the West Campaign.

Allen West has been touched by the groundswell of endorsements, "I am deeply humbled by the outpouring of support of my candidacy from leaders across Texas, who understand that the fight is in Texas. I will not let Texas or Texans down. Only by returning to our conservative, constitutional, and pro-life values can we turn back Godless progressive socialism."

If you wish to read the endorsements, or perhaps to endorse Lt. Col. Allen West yourself, click on the link here: <https://west4texas.com/endorsements/>

Colonel West's full statement can be found here: https://west4texas.com/news/?md_post_type=nooz_release

Learn more about Allen West, his campaign, and how to keep Texas Red by visiting <http://www.west4texas.com>.

View original content: <http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/lt-col-allen-west-has-received-over-100-endorsements-from-key-influencers-on-his-candidacy-for-chairman-of-the-republican-party-of-texas-300975530.html>

SOURCE West4Texas

CONTACT: Name: Luke Twombly, Organization: West4Texas, Address: P.O. Box 740846 Dallas, TX 75374, Phone: 650-575-5375, Email: media@west4texas.com, cm@west4texas.com

Load-Date: December 17, 2019

End of Document

[Lt. Col. Allen West Has Received Over 100 Endorsements From Key Influencers on His Candidacy for Chairman of the Republican Party of Texas](#)

Global English (Middle East and North Africa Financial Network)

December 16, 2019 Monday

Copyright 2019 MENAFN.COM All Rights Reserved



Length: 264 words



Body

[Link to Story](#)

GARLAND, Texas, Dec. 16, 2019 /PRNewswire/ -- Since entering the race to be Chairman of the Republican Party of Texas, Allen West has received support from the former Chairs, Tom Mechler and Cathie Adams as well as the former Vice Chairman David Barton.

Additionally, the pro-life hero, Abby Johnson, the Facebook phenomenon, Chad Prather, General Jerry Boykin, Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** and Vanessa Calloway have all come out to support West. Leaders from the organizations, Latinos for Trump, Black Voices for Trump, and the Mighty Oaks Warrior Foundation have all come out strongly for Allen West. This is just a snapshot of the dozens of veterans, politicians, key influencers and grassroot leaders across Texas, who are all supporting the West Campaign. Allen West has been touched by the groundswell of endorsements, "I am deeply humbled by the outpouring of support of my candidacy from leaders across Texas, who understand that the fight is in Texas. I will not let Texas or Texans down. Only by returning to our conservative, constitutional, and pro-life values can we turn back Godless progressive socialism." If you wish to read the endorsements, or perhaps to endorse Lt. Col. Allen West yourself, click on the link here: <https://west4texas.com/endorsements/> Colonel West's full statement can be found here: https://west4texas.com/news/?md_post_type=nooz_release Learn more about Allen West, his campaign, and how to keep Texas Red by visiting www.west4texas.com .SOURCE West4Texas Related Links <https://west4texas.com/> × Modal title MENAFN1612201900701241ID1099431774

Load-Date: January 27, 2020

End of Document

[United States Courts Opinions: United States District Court for the Northern District of TEXAS : GABRIEL PAUL SALAS, § § Petitioner, § § v. § Civil Action No. 4:19-cv-236-O § BILL WAYBOURN, Sheriff, § Tarrant County, Texas, § § Respondent](#)

Impact News Service

December 11, 2019 Wednesday

Copyright 2019 Impact Media Limited All Rights Reserved



Length: 279 words



Body

Washington: United States District Court for the Northern District of TEXAS has issued the following order:

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS FORT WORTH DIVISION GABRIEL PAUL SALAS, § § Petitioner, § § v. § Civil Action No. 4:19-cv-236-O § **BILL WAYBOURN**, Sheriff, § Tarrant County, Texas, § § Respondent. § OPINION AND ORDER Before the Court are Tarrant County Jail inmate Gabriel Paul Salas's ("Salas") petition for writ of habeas corpus under 28 U.S.C § 2241 (ECF No. 1), Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn**'s response with exhibits (ECF No. 9), and Salas's reply briefs (ECF Nos. 11, 12). After considering the relief sought by Salas, the record, related briefing, and applicable law, the Court concludes that Salas's § 2241 petition should be DISMISSED. I. BACKGROUND/CLAIMS FOR RELIEF As of the date of this order, Salas is still confined in the Tarrant County Jail. See <https://inmatesearch.tarrantcounty.com/Home/Details?CID=0565059> last visited December 10, 2019. Salas is charged under indictment number 1531338 with the offense of obstruction or retaliation by threatening physical harm to a prospective witness' service or retaliation against the witness for that service. Resp. 2, Exhibit A, ECF No. 10. Salas incorporates four grounds for relief: (1) he could not have issued the threat because he was hospitalized at the time; (2) another person confessed to attempting to frame him; (3) there is insufficient evidence that he committed the offense; and (4) he was legally incompetent at the time the offense took place. Pet. 13–15, ECF No. 1. Salas seeks an

Case 4:19-cv-00236-O Document 15 Filed 12/10/19 Page 1 of 4 PageID

Load-Date: March 3, 2020

End of Document

[Races to test Dem support](#)

THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

November 25, 2019 Monday, 1 EDITION

Copyright 2019 THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

DallasNews.com

Section: METRO & STATE; Pg. B01; POLITICS

Length: 506 words

Byline: GROMER JEFFERS JR., gjeffers@dallasnews.com

Body

North Texas will feature two intriguing congressional races that will determine if Democrats are truly gaining ground on the GOP.



One of the biggest contests in the country is the fight to replace retiring Republican Rep. Ken Marchant of Carrollton. That district, which includes parts of Denton, Tarrant and Dallas counties, has been undergoing population shifts that make it attractive to Democratic candidates.

Last year Marchant narrowly got past Democrat Jan McDowell, who is running again for the seat in 2020.

But McDowell, who has strong connections in the district, will be tested by rivals in a large Democratic Party field of contenders. The March primary is expected to be dominated by a trio of women — retired Air Force Col. Kim Olson, Candace Valenzuela and McDowell, who has residual name identification after two runs for the District 24 seat.

In 2018 Olson ran for Texas Agriculture Commissioner and has a following, though her ties to the district aren't as pronounced as her competitors'. Valenzuela has support inside and outside the district. She recently scored an endorsement from Emily's List, the group committed to elect women who support abortion rights to Congress.

The race will likely go to a runoff. Other Democratic candidates are Richard Fleming, Jim Biggan, William Fisher and Crystal Fletcher.

Meanwhile, former Irving Mayor Beth Van Duyne is the heavy front-runner of the GOP race to replace Marchant. She's been endorsed by a cross section of Republicans, including Fort Worth Mayor Betsy Price, Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** and other mayors. She's also backed by House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy and Minority Whip Steve Scalise.

Van Duyne was the first mayor of a major city to endorse Donald Trump for president. She recently served as a regional administrator at the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Democratic candidates are already attacking Van Duyne as "dangerous," which suggests she won't have much of a problem beating Desi Maes, David Fegan, Jerone Liverman and Sunny Chaparala in the GOP primary in March.

In the 32nd Congressional District, Republicans are trying to oust Democrat Colin Allred. National Republicans have blasted Allred for supporting the impeachment inquiry against Trump.

The popular Democrat won the seat in 2018 by beating longtime Republican incumbent Pete Sessions, who is now running to replace retiring Republican Bill Flores in the 17th District in Central Texas.

Dallas businesswoman Genevieve Collins is running the most visible GOP campaign, but she must get by former Navy SEAL Floyd McLendon Jr. in the primary.

Republicans excited about Collins hope she can win back suburban voters, particularly women who abandoned the party in 2018 to vote for Allred.

Demographic shifts have made that district more Democratic than ever, and Collins would have to run a nearly flawless campaign to beat the incumbent.

But she's proved she can raise money and comes from a politically active family.

It's certainly a race worth watching.

Twitter: @gromerjeffers



Load-Date: November 25, 2019

End of Document

[Tarrant County approves game room regulations, requiring permits, fees and more](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

November 12, 2019 Tuesday

Copyright 2019 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: politics_government

Length: 1278 words

Byline: Tessa Weinberg and Luke Ranker

Star-Telegram

Dateline: Fort Worth

Body

Tarrant County commissioners approved a long list of requirements for game room owners Tuesday in an effort to regulate the businesses that many residents believe attract crime.

The commissioners unanimously adopted an ordinance that requires permits for game room owners and sets rules regarding hours and locations. Commissioner J.D. Johnson was not present. The regulations are set to go into effect April 1, 2020. Among the rules for game rooms:

A permit to operate. Hours are limited to 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. Game rooms cannot be within 1,500 feet of a school, church or residential neighborhood, or within 2,000 feet of another game room. An outside sign that reads "game room" must be displayed and at least two windows must provide "a clear and unobstructed view of all machines." Violating the regulations could result in fines and misdemeanor charges.

But it's unclear how the county will notify game room owners, as officials know there are some businesses they aren't aware of. No game room owners testified in support of the regulations at Commissioners Court.

"This process has been ongoing for a year. It has been discussed before the Commissioners Court in February and July and over the past few months," county spokesman Bill Hanna said in a statement. "We made all of the appropriate postings and received no feedback from operators."

Additional details for the ordinance still need to be finalized, with Arlington raising some concerns with how the county will oversee the city's efforts.



"While I am especially sensitive to the concerns of the city of Arlington, I trust that we have done everything we can to have come to as close to a middle ground as possible (while) still upholding our responsibility to follow the law," said Commissioner Devan Allen, whose precinct includes Arlington.

Under Texas law, game room owners are legally allowed to operate the popular slot machines, often known as eight-liners, as long as prizes aren't paid in cash and aren't worth more than \$5. And in Fort Worth, the city takes it a step further, enforcing various requirements.

But it's long been an open secret that illegal cash payouts and prizes worth more than the allowed amount are doled out to winning customers.

This year, Fort Worth police have made at least 40 arrests and seized over \$270,000 through raids on game rooms, said Fredrick Long, the lieutenant overseeing the Fort Worth Police Department's Vice Unit. Game rooms have been subject to robberies and shootings, and six murders have occurred related to game rooms this year, Long said.

There are more than 200 known game rooms in Fort Worth, Long said. He estimated that there are between 300 and 350 when accounting for game rooms the city isn't aware of.

"This problem is not something that can be addressed by running search warrants and seizing machines," Long said, noting his unit has issued over 32 search warrants for game rooms this year. "We hit them. We take the motherboards. We take the machines. No matter what we take, it's the price of doing business."

The county's ordinance will help law enforcement police game rooms, Long said. Officers have trouble accessing many without going under cover because they require membership. This ordinance makes that practice a misdemeanor, he said.

"My neighborhood has been plagued by this quite frequently," Fort Worth resident Kris Shafer said at Tuesday's meeting, referring to a game room near his home that police said they've cracked down on.

In Fort Worth, city officials have found game rooms are hubs for other crimes, said Brandon Bennett, director of the city's Environmental Health and Code Compliance Department.

"It's not unusual in the city of Fort Worth that we will go in on a gaming complaint and find mattresses in the back for prostitution," Bennett said. "We see this as an opportunity to implement an ounce of cure. For us to pay attention. For the game room people to know that we're paying attention."

tx politics newsletter

Arlington officials said they've grappled with the regulation of game rooms, but requested tweaks to the ordinance's language. Mainly, Arlington wanted the county to refrain from issuing permits in cities that haven't entered into an agreement with the county, Arlington Assistant City Manager Jennifer Wichmann said.

Former Arlington City Councilwoman Kathryn Wilemon stressed that Arlington's efforts have worked for the city.

"We no longer accept gaming rooms in Arlington. Good news is it's worked. But it's been an ongoing issue in our city," Wilemon said. "We feel like we have it under control. But we want to be a partner with the county."

The issue is with how state law is worded, giving the county regulatory authority to issue permits rather than cities, said Russell Schaffner, the assistant county administrator for Tarrant County.



And while residents' have complained for years that the businesses are hotbeds for crime, commissioners previously said they were hesitant to take action after a 2017 law granted Tarrant County regulatory authority, in part, because they felt it was an unfunded mandate that cities were better-suited to regulate.

But Fort Worth's attempts to oversee game rooms quickly faced legal challenges after an ordinance was passed in 2014. While the city is still allowed to enforce some building requirements, hours of operation and more, sections of the ordinance that restricted where game rooms could be located were struck down. The city was challenged, in part, on whether it had the jurisdiction to enforce game room licensing and if zoning restrictions had gone beyond state law.

The extent of the city's oversight is still being debated in the courts. The case is before the Texas Supreme Court with arguments scheduled for Jan. 28, senior city attorney Chris Mosley said.

County Regulations

Officials can take action if game rooms are operating illegally. But due to state law, the county can only regulate legal game rooms that feature six or more gaming machines. It's a fact that commissioners expressed frustration with Tuesday, and hope to see the legislature address.

"I don't understand why if something's wrong, just a little bit of it makes it any better. So if over five machines is wrong, one machine ought to be just as wrong," Judge Glen Whitley said.

Updated draft of Tarrant County Game Room regulations

Potential owners must submit a detailed application, a non-refundable fee of \$1,000 and participate in up to three inspections of the proposed game room to ensure compliance. A \$1,000 fee is also required to renew the game room permit each year.

A permit can be denied, revoked or suspended for a variety of reasons, including past criminal offenses, previously revoked permits, or failure to meet requirements. A game room permit holder or applicant can appeal the decision before a hearing examiner, who will be appointed by the Commissioners Court.

Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** said he anticipates dedicating a special unit to enforcing game rooms. Details about the size of the unit haven't been hammered out, he said, but it could require hiring additional deputies and allocating cars, computers and other resources. A game room unit wasn't factored into a 2020 budget for the department, so he'll have to make a proposal to the commissioners court for approval.

Fort Worth will enter into an agreement with Tarrant County, Mosley said. That agreement will likely include Fort Worth Police remaining the enforcement agency in the city limits with permits going through the city's planning and development department. Details of the agreement will have to be approved by the City Council, which Mosley expects sometime in the next month.

Load-Date: November 12, 2019

End of Document

[**Texas law requires retired police dogs be auctioned off. Proposition 10 would send them home with their handlers.**](#)

Newstex Blogs



Copyright 2019 Newstex LLC All Rights Reserved

Length: 1040 words

Byline: Chase Karacostas

Body

Oct 31, 2019(The Texas Tribune: <http://texastribune.org> Delivered by Newstex) When Jim Skinner served in the Air Force nearly 40 years ago, he extended his tour in the Philippines several times because he wanted to stay with his best friend, Jessie, knowing the two wouldn't have much time together after his service. Collin County Sheriff Jim Skinner served in the Philippines as one of the Air Force's K9 handlers. He extended his tour several times to stay with his dog, Jessie, who was getting near retirement age. Courtesy of Jim Skinner It wasn't that Jessie, his military service dog, was injured.

Back then, military service dogs were often euthanized after they retired. The federal government changed the policy in the early 2000s, allowing them to retire with their handlers or be adopted. But that was only at the federal level. Texas requires retired law enforcement animals - classified as surplus government property - to be auctioned off or destroyed to ensure government dollars aren't used for private benefit. On Nov. 5, Texas voters will consider Proposition 10, which would amend the state Constitution to allow retired law enforcement animals, such as dogs or horses, to be adopted by their handlers or another qualified caretaker. A proposal to put the measure on the ballot received unanimous support from the Texas Legislature last spring. Skinner became the sheriff of Collin County in 2017 and soon after arriving had to retire two members of the K9 unit. So he and his counterparts in Ellis and Tarrant counties sought to change the law to ensure retired law enforcement animals would be allowed to retire with their handlers, the people they've spent almost every minute of every day with for years. "As they get older and more and more used to the families that they're around, these dogs, they're like a pet, and they love their handlers and their families," said Skinner, who is also the chairman of the legislative committee for the Sheriffs' Association of Texas. "So why not give them the ability if they're qualified to be a caretaker for their dog?" The Texas Tribune thanks its sponsors. Become one[1]. David McClelland, the Tarrant County Sheriff's Department chief of staff, said there was a vacancy in one of the K9 positions when he came in with Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** in 2017. As they began working on a replacement, they looked at the policies regarding retired law enforcement animals and realized state law prevented them from being easily adopted by their handlers. The county would be required to auction the animal, which creates the risk of the handler being outbid, or euthanize it. "It's one of those things that you always wonder why did no pay attention to it?" McClelland said. "It's something we feel really, really strongly about being in law enforcement." "Without this law being in place, you've got to go home and tell your 10-year-old why they don't have their dog anymore," McClelland said. Most cities let handlers adopt the retired animals, but counties, McClelland said, are much more restricted. Before the law could be changed, however, Skinner still had to replace two of Collin County's dogs. One of them died from liver complications shortly after retiring, and the other, Skinner said, went home with its handler but did not officially retire to avoid the need for an auction. Ferro, a German shepherd, is a patrol and narcotics detection dog for the Collin County Sheriff's Department. Collin County Sheriff's Department State Sens. Brian Birdwell[2] and Jane Nelson[3] authored the legislation. The Texas Tribune thanks its sponsors. Become one[4]. "Police dogs develop a special bond with their handler, and -



after a lifetime of public service - deserve to spend their golden years with their companion," Nelson, R-Flower Mound, said in a statement. "These dogs should not be auctioned off as property." Proposition 10 exempts law enforcement animals from the state's surplus government property rules. Its companion legislation, Senate Bill 2100[5], includes measures to ensure that retired law enforcement animals, if they are not adopted by their handler, will be taken in by someone properly equipped to care for them, and if an animal's handler is injured or killed in the line of duty, the handler's family can adopt it. Gov. Greg Abbott[6] signed SB 2100 into law on May 14. Reid Golson, a deputy sheriff for Collin County, said he spends more time with his K9 partner, Olex, who stays with him at home along with traveling with him at work, than he does his own family. "You spend so much time with with these dogs ... they become a part of the family," Golson said. "When they retire, I think they should be able to enjoy their retirement with who they've been with for the past five years and not put them in another environment that they're not familiar with."The Texas Tribune thanks its sponsors. Become one[7]. Skinner, who said he has already voted for Proposition 10 during early voting, said the support the legislation got showed him how much people care for dogs, especially those that help keep communities safe. "People can relate and understand when we talk about these brave and heroic police dogs that are out here working day in and day out with these handlers," Skinner said. "They make great sacrifice. I mean, there's a lot of dogs that die in the line of duty ... because we ask (them) to do things that otherwise we would have to go do. They carry the day." Olex, a 3-year-old German Shepherd, works for the Collin County Sheriff's Department as a patrol and narcotics detection dog with his handler, deputy sheriff Reid Golson. Courtesy Collin County Sheriff's DepartmentRead related Tribune coverage [1]: <https://mediakit.texastribune.org/> [2]: <https://www.texastribune.org/directory/brian-birdwell/><https://www.texastribune.org/directory/brian-birdwell/> [3]: <https://www.texastribune.org/directory/jane-nelson/><https://www.texastribune.org/directory/jane-nelson/> [4]: <https://mediakit.texastribune.org/> [5]: <https://capitol.texas.gov/BillLookup/History.aspx?LegSess=86R...l=SB2100> [6]: <https://www.texastribune.org/directory/greg-abbott/> [7]: <https://mediakit.texastribune.org/>

Load-Date: October 31, 2019

End of Document

[Was Sheriff Bill Waybourn right or wrong about illegal immigration?](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

October 20, 2019 Sunday

Copyright 2019 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: letters_to_the_editor

Length: 552 words

Byline: The Star-Telegram

Star-Telegram



Body

Are we turning a corner at last?

Since the election of President Donald Trump, my faith in this country and in humanity has been greatly diminished. Many on the right seem to trade their values for political points while justifying racism and the mistreatment of asylum seekers, and encouraging (perhaps unintentionally) the rise of white supremacy, despite calling themselves Christian.

With the conviction of Amber Guyger and the swift reaction by Fort Worth officials to the murder of Atatiana Jefferson, I'm gaining hope and getting a renewed sense of faith. Maybe elected leaders are starting to wake up to what some of us have been shouting for the past three years. Maybe they'll begin to put country over party.

- Paul Vasquez, Arlington

No sympathy for lawbreakers

Bravo to the Tarrant County sheriff for his stance on illegal immigrants. (Oct. 11, 1A, "Texas sheriff draws national attention for ICE comments")

I'm not sure why the left gets all worked up about this. If you are in this country illegally and end up in county jail, you are a repeat offender. You broke federal law by coming here, then broke the law again. There should be ramifications. I know there would be for me if I was a repeat offender.

If you want to come to this country, do it the right way.

- Chuck Fiedler, Haslet

What Waybourn didn't say

Big thanks to Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** for letting us know that about 300 undocumented immigrants being held had actually been accused of crimes. However, he didn't mention why the other 3,900 inmates, who are presumably U.S. citizens or immigrants in the country legally, were in the jail. Sleep-overs? Story time? Extended job interviews?

He also didn't mention that most of the people he holds have not been convicted of anything. He didn't mention that these 300 are a tiny fraction of those in the area who are in the country illegally.

You can't ask the sheriff to master all the details. He's busy doing news conferences (and shopping for big hats).

- Dennis Novak, Fort Worth

Leave religion out of law enforcement

Interim Fort Worth Police Chief Ed Kraus displayed presumptuousness and arrogance by quoting the Bible during his news conference about the arrest of former officer Aaron Dean in the Atatiana Jefferson shooting. Kraus' insensitivity was an affront to me, a non-believer in any organized religion, and it was a breach of the separation of church and state.



The mayor and City Council should censure him. No public official should impose personal religious views upon anybody.

- Jared Garcia, Las Vegas, Nevada

Zero chance for Democrats, happily

What an experience it was watching the Democratic presidential candidates debate Tuesday night. What to call it? Baffling? Worrisome? Bewildering?

Clearly, the winner was President Donald Trump. What a great comfort it was knowing none of those candidates stands a chance to unseat him.

- Rick Schwab, Fort Worth

Due respect not granted

I am so disgusted with the Star-Telegram. On Friday, a day after Rep. Elijah Cummings died, you relegated his obituary to Page 13A while running the death of "radio legend" Bob Kingsley on the front page?

Cummings was a national treasure, a true legend, a man of honor, a compelling presence in our government. This was a despicable oversight. I don't believe it was accidental.

- Mary Mendez, Fort Worth

Load-Date: October 20, 2019

End of Document

[Do Illegal Immigrants Increase Drunk Driving Deaths?](#)

Newstex Blogs

Cato@Liberty

October 18, 2019 Friday 7:08 PM EST

Copyright 2019 Newstex LLC All Rights Reserved

Length: 1502 words

Byline: Alex Nowrasteh, Andrew C. Forrester

Body

Oct 18, 2019(Cato@Liberty: <http://www.cato.org/blog> Delivered by Newstex) ;; Alex Nowrasteh[1] and Andrew C. Forrester[2]The danger posed by illegal immigrant drunk drivers is a major point of contention in the debate over immigration policy. Significant[3] media[4] attention[5] and the occasional tragedy[6] contribute to the notion that illegal immigrants commit drunk driving (DUI) offenses at an alarming rate. In a recent interview, former Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) director Tom Homan went so far



as to label DUI offenses committed by illegal immigrants as a 'public safety threat[7].' Indeed, law enforcement officials[8] and immigration authorities[9] alike continue to state that illegal immigrants are significant DUI offenders, despite research[10] that finds no effect of illegal immigration on DUI related deaths or criminal[11] activity[12] in general. In 2017, nearly 11,000 people[13] were killed in alcohol-impaired-driving accidents, meaning that drunk driving is responsible for almost 29 percent of all traffic deaths.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration[14] (NHTSA) estimates that alcohol-related deaths in 2017 were highest in Texas, California, and Florida - three states with large illegal immigrant populations as well as large populations in general[15]. If illegal immigrants are more likely to be drunk drivers, places with larger illegal immigrant shares of the population will have more alcohol-related traffic deaths. Below, we examine whether this is the case. Methodology We collected raw data on traffic deaths from the NHTSA Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS) database[16] for the 2010-2017 period. The FARS data provide comprehensive records on deaths in motor vehicle crashes, including details on drivers, victims, and details of the crash. To determine whether deaths were the result of alcohol impairment, we use data on drivers' blood alcohol concentrations (BACs) and whether the police reported alcohol involvement through FARS. All 50 states and the District of Columbia passed laws setting the legal BAC limit at 0.08g/DL, so we adopt this same threshold for our filters. Since the NHTSA uses methods to impute[17] missing BAC values, we were not able to replicate their annual estimates exactly. However, our figures using the two previous filters yield very similar results. For instance, NHTSA estimates a total of 10,874 alcohol-related deaths in 2017 and our filtering method yields 10,850 - a difference of just 0.22 percent. We aggregated these data up to the state-year level. Our measure of the illegal immigration population and state-level demographic data come from the Pew Research Center[18] and American Community Survey (ACS) 1-year estimates available through IPUMS[19], respectively. As a robustness check, we calculate state-level estimates for the share of Hispanic noncitizens as a proxy for the likely illegal immigrant population[20]. At a minimum, their numbers are closely correlated with the number of illegal immigrants. That means that the results for regressions where the independent variable is the illegal immigration population as estimated by Pew should be similar to those where the Hispanic noncitizen population is the independent variable. To test whether larger illegal immigrant population shares correlate with increased deaths in drunk driving accidents, we ran two-way fixed effects regressions that regress the log traffic death rate per 100,000 on the population share of illegal immigrants and Hispanic noncitizens by state. State fixed effects account for level differences across states, such as state drinking culture, while year effects control for national trends affecting all states such as secular changes in road injuries[21]. Standard errors in each regression are clustered by state to account for arbitrary autocorrelation in the error term. Results Our results show that illegal immigrant populations are not correlated with alcohol-related traffic deaths (Table 1). For both the overall level of traffic deaths and alcohol-related deaths, we find a negative partial correlation with the state population share of illegal immigrants. Interestingly, we find that places with larger illegal immigrant shares are significantly associated with fewer per capita traffic deaths. However, this result falls out of significance after accounting for state trends. We find no significant evidence for a relationship between illegal immigrant population share and the alcohol-related drunk driving death rate. Considering Hispanic noncitizens as a proxy for likely illegal immigrants yields similar results (Table 2). We continue to find no statistically significant association with an increased risk of death through alcohol-related crashes. Table 1 Traffic Deaths and Illegal Immigrant Population Shares Table 2 Traffic Deaths and Hispanic Noncitizen Population Shares These regression above are also summarized by binned scatterplots in Figures 1-4. Figure 1 shows a statistically significant negative relationship between the illegal immigrant share of the population and the death rate from all traffic accidents by state from 2010-2017. Figure 2 shows no statistically significant relationship between alcohol-related traffic deaths and the illegal immigrant population share by state from 2010-2017. Figure 3 shows a statistically significant negative relationship between the noncitizen Hispanic share of the population and the death rate from all traffic accidents by state from 2010-2017. Figure 4 shows



no relationship between the noncitizen Hispanic share of the population and the alcohol-related death rate from all traffic accidents by state from 2010-2017. Figure 1 All Traffic Death Rate and Illegal Immigrant Population Share by State, 2010-2017 Sources: Authors' calculations using the 2010-2017 FARS, Pew (2019), and 2010-2017 ACS 1-year estimates from IPUMS. Figure 2 Alcohol-Related Traffic Death Rate and Illegal Immigrant Population Share by State, 2010-2017 Sources: Authors' calculations using the 2010-2017 FARS, Pew (2019), and 2010-2017 ACS 1-year estimates from IPUMS. Figure 3 All Traffic Death Rate and Noncitizen Hispanic Population Share by State, 2010-2017 Sources: Authors' calculations using the 2010-2017 FARS and 2010-2017 ACS 1-year estimates from IPUMS. Figure 4 Alcohol-Related Traffic Death Rate and Noncitizen Hispanic Population Share by State, 2010-2017 Sources: Authors' calculations using the 2010-2017 FARS and 2010-2017 ACS 1-year estimates from IPUMS. Conclusion We find no statistical evidence to suggest that places with more illegal immigrants are more at risk for drunk driving deaths. Of course, there are individual instances to the contrary and those illegal immigrants who commit real crimes should be punished like everybody else, but their presence doesn't seem to affect overall drunk driving deaths. Although our regressions results are correlative and not causal in nature, they suggest that illegal immigrants do not affect overall drunk driving deaths. [1]: <https://www.cato.org/people/alex-nowrasteh> [2]: <https://www.cato.org/people/andrew-forrester> [3]: <https://www.sacbee.com/news/local/article231515453.html> [4]: <https://www.3newsnow.com/news/local-news/undocumented-immigrant-sentenced-for-fatal-dui-crash> [5]: <https://www.bostonherald.com/2019/05/13/ice-agents-using-drunken-driving-records-bust-141-illegal-immigrants/> [6]: <https://fox59.com/2019/09/17/man-who-killed-colts-player-uber-driver-in-drunk-driving-crash-sentenced-on-federal-immigration-charge/> [7]: <https://www.newsweek.com/ice-immigration-laura-ingraham-fox-news-tom-homan-illegals-dui-undocumented-1330817> [8]: <https://www.wfaa.com/article/news/local/tarrant-county/sheriff-waybourn-tells-his-side-amid-calls-for-his-resignation/287-5f643f0a-c866-4bb7-a1b3-8f16872f24d7> [9]: <https://www.newsweek.com/ice-immigration-laura-ingraham-fox-news-tom-homan-illegals-dui-undocumented-1330817> [10]: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/28727520> [11]: <https://doi.org/10.1111/1745-9125.12175> [12]: <https://www.cato.org/blog/illegal-immigrants-crime-assessing-evidence> [13]: <https://crashstats.nhtsa.dot.gov/Api/Public/ViewPublication/812603> [14]: <https://crashstats.nhtsa.dot.gov/Api/Public/ViewPublication/812630> [15]: <https://www.pewresearch.org/hispanic/interactives/unauthorized-trends/> [16]: <https://www.nhtsa.gov/research-data/fatality-analysis-reporting-system-fars> [17]: <https://crashstats.nhtsa.dot.gov/Api/Public/ViewPublication/812630> [18]: <https://www.pewresearch.org/hispanic/interactives/unauthorized-trends/> [19]: <https://usa.ipums.org/usa/> [20]: <https://www.aeaweb.org/articles?id=10.1257/aer.102.3.543> [21]: <https://www.responsibility.org/blog/long-term-trend-continues-show-decline-drunk-driving-fatalities/>

Load-Date: October 19, 2019

End of Document

[What the Fort Worth police shooting means to the community](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

October 15, 2019 Tuesday





Section: letters_to_the_editor

Length: 516 words

Byline: The Star-Telegram

Star-Telegram

Body

How can anyone trust police now?

In the movie "Roxanne," Steve Martin's character says, "You can't have people, if their houses are burning down, saying, 'Whatever you do, don't call the fire department!'"

In the movie, it was a joke. In real life, in Fort Worth, we've reached the point where people can reasonably say, "If you're worried a crime's being committed, whatever you do, don't call the police." (Oct. 14, 1A, "Expert: Fort Worth officer acted like it was a burglary call")

We are quite literally not safe in our own homes from the people we pay to protect us. It has become safer to face the criminals on our own than to call the police.

I'm outraged and disgusted.

- George Michael Sherry, Fort Worth

It was only one officer's fault

Once again, an unimaginable tragedy has occurred. Our wonderful police officers will all be looked at with suspicion because of the dysfunction of one.

Fort Worth cannot continue with an interim police chief. Former Chief Joel Fitzgerald's lawsuit has to be settled one way or another so we can move on in a positive direction.

Uncertainty breeds chaos, and taxpaying citizens deserve better.

I'm saddened by what the actions of one police officer will cause for those who professionally do their jobs of protecting and serving.

- Wanda Conlin, Fort Worth

Need to hear from Trump supporters

It's amusing that 100% of the letters to the editor Sunday about impeachment were against President Donald Trump.



The assemblage of letters parse the president's words and distort the meaning, demean his leadership, call on local officials who support him and his policies to proceed with a baseless impeachment, make up a new definition of the word "coup" and ask him not to look into meddling in our elections by foreign governments.

Surely, more than this crowd of anti-Trump critics presented clearly considered opinions to the local newspaper.

- Ray Harris, Fort Worth

If Trump defies these rules ...

The Trump administration is stonewalling the impeachment investigation by ignoring subpoenas and saying, "We are not participating" in the probe, according to the White House counsel.

What will happen if President Donald Trump is removed from office but simply refuses to leave the White House?

- Sue Williams, Fort Worth

We must dial back the rhetoric

I appreciate the balanced editorial in the Star-Telegram about Sheriff **Bill Waybourn's** comments on illegal immigration. (Oct. 11, 11A, "Tarrant sheriff didn't say illegal immigrants were all drunks") He was clear that he was not condemning all unauthorized immigrants.

But the context of his comments is also important.

Sadly, racist rhetoric has become very common, even at the highest levels of leadership in our nation. Inflammatory language is gradually being normalized. It cannot become the norm.

Waybourn's comments must be analyzed in the full context of where and when they were made. He was not speaking to a small Tarrant County audience. He was speaking to a national audience.

I suggest that the message conveyed did not represent the mindset of most Tarrant County residents.

- Karl Schilken, Fort Worth

Load-Date: October 23, 2019

End of Document

[Son of sheriff who called immigrants 'drunks' at White House event arrested for public intoxication; 'These drunks will run over your children and they will run over my children' Mr Tarrant said of migrant repeat offenders](#)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

October 14, 2019 Monday 1:01 PM GMT

Copyright 2019 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



Section: AMERICAS; Version:1

Length: 515 words

Byline: Vincent Wood

Body

The son of a Texas sheriff who used a White House press conference to describe immigrant offenders as "drunks" likely to repeatedly break the law has been arrested for public intoxication.

Sergei Waybourn, 24, faces a count of indecent exposure as well as public drunkenness just days after his father, Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn**, was criticised for the comments.

Responding to a California court ruling that banned immigration officers from arresting people on the basis of records that have been proven unreliable, **Sheriff Waybourn** said 7% of his 4,200 inmates were "illegal aliens".

He added: "Of those people that we have in custody, we know for a fact that 72% of them are repeat offenders. So if we have to turn them loose or if they get released, they're coming back to your neighbourhood and my neighbourhood. These drunks will run over your children and they will run over my children.

"And if that happens I know that you will want, and certainly I will want for you, the full force of the law -and immigration is part of that full force. These people have come into the country illegally."

Sergei Waybourn, who is estranged from the family, was apprehended by officers near the AT&T stadium in Arlington, Texas on Friday.

He has previously been charged with criminal trespass and theft in January, according to local media.

Officials quickly hit back at the sheriff's comments on Thursday, which were described as "racist" and "bigoted". Many pointed out that native Texans were significantly more likely to be arrested than migrants in the state.

Domingo Garcia, LULAC National President, said: "It is appalling that a man with a badge and gun like **Sheriff Waybourn** would make such ignorant and twisted racist statements influenced by his far right-wing ideology. We know that in Texas, the data shows that native-born residents are much more likely to be convicted of a crime than immigrants.

US Representative Marc Veasey, whose district includes part of Tarrant County, added: "These actions are completely unacceptable, let alone by someone who is tasked with protecting and serving our community.

"There is nothing noble about falsely characterising all immigrants as criminals-the fact is that a majority of research finds that immigrants do not increase crime rates and are less likely to be incarcerated than their native-born peers. The sheriff is simply trying to continue to divide our diverse North Texas community with hateful rhetoric."

Sheriff Waybourn has since argued his comments were taken out of context - and he was only referring to migrants who had been arrested multiple times for driving under the influence.

His son remains in custody in the Tarrant County Correctional Facility.

In a statement to local broadcaster WFAA on his son's arrest, the sheriff said: "It has been many years since he disassociated from our family.

"We, along with many family members have made efforts over the years to help him - all to no avail. It is always sad when drugs take control of a person's life.

"His choices and actions have lead to this situation."

Load-Date: October 14, 2019

End of Document

[United States: Press Briefing by Acting ICE Director Matthew Albence](#)

Thai News Service

October 14, 2019 Monday

Copyright 2019 Thai News Service All Rights Reserved

Section: GENERAL NEWS

Length: 6341 words

Body

James S. Brady Press Briefing Room

11:04 A.M. EDT

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: Good morning. Thank you for making time to be with us today. My name is Matt Albence. I'm the Deputy Director of ICE and the senior official performing the duties of the Director.

I want to take a moment before I begin to recognize and thank the sheriffs joining me today: Sheriff Robert Nolan from Cape May County, New Jersey; Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** from Tarrant County, Texas; Sheriff Butch Conway from Gwinnett County, Georgia; Sheriff Mike Lewis from Wicomico County, Maryland; and Sheriff Chuck Jenkins from Fredrick County, Maryland.

I'd also like to thank ICE Assistant Director Barbara Gonzalez from the Victims of Immigration Crime Engagement Office for the work she does with these sheriffs to support their communities.

Two weeks ago today, I was joined at this podium, as I am today, by sheriffs from around the country: valued partners who understand the importance of law enforcement at every level, working together on behalf of all Americans.



We shared our ongoing frustration with jurisdictions that allow political rhetoric to get in the way of public safety, and the risks and dangers associated with bad laws and policies.

Since then, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's ability to enforce immigration law has again fallen victim to judicial overreach. And our agency's authorities are being singled out and marginalized in ways that no other federal law enforcement organization has to tolerate. Tying our hands from the bench does not make our country any safer.

Our commitment to justice is fundamental. The rule of law is a critical component of our democracy, but a recent ruling handed down by the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California holds ICE to a different standard for lawful cooperation and will hinder our ability to faithfully carry out our congressionally mandated mission.

This decision will threaten public safety, as it will lead to the release of criminal aliens back onto the street - criminals that we won't find before they hurt or, worse, more innocent victims - victims that could have been spared their pain and suffering if only ICE had been allowed to do its job.

For decades now, immigration officers have utilized detainers as a collaborative law enforcement tool to request that other law enforcement agencies notify ICE upon the upcoming release of an alien that has been arrested for a criminal violation completely unrelated to their immigration status.

The detainer serves as a request to hold that person for a short period of time, enabling ICE to assume custody. ICE issues detainers based on a finding by trained immigration officers that there is probable cause to believe an individual is a removable alien.

Like all law enforcement agencies, ICE utilizes all evidence at its disposal to determine if probable cause exists, including various databases and electronic data. Probable cause is the same legal standard that other law enforcement agencies must meet in order to make an arrest.

The reality is we live in an electronic age where information is increasingly digitized, and evidence used to support a finding of probable cause will likely stem from databases, to include those that contain biometric data and other similar data sources.

Despite this reality, a judge in California has opined that immigration officers cannot develop probable cause to believe that an individual may be removable based on certain database checks alone.

This conclusion is out of step with the realities of modern law enforcement, endangers the public, and construes probable cause in an unfairly restrictive way. Moreover, this decision, issued by a single judge in Los Angeles, will impact at least 43 states, threatening communities far beyond the one in which this judge sits.

While I wish I could say this is an isolated occurrence, it is but the latest example of judicial overreach targeting immigration enforcement and the application of laws already passed by Congress, often decades ago.

Time and again, DHS has been prevented from exercising the authority granted to it by Congress because of the decisions of unelected judges who substitute their judgment for that of our legislators or the government officials entrusted with enforcing our laws.

We need people to understand the laws we enforce were not written by ICE. We do not grant ourselves the power to enforce them. Our authorities come from the United States Congress; from the laws they draft, debate, pass, and send to the President for signature. Accordingly, these decisions are not just an attack



on DHS and the executive branch, but an attack on the ability of Congress to carry out its most basic function of passing laws for the protection and general welfare of our country.

Our commitment is to strengthen national security and uphold public safety, which we accomplish by enforcing the law as it has been enacted: with the utmost professionalism, despite challenges faced by no other law enforcement agency in this country.

Mitigating some of the challenges faced by ICE through cooperation with our state and local law enforcement agencies in every jurisdiction would make our public safety efforts more effective and our entire country safer.

To be clear, we ask only for the cooperation provided to other federal agencies within the law enforcement community. We ask no law enforcement agency to enforce immigration laws on our behalf, except those who have volunteered to obtain this authority under the 287(g) program, within which we have 79 valued, trusted partners - some of them on stage with us today.

Despite significant changes in immigration patterns - both legal and illegal - over the last 20 years, Congress has failed to modernize our laws accordingly. And unfortunately, as we have seen repeatedly in this context, Congress will only act or even acknowledge there is a crisis when it has no other choice.

Congressional inaction in the face of a documented and growing public safety threat is not only an abdication of its duty; it is dangerous to all who reside in this country, citizen and immigrant alike.

As much as I would like to, I cannot stand here today and promise you that dangerous criminal aliens are not being let out of jails to potentially harm others. In fact, it's quite the opposite. And court decisions that negate our lawful authorities only compound this risk. To be clear, the principal beneficiaries of the recent court decision limiting ICE's ability to use its detainer authorities are criminal aliens who have been arrested for criminal offenses by state and local jurisdictions.

What I can promise you, however, is that ICE and our cooperative partners will do everything in our power, consistent with the law, to prevent the release of dangerous criminal aliens into your communities, and when they are released by sanctuary jurisdictions, to take them off the street before they can re-offend.

But the threat to your communities remains, and it is real. ICE Enforcement and Removal Operations officers throughout the country are out there every day, unnecessarily putting themselves in harm's way, searching for repeat and often violent offenders who were released from custody because local law enforcement is not permitted, or makes the conscious decision to not cooperate with ICE, and a lawfully placed detainer request and warrant are ignored.

A recent case, in a litany of tragic examples, clearly illustrates this danger. Carlos Carillo Lopez entered this country illegally as an unaccompanied alien child in 2015. He was arrested no less than four times in the past seven months in the state of Washington, for charges including criminal trespass, theft, malicious mischief, and failure to appear. Each time, ICE lodged a detainer; each time, the detaining entities - proud sanctuary jurisdictions - released him without notifying ICE. Tragically, on September 30, 2019, he was arrested for homicide, his victim another young man.

ICE has made approximately 140,000 arrests this year. About 75 percent of those arrests came from ICE working with the jails and prisons. The other 25 percent are made by ICE's at-large teams. It is critically important work, but it takes a lot more time and resources to make those arrests, at a much greater risk to our officers, the public, and the subjects themselves, when we could have apprehended those criminal aliens from the safe confines of a jail upon their release.



Moreover, ICE's ability to conduct this at-large enforcement has been increasingly crippled by Congress's failure to provide sufficient additional funding for detention beds, transportation, ICE officers and agents, and attorneys.

Unfortunately, ICE is seeing its efforts to protect this country undermined by more than just certain courts. Just last week, the New Jersey Attorney General took another step to undercut how individual sheriffs are working directly with ICE.

We have two partners in our 287(g) program in New Jersey where we have designated and trained local jail officers who work under ICE supervision to identify criminal aliens in their custody.

These partnerships are vital to our success. They give ICE the operational flexibility to use resources that would otherwise be assigned to those jails, and to be redeployed to target dangerous, at-large criminal aliens - many from neighboring jurisdictions who fail to provide such cooperation.

These sheriffs, in Monmouth and Cape May Counties - elected by their constituents to perform their duties in a manner that reflected their desires - had established a great working relationship with ICE. But the State Attorney General thinks he knows better what's for those communities than the people within them. I don't understand how an attorney general, the chief law enforcement officer of the state, tells other law enforcement officers under his command to ignore the law.

Perhaps he made a few friends in the statehouse and the Governor's office, but he surely did nothing to put the citizens of New Jersey at greater risk. Excuse me, he surely did nothing but put the citizens of New Jersey at greater risk.

The oath of office taken by the men and women of ICE means something to us, which is why we will adapt, like we always do. Why we will persevere, like we always do. Why we'll continue to put our lives on the line to protect the American public, despite the best efforts of those who would like to see no enforcement or open borders.

But make no mistake: Rulings from any individual federal court sitting in a single judicial district but purporting to cripple ICE authorities on a nationwide basis puts people at risk - innocent victims whose lives will be forever changed for the worse all across our great country. And we could've stopped it.

There are more than 3,000 sheriffs in this country, and the vast majority of them see the benefit in working with ICE, honoring our requests to hold someone, or even something as simple as notifying us before criminal aliens are released. We have done this for decades because it is good policy and it is even better public safety.

I'll take a few questions, but first I want to introduce **Sheriff Waybourn** from Tarrant County, Texas, to make a few remarks.

SHERIFF WAYBOURN: Thank you, Matt. It's an honor to be here, especially standing with our brothers and sisters in Immigration Enforcement, along with my fellow sheriffs. And let me just be clear about this, is that the narrative of trying to go after ICE and Immigrations is very much like the narrative that was used against our Vietnam returning soldiers. They're eviscerating honorable people doing noble things, standing on the wall between good and evil for you and me. And if these people want to change things, Capitol Hill is down the street. And that's where they're changed at. They're not the policymakers, but people will often get confused with that.

But drilling down just a little bit, in Tarrant County, Texas - it's the 15th largest county in the nation - is this morning, we had 4,200 inmates. Out of that, 7 percent were illegal aliens. And they were being held for



such offenses as murder, sexual assault of children - there was about 70 of them - and there were robbers in there, and kidnappers, and people who committed arson, and people who were DWI.

And out of that, you know, you think about that, if we returned them with this radical ruling out of California, where you have a federal judge making law for the nation, or attempting to, it will put our communities in jeopardy.

Of those people that we have in custody, we know for a fact that 72 percent of them are repeat offenders. So if we have to turn them loose, or they get released - they're coming back to your neighborhood and my neighborhood - these drunks will run over your children and they will run over my children. And if that happens, I know that you will want, and certainly I would want for you, the full force of the law. And Immigrations is part of that full force. These people have come into the country illegally. And I understand that many of these migrants come across that river, down there in Texas, looking for a better day, for something better for their family. And I don't think anybody disagrees with that.

But the problem is, the very people that they were fleeing, who preyed upon them, came with them. And that's who we're trying to initially eliminate out of our country.

In Tarrant County, you have to commit a Class-B misdemeanor or higher to even have your immigration status challenged in our jail. But it's in our jail that that happens at. They've already committed another offense to get there.

And - but with victims - and there's plenty of them - and the people that we have in jail are here illegally in the first place. Then they commit an offense against one of our citizens, and often, some people from their own community. For instance, aggravated sexual assault on children are not children who are legally here. They're their children that are here illegally. And, fortunately, those people are crying out and we're taking care of them and treating them as victims. We work with ICE on those things, and they're not deported. We don't even ask them their immigration status. We make sure that we can prosecute these people to the full extent of the law. And once again, that full extent includes their immigration status.

And I - you know, as in Texas, as the Director said, we take an oath of office down there, and it says we will defend the Constitution and will uphold the federal laws. And anything less than that, such as the Attorney General in New Jersey, I think he forsakes his oath.

Thank you.

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: Excuse me, I'm going to have Assistant Director Gonzalez speak briefly, and then I'll answer your questions. Thank you.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR GONZALEZ: Thank you, Director. Good morning. It's an honor to be here today representing the men and women of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. First off, I want to say I've been with ICE since it was created, and prior to that, I was with Immigration and Naturalization Service. So I've been in public service over 20 years, and I have served in many administrations.

I also help lead the Victims of Immigration Crime Engagement Office, a very important office where we're helping victims who have been impacted by crimes committed by individuals with a nexus to immigration.

I've had to hold the hand of too many mothers who have lost a child to a DUI, or somebody else who's been raped by an illegal alien or someone with a nexus to immigration. It is a problem. It is a problem we cannot ignore as a country. We have the sovereign responsibility to protect our borders.



And the fact of the matter is, while crime happens in America, these people weren't supposed to be here in the first place unlawfully, in many of these cases. So, many of these people violated immigration law and then subsequently went and killed others. It is a problem, and it is one that should not be partisan.

We have people that are being victimized - and not just Americans being victimized; other people from other countries as well that are here lawfully. And also, individuals that may be here unlawfully, as the Sheriff said, are being victimized or being raped or being abused.

So I really want to impart the importance of this conversation: that public safety needs to come before any political rhetoric. And this is about public safety. And, really, I think that everybody needs to have this conversation where, sure, crime happens, but these crimes were preventable because many of these individuals shouldn't have been here in the country in the first place.

So I just wanted to share that with you. Thank you.

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: Sir.

Q Is there a new approach or a new outreach that you all might consider? Just because it seems like this thing is going the wrong direction on you. You got the probable cause case out in the West Coast. You got this GitHub contract controversy going. D.C. Council here, right in town, just voted essentially to go the other way from, you know, what you've been advocating. Is there a new approach you can try?

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: So, this is part of that new approach, but frankly, we liaise with these jurisdictions continually. Our field office directors, our special agents in charge, have relationships in these jurisdictions.

I think as I mentioned last time I was up here, Secretary Johnson himself went to New York City, went to Chicago multiple times, trying to get these jurisdictions to cooperate with this. This is not a new problem. This is not a problem limited to one administration. This is a problem in which politics - and people are using politics and putting it ahead of public safety.

Why doesn't the D.C. City Council try to figure out a way to help us to get these criminals out? If everybody is complaining about resources and they don't have enough cops to work the area, one of the easiest ways is as **Sheriff Waybourn** mentioned. A lot of these are recidivist offenders. We know, out in California, out of one cohort that we've been tracking, 46 percent of these individuals are repeat offenders.

So it's these jurisdictions that are continually dealing with the crime problems created by these individuals. It seems perfectly logical to find a way, if they're here unlawfully, to assist us to get them out of those communities.

Q But there's no middle ground, right? I mean, how - there's got to be something you can say to those -

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: What's the middle ground on public safety? How safe? Do we want to be somewhat safe or do we want to be as safe as possible? I don't think there's a middle ground for public safety.

Q But they won't negotiate or anything.

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: Ma'am.

Q Yes. What do you attribute the spike in illegal crossings to at the end of the fiscal year of this year?



ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: I mean, this is something that we've spoken about a significant amount. I'll answer it briefly because I really want to stay on the topic. But we've talked about -

Q Well, it is topic.

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: Well, what we're talking about here is public safety. We're talking about criminal aliens that are - people that are here illegally already then getting engaged in other criminal activity.

The spike with regard to crossings, as we've documented very well: the fact that Congress has failed to act to fix the Flores loophole, to fix the TVPRA. Those pull factors, which allow people to come to this country, present as a family or as a UAC, and are - us having to ability to detain those individuals during the pendency of the immigration process, and thus having them be released. It's all about the release. The goal of these people is to - that are coming here illegally, is to get into the country and to be released.

Q But haven't you stepped up measures? Sorry, haven't you stepped up measures, though, with personnel as well as surveillance and things of that nature to help prevent or to push back those who are coming across the border?

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: So, again, we've - under this administration, we've created a lot of programs. And as you've seen the numbers, they've gone down somewhat over the past several months. We're still not out of the crisis. But the Migrant Protection Protocols program, the IFR with regard to safe third countries, the 71 miles of new wall that's been built - I would love to have put more resource to it.

And this is one of the problems with this issue, is that we've had to redeploy our ICE resources to support the Border Patrol and Customs and Border Protection with those challenges at the border, which has made us less safe because we've had some field offices where we've had to shut down our at-large criminal alien teams so that they could handle the influx of people that are coming to this country illegally, as well as the increase in people in detention.

As a result, we arrest - we're going to arrest about 15,000 or so fewer criminal aliens this year as a result of what's going on at the border.

So, for those people that say we should be going after the worst of the worst and going after criminal aliens, I would love to, but that has to come with strong border security.

Sir.

Q Thank you. You opened your remarks by criticizing a federal judge who ruled that you couldn't use databases that were inaccurate enough that they were causing you to detain American citizens. So what I'm just trying to figure out, sir: Under what circumstances do you think that judges should be able to order your agency to do or not do things? Do you reject the courts' authority to tell you what the law is?

And also, Hogan, it's been 213 days since our last briefing. Could you maybe come up here when they're done and talk to us for a bit?

MR. HOGAN: I'll discuss that with you afterwards. This is about another topic.

Go ahead, sir.

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: So, unfortunately, the litigation is ongoing and there's very little I could say more than what I've said already. Obviously, we respect judge rulings - judges' rulings. We do that all day. We're law enforcement officers, and we have to respect the -



Q (Inaudible) -

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: Excuse me, I'm answering your question.

Q Okay.

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: We respect the laws that Congress has passed, and we enforce them in accordance with the matter in which Congress has said. When judicial rulings come out, we abide by those judicial rulings. If those judicial rulings are overturned, then we abide by that.

We don't get the ability, nor should we have the ability, to pick and choose what laws that we should enforce.

Ma'am.

Q But the judge was telling you, sir, that -

Q Thank you, Acting Director Albence -

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: Ma'am, go ahead.

Q Thank you. You said that with the lack of cooperation, you're always adapting - you're looking at ways of adapting. What are you currently doing? There have been talks of DNA sampling, facial recognition. Can you just explain that a little bit better?

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: So, we're utilizing DNA sampling right now in the border environment, trying to ferret out the false families. As I mentioned earlier, many of the individuals that are coming here to this country are not legitimate families.

So, the family units, they're utilizing the loopholes in the Flores Settlement Agreement to come here as a family, which has led to significant numbers of children being recycled and victimized for the sole purpose of unrelated adults posing as a family unit with those children. That's what the DNA sampling goes after. We're hitting about a 15 percent rate of individuals or families presenting as families that really aren't families. And we're prosecuting those cases.

We got great support from the U.S. Attorney's Office along the southwest border, but we've processed more - or, excuse me, prosecuted more than 1,000 cases along the southwest border dealing with fraudulent families or imposters.

We've also seen instances in which unaccompanied alien children, or adults are posing as unaccompanied alien children - 18-, 19-, 20-, 21-year-olds posing as 15-, 16-year-olds. And those children - those adults, unfortunately, end up in an HHS shelter that's full of children. That is an unsafe environment for those children if you're putting adults in there.

Q Director, but in regards to criminals being released and your office is not - or your agency not notified, how are you dealing with that and adapting to that? And in regards to the judge's ruling in California that says this digital option or the database is not relevant?

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: Right. So, you know, we're continuing to look to modify ways in which we can conduct our enforcement operations. Now that the (inaudible) on the border has slowed a bit, we're able to pull back some of our resources and get them back out on the street. We rely upon our partners. We've increased the 287(g) program from 32, in 2017, to 79, now.



We have a Warrant Service Officer program, which is a limited authority program which will allow those cooperating jurisdictions to actually effectuate arrests on our behalf. As we expand that, that will give us greater bandwidth.

The easiest answer is: Congress can give us more resources for both officers and attorneys to work these cases, but they haven't been deemed fit to do so.

Q Sir, can you just - to follow up on that, to what degree are you still targeting undocumented families as a deterrent to other migrants?

And my second question is, are you planning to conduct more workplace operations like we saw in Mississippi over the summer?

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: So, the families that we are going after are those that have had the opportunity to avail themselves of due process in the immigration court system and have either not shown up, as the vast majority - about 87 percent, last time I checked the numbers, of those cases that were placed in the accelerated docket - have failed to show up for even their initial court hearing. Those that do go through the court process and are ordered removed by an immigration judge, it's incumbent upon us to effectuate those removal orders so that there's integrity to the system.

Our system is going to have no integrity if these removal orders are not actually effectuated. So we will continue, as we said back when we started this family unit operation, we'll continue to do it. We have teams out there every day going after these family units. And it's not - it's not a matter of deterrence. Deterrence is an effect of us enforcing the law.

What was your second question?

Q How has that operation grown? How has it grown?

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: How has it grown?

Q Since the President pushed for it?

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: Well, the number - the number of families that continue to fail to show up for their court hearings and then get removal orders continues to grow.

Q Director, a follow-up about the workplace operations that we saw in Mississippi?

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: So, Mississippi was just one operation. We enforced more than 400 laws that Congress has passed. Those laws regarding legal employment and worksite enforcement are part of that portfolio. We'll continue to do those cases.

Sir.

Q Director, thank you. Quick question about what you want the American people to understand about the crisis itself. They will hear this, they will hear you, and they will want the brass tax. What are you trying to say, simply speaking, about what you're attempting to do and what you're not getting from other stakeholders, like congressional lawmakers and local law enforcement, or rather, local leadership, in places like Chicago or Texas or whatever?

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: What I would tell them is that if they live in a sanctuary jurisdiction, their elected and appointed leaders are making them less safe.



Yes, sir.

Q Could you speak to the issue of the accuracy of the databases that ICE is using -

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: Obviously, as I mentioned -

Q - that, at times, led to the arrest of American citizens? Is ICE getting better at this?

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: So, I can't speak to ongoing litigation. As part of our investigations, we'll be taking enforcement actions against somebody. That includes a very substantial investigation into an individual's background.

Many times, individuals that we come across that are United States citizens don't even know that they are, because the laws around citizenship are so complicated.

Ma'am.

Q Director, a follow. A couple of questions. I want to follow up with you on something that I asked your counterpart at CBP earlier this week. How many children are currently being held at the border?

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: Okay, so, that's a perfect question for Mark Morgan, because he controls the detention facilities. ICE has no authority to detain children. Under the TVPRA, ICE has -

Q You're not briefed on those numbers at all? You don't know? Okay.

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: I'm sure he answered you at the time you asked it.

Q No, we haven't gotten an answer yet -

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: I would follow up with his press people, I'm sorry.

Q - which is why I was wondering if you guys had an answer.

Broader question: The President has expressed concerns about terrorists making their way across the border - the need to prevent that. Given what we're seeing in Syria right now, given that there are reports that ISIS fighters are being released as we speak, how concerned are you about that? What are you doing to make sure that they don't, in fact, cross over if they were to make their way here? And are you in touch with any counterparts (inaudible)?

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: So, we have an extensive attach\xE9 network within our Homeland Security investigations. We have visa security posts in over 35 locations throughout the world. We continue to expand those programs as Congress gives us funding with which to do so. ICE is the second-largest participant in the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force. We do a significant amount of investigations involving individuals that are suspected of or believe -

Look, this agency - in fact, this entire department - was sworn after 9/11. Our primary mission is national security. And that goes along with public safety.

Sir.

Q Again, just to follow up on something I asked you last time you were here: One of the biggest complaints that sanctuary jurisdictions have about ICE is that they would like to cooperate, but when victims - as you noted, most of the victims of crime of illegal immigrants are themselves illegal immigrants, and when they come forward and show up, you all prosecute them and take them away as well. Can you assure that



community that that's not the case? Can you make a guarantee that you will not go after the victims of crime but those that are perpetrating the crime?

And to follow up - and just a real quick follow to what you said earlier about having to help out Border Patrol: Is that not because there are - we have been promised - the President promised like 10,000 new Border Patrol agents, but because of pay disputes, you haven't been able to hire that many?

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: Well, let me address that one first. We can only hire the people that Congress appropriates funds for. ICE has no problem hiring people. Our non-retirement -

Q You're helping out Border Patrol because they have been able to hire -

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: Understand we can only hire up to the level that Congress has authorized and appropriated. So, we fill our vacancies very quickly. We don't have a problem with hiring individuals. Our non-attrition - excuse me, non-retirement attrition rate is about 2 percent.

Q That's in ICE?

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: That's in ICE, correct.

Q Okay. And then -

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: I can't speak to CBP's hiring.

But to your first question - and as the Sheriff mentioned there - and I believe I mentioned this last time: We generally find out about an individual through their interaction with the criminal justice system. That interaction means that they were booked into a jurisdiction's facility, their fingerprints were run, their data was taken. They bounce off the FBI's databases and they bounce off our databases. That is how we find out about these individuals.

Victims are not booked into criminal custody. Absent that, we would not be out there looking for victims. We would not even know who the - in most cases - I'm answering your question.

Q Sure.

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: In most cases, we would not know who the victims are.

And I will tell you, in many of these cases that we work jointly with our state and local partners, we have an extensive network of victim assistance specialists within ICE because we deal with so many victims when it comes to human trafficking, smuggling, when it comes to child exploitation. We deal with victims all day long, unfortunately. I wish we didn't have to deal with so many victims, but we do. And we're very skilled at working with them. And we work with prosecutors and everybody in the criminal justice system to ensure that if there is a case that they want to prosecute, that they have the people available to do so.

Q But if they come forward do you have to get rid of them?

Q Yes, sir. You mentioned resource reallocation. I'm wondering if you can provide us any breakdown between arrests and deportation of people with final orders of removal, versus anyone with past criminal convictions and other people of interest.

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: So we've been putting - well, first off, we can only remove those individuals with final orders of removal. So everybody that we remove has a final order of removal. So we removed, I believe, 246,000 or so people last year. Every one of those individuals had a final order of removal.



We'll probably arrest around 140,000 people this year. We'll be releasing our numbers in the not-too-distant future. I don't have the exact breakdown of how many of those already have final orders. But that's a good question and one that I think there's misinformation out there about.

When we arrest somebody that's here illegally, if they have not already been through the court process and had their due process, they get that ability. This is the front end of the process. Just when these sheriffs arrest somebody for aggravated assault or domestic violence, that arrest - they don't go from arrest to prison and serve a sentence. They have to go through the judicial process within the criminal justice system. We have a process within the Executive Office of Immigration Review that provides for that same due process in the immigration courts.

Sir, right behind you.

Q Thanks, sir. Yeah. There are rumors of - a couple of months ago, there was an attempted attack at a Tacoma ICE facility, and there's been a lot of social media threats toward ICE facilities or agents. Has that been a problem in terms of the ability to enforce laws? And has there been extra protection for agents or anything like that?

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: So, obviously, the safety and security of our personnel, officers and non-officers alike, is our primary concern. I think that's why we've been so strident with our concerns about some of the ugly rhetoric that has been utilized around this issue and the vilification of the men and women of ICE and CBP and our other DHS partners that are merely enforcing the laws that Congress has passed.

It's especially disheartening when it comes from individuals who actually have the ability to pass laws or change laws if they don't like them. But instead, they would rather vilify our officers for doing their sworn duties.

You know, a third of our officers are military veterans. They were heroes before they ever strapped on a badge. And they should be given the respect as any other law enforcement officer in this country.

So it is, yes. And I'm very concerned. It's dangerous. And hopefully those people that have opinions as to how immigration enforcement should be conducted would do so in a professional and responsible manner.

MR. GIDLEY: Let's do one more.

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: One more.

Q Sir, we you mentioned the GitHub issue earlier. I wonder if you could comment on that, whether -

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: I can't. I can't.

Q Is that contract - are you having any problem as ICE getting (inaudible)?

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: I learned about it this morning so I can't really -

Q But you're not having no problem? Are tech companies willing to work with you given the current discourse between you and Secretary -

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: No, we're - we're doing fine.

Q Okay.

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: So, I want to get one question that's on topic. Sir.



Q You mentioned that 246,000 people were removed last year. Do you have any data about how many were criminal and how many were families?

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: We do. It's on our website. I would say about criminals - and I don't want to get it wrong, but it's in the 140,000 or so range. But it's right on our website. If you go to our FY18 yearend report you can look at it.

Q But you don't have the data for '19 yet?

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: We have the data for '19. I don't have it in - we're going through and vetting it. And we're releasing it shortly.

Q Do you expect an expansion of the counties that are working right now - the 287(g) counties? And how many more do you think will join up?

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: I mean, I can't predict the future. I think we will. We've seen the expansion. Again, the best partners when it comes to us working in the civil immigration enforcement and getting criminal aliens off the street are these sheriffs right here.

We work very closely with a lot of police departments, with our Homeland Security investigations doing criminal investigations. But generally, the entities that are detaining individuals for their criminal violations are the sheriffs. And those are the ones that we work with closely. I expect we will continue to expand it.

Thank you very much for your time.

END

11:39 A.M. EDT

(The White House, the United States)

Load-Date: October 11, 2019

End of Document

[Son of Tarrant County sheriff remains in jail after being accused of exposing himself](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

October 14, 2019 Monday

Copyright 2019 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram
Found on DFW.com

Section: crime

Length: 362 words



Byline: Domingo Ramirez Jr. and Anna Tinsley

Star-Telegram

Dateline: Fort Worth

Body

The adopted son of Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** remained in jail Monday after Arlington police say he exposed himself to passing motorists.

Sergei Waybourn, 24, of Arlington, was in the Tarrant County Jail on Monday in lieu of \$500 bail. He faces a charge of indecent exposure, according to jail records.

Arlington police were dispatched to the 1300 block of N. Collins St. in Arlington about 11:45 p.m. Friday in reference to a man exposing himself.

Officers arrived, saw the suspect and arrested him. He also was taken into custody on an outstanding warrant out of Arlington for public intoxication.

The sheriff said that he and his family are disappointed by his son's actions.

"It has been many years since he disassociated from our family," according to Waybourn's statement released over the weekend. "We, along with many family members have made efforts over the years to help him -- all to no avail. It is always sad when drugs take control of a person's life. His choices and actions have to led this situation."

Just days before the arrest, **Sheriff Waybourn** drew national attention for speaking during a White House press briefing with ICE officials.

While talking about the jail population that includes undocumented immigrants, drunken drivers and repeat offenders, Waybourn said that if released, "these drunks will run over your children and they will run over my children."

If that were to happen, he said, "I know that you would want...the full force of the law. And immigration is part of that full force."

Sergei Waybourn has a criminal history in Tarrant County, according to Tarrant County criminal court records. He was last arrested by Arlington police in January and was charged with theft under \$2,500.

He was sentenced to nine months in jail on the theft charge, according to court records.

Before January, Sergei Waybourn had been charged three times with criminal trespassing and twice with theft in the past two years. In June 2018, he was charged with assault, according to records.

Sergei Waybourn is one of **Bill Waybourn's** nine children. He is one of seven children the Waybourns adopted, according to the Tarrant County Sheriff's department website.

Load-Date: October 14, 2019



Copyright 2019 THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

DallasNews.com

Section: METRO & STATE; Pg. B02

Length: 670 words

Body

ARLINGTON

Sheriff's son arrested on

intoxication, exposure charges

The son of Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** was arrested Friday on charges of public intoxication and indecent exposure, jail records show.

Arlington police arrested Sergei Waybourn near AT&T Stadium, just a few days after the sheriff sparked controversy with comments he made at the White House about some of Tarrant County's jailed unauthorized immigrants.

Bill Waybourn was at a Washington, D.C., event Thursday opposing a judge's decision to end the use of unreliable databases when U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement requests local law enforcement hold someone facing possible deportation. The sheriff said the ruling would make it difficult to keep in jail unauthorized immigrants charged with DUIs. While noting that many are repeat offenders, he said, "These drunks will run over your children, and they will run over my children."

He faced immediate criticism from people who believed his comments were bigoted and an attack on immigrants as a whole — a sentiment the Tarrant County Sheriff's Department denied. "He was speaking toward the charges of DWI and DWI repeat offenders in the context of illegal immigration," the sheriff's office said in a statement, clarifying that Waybourn wasn't referring to all immigrants.

Sergei Waybourn has previous arrests for trespassing and theft in recent years. He was charged with assault in 2018.

LaVendrick Smith

DENTON

20-year-old man fatally



stabbed; no suspects identified

Police have not identified a suspect in the fatal stabbing of a 20-year-old man found Saturday night in Denton.

Officers who responded about 7:30 p.m. found the wounded man in the 3600 block of East McKinney Street, near Loop 288. The man, whose name has not been released, died at a hospital.

Police said the stabbing appears to be an isolated incident. No further details were released.

Dana Branham

MANSFIELD

Man gets life sentence

for beating his wife

A Tarrant County jury on Thursday sentenced a Mansfield man to life in prison for beating his wife and then blaming her injuries on a fall.

Aaron Sebastian Redmond, 45, also faces two additional 10-year prison terms. He was found guilty of aggravated assault of a family member causing serious bodily injury, tampering with evidence and retaliation, according to the Tarrant County district attorney's office.

Redmond was arrested after he assaulted his wife, than barricaded himself and his 3-year-old son inside his home.

The assault took place July 26, 2018, in the 1100 block of Doubletree Lane. Redmond injured his wife, then dropped her off at a fire station to be treated for injuries that he claimed she suffered in a fall.

Officers suspected Redmond had hurt his wife. When they arrived at his home, they found him barricaded inside with his son. Redmond was taken into custody after a four-hour standoff. The toddler was not harmed.

Sarah Sarder

RICHLAND HILLS

Man arrested after elderly

woman found slain in home

Authorities have arrested a 27-year-old man after an elderly woman was found slain in her Richland Hills home.

Police were called to a home in the 2800 block of Matthews Drive about 9 p.m. Saturday to conduct a welfare check on the woman. A neighbor had reported that the woman wasn't answering the door and that her dog was dead on the home's porch.

Officers found the 73-year-old woman dead inside the home. Her name has not been released.

A man police described as the victim's roommate became a suspect in the case and was arrested in Dallas about 10 a.m. Sunday.



The suspect's name has not been released, but Dallas County jail records showed that Stephen Alexander Tufts, 27, was booked on a murder charge Sunday morning. Court records list his address as the home where the woman's body was found.

Denton County court records show that Tufts pleaded no-contest to a misdemeanor count of family violence assault in 2016. He was sentenced to deferred-adjudication probation, and the case was dismissed after he completed 14 months of community supervision.

Tom Steele

Load-Date: October 14, 2019

End of Document

[Texas Sheriff Blasts Immigrant 'Drunks'—Then Son Is Busted for Public Intoxication; Tarrant County Sheriff Bill Waybourn sparked outrage with his remark about undocumented immigrants with repeat DWIs.](#)

The Daily Beast

October 13, 2019 Sunday

Copyright 2019 ProQuest Information and Learning

All Rights Reserved

Copyright 2019 The Newsweek/Daily Beast Company LLC

Length: 118 words

Byline: Tracy Connor

Dateline: New York

Body

FULL TEXT

A day after a Texas sheriff caused an uproar by referring to undocumented immigrants as "drunks," his son was reportedly arrested on charges of public intoxication and indecent exposure. Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** went to Washington on Thursday to protest a court ruling affecting immigrants charged with driving under the influence. "These drunks will run over your children, and they will run over my children," he said, according to the Dallas Morning News. On Friday, his adopted son Sergei, who has arrests for trespassing and assault, found himself in cuffs again. In a statement, the sheriff said he was "deeply saddened by Sergei's choices" and that he was estranged from the family.

Load-Date: October 14, 2019



End of Document

[Son of Texas sheriff who slammed illegal immigrants as 'drunks' who 'will run over your children' is arrested for public intoxication](#)

MailOnline

October 13, 2019 Sunday 10:13 PM GMT

Copyright 2019 Associated Newspapers Ltd. All Rights Reserved

MailOnline

Section: NEWS; Version:2

Length: 1395 words

Byline: Ariel Zilber For Dailymail.comAssociated Press

Body

- Sergei Waybourn was arrested by authorities in Arlington, Texas on Friday for public intoxication and indecent exposure
- Waybourn is the son of Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn**, who made headlines on Thursday for comments about illegal immigrants
- **Bill Waybourn** spoke from the White House podium about repeat-offender drink drivers who he has to release because of federal judges
- 'If we have to turn them loose or they get released, they're coming back to your neighborhood and my neighborhood. These drunks will run over your children'
- Waybourn was criticizing a September 28 ruling by a federal judge barring ICE from using unreliable databases to detain illegal aliens released from local jail

The adopted son of a Texas sheriff who stood at the White House podium and warned against illegal immigrant 'drunks' who 'will run over your children' was arrested for public intoxication and indecent exposure.

Sergei Waybourn, whose adoptive father is Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn**, was arrested near AT&T Stadium in Arlington on Friday, according to the Dallas Morning News.

A day earlier, Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** sparked outrage when he stood at the podium of the White House briefing room and railed against a federal court ruling that forces local law enforcement to release jailed illegal immigrants rather than turning them over to Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

Sergei Waybourn has previous arrests for trespassing and theft, according to the Morning News.

Last year, he was charged with assault.



Bill Waybourn was invited to the White House to denounce the recent decision by U.S. District Judge Andre Birotte Jr in Los Angeles that forbids ICE from detaining anyone based solely on database searches that were found to be unreliable.

Waybourn, however, said the decision endangers communities.

He said 7 per cent of the 4,200 inmates in his jail are in the U.S. illegally, and 72 per cent of them are repeat offenders.

They include people 'being held for such offense as murder, sexual assault of children - there were about 70 of them - and there were robbers in there, and kidnappers, and people who committed arson, and people who were DWI [offenders],' he told reporters at the White House.

'If we have to turn them loose, or they get released, they're coming back to your neighborhood and my neighborhood,' said Waybourne.

'These drunks will run over your children, and they will run over my children. And if that happens, I know that you will want, and I would want for you, the full force of the law. And immigration is part of that full force.'

Officials have used charged rhetoric to highlight cases of crimes committed by illegal immigrants.

The acting director of ICE said during Thursday's briefing that his agency is administering DNA tests to asylum seekers and other immigrants 'to ferret out the false families' taking advantage of rules governing the detention of children.

Matthew Albence said the DNA tests have assisted in the prosecution of 'more than 1,000' migrants claiming to be 'fraudulent families or imposters' so that they can be released into the United States.

Albence claimed they are identifying 'loopholes' in a court settlement prohibiting the detention of children for more than 20 days by the federal government.

'So, we're utilizing DNA sampling right now in the border environment, trying to ferret out the false families,' he said, claiming it 'has led to significant numbers of children being recycled and victimized' by unrelated adults.

He said, 'That's what the DNA sampling goes after. We're hitting about a 15 percent rate of individuals or families presenting as families that really aren't families. And we're prosecuting those cases.'

Albence also stated that young adults are posing as unaccompanied teens to skirt the laws and it's posing a danger to children who are lawfully in the shelters.

'That is an unsafe environment for those children if you're putting adults in there,' he said during a briefing at the podium.

Texas sheriff's White House comments about criminal aliens

'In Tarrant County, Texas, it's the 15th largest county in the nation, this morning we had 4,200 inmates. Out of that, 7 per cent were illegal aliens. And they were being held for such offense as murder, sexual assault of children - there were about 70 of them.

'And there were robbers in there, and kidnappers, and people who committed arson, and people who were DWI [offenders]. And out of that, you know, you think about that, if we returned them, with this radical ruling



out of California where you have a federal judge making law for the nation, or attempting to, it will put our communities in jeopardy.

'Of those people that we have in custody, we know for a fact that 72 per cent of them are repeat offenders. So if we have to turn them loose, or they get released, they're coming back to your neighborhood and my neighborhood.

'These drunks will run over your children, and they will run over my children. And if that happens, I know that you will want, and I would want for you, the full force of the law. And immigration is part of that full force.'

- Tarrant County, Texas Sheriff **Bill Waybourn**

Albence called the September ruling an example of 'judicial overreach' that threatened public safety.

ICE cross-checks jail rosters around the U.S. with federal databases that track people's nationality and immigration status.

When it detects that a person is unauthorized to be in the U.S., ICE will issue a detainer asking the agency to hold the person until he or she can be taken into immigration custody.

Advocates allege relying on electronic databases alone to issue detainers is unreliable because they often have erroneous data and can lead to falsely accusing people of being in the U.S. illegally.

Citing ICE's data, Birotte wrote that 42 detainers between May 2015 and February 2016 were explicitly lifted because the person was a citizen. Nearly 800 detainers out of almost 13,000 issued during that time were withdrawn because the person was a citizen 'or otherwise not subject to removal,' the judge wrote.

Asked about the detention of Americans, Albence said he could not speak about ongoing litigation.

'Many times, individuals that we come across that are United States citizens don't even know that they are because the laws around citizenship are so complicated,' he said.

Jennie Pasquarella, a lawyer with the American Civil Liberties Union of Southern California, which helped bring the lawsuit, said the ruling was 'critical to protecting the rights of everyone' and ensuring that ICE does not subject people to baseless arrests and detention.

U.S. immigration agencies earlier this year detained an American-born 18-year-old for more than three weeks even though he had copies of paperwork documenting his citizenship.

A Democratic congresswoman from California visiting a Border Patrol processing center in South Texas in July encountered a 13-year-old girl holding a U.S. passport next to her mother, who had been accused of crossing the border illegally.

Albence spoke next to local sheriffs from around the U.S. who are cooperating with ICE. As the agency has faced resistance to its operations in some parts of the country, the Trump administration has held several White House events featuring local officials who support its immigration priorities.

Sheriff Waybourn acknowledged that 'many of these migrants come across that river, down there in Texas, looking for a better day, for something better for their family. And I don't think anybody disagrees with that.'

'But the problem is, the very people that they were fleeing, who preyed upon them, came with them. And that's who we're trying to initially eliminate out of our country.'



Pasquarella said Waybourn's statement was 'fueled by xenophobia and racism'.

'They're applying this narrative they would never apply to citizens just because they're not citizens,' she said.

At the White House, Waybourn also said that the narrative against law enforcement officers is similar to the one that was 'used against our Vietnam returning soldiers' and critics should run for office if they want to see a rule change.

'They're eviscerating honorable people doing noble things, standing on the wall between good and evil for you and me. And if these people want to change things, Capitol Hill is down the street,' he said.

Load-Date: October 14, 2019

End of Document

[Son of Texas sheriff who said illegal immigrants were risk to 'my children' is arrested for indecent exposure](#)

The Examiner (Washington, DC)

October 13, 2019 Sunday

Copyright 2019 ProQuest Information and Learning
All Rights Reserved
Copyright 2019 Clarity Media Group, Inc. Oct 13, 2019

Length: 313 words

Byline: Zachary Halaschak

Dateline: Washington, D.C.

Body

FULL TEXT

Days after a Texas sheriff warned about the risk illegal immigrants pose to children, his son was arrested for indecent exposure.

Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn's** adopted son, Sergei Waybourn, was arrested Saturday by police in Arlington, Texas. He was charged with public intoxication and indecent exposure, according to the Dallas Morning News.

Sheriff Waybourn had upset some residents in his county with his comments during a White House visit on Thursday. Waybourn was speaking at an event in opposition to a judge's ruling to end the use of certain databases when U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement asks law enforcement to hold someone facing potential deportation.



Waybourn said the decision presents challenges with keeping illegal immigrants who are charged with driving under the influence in jail.

“These drunks will run over your children, and they will run over my children,” the sheriff said, highlighting that some illegal immigrants are repeat offenders.

Waybourn faced condemnation from those who believed he was referring to all immigrants and not only illegal immigrants who commit DUIs.

“He was speaking toward the charges of DWI and DWI repeat offenders in the context of illegal immigration,” a statement from the sheriff’s office clarified.

Waybourn’s son has been arrested a number of times before, including for assault and theft. The sheriff released a statement Saturday noting that his son has been “dissociated” from his family for years.

“The family and I are deeply saddened by Sergei’s choices. It has been many years since he disassociated from our family. We, along with many family members have made efforts over the years to help him - all to no avail. It is always sad when drugs take control of a person’s life. His choices and actions have lead to this situation,” the statement read.

Photo Caption:Police units respond on scene.

Load-Date: October 14, 2019

End of Document

[Republicans, it's time for a reckoning over Donald Trump](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

October 13, 2019 Sunday

Copyright 2019 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: letters_to_the_editor

Length: 536 words

Byline: The Star-Telegram

Star-Telegram

Body

Election security, not politics



The lying and deflecting in defense of President Donald Trump's Ukraine call are in maximum overdrive. But they're still not succeeding because of Trump's own words, in the White House's own readout of the call: "I would like you to do us a favor, though."

Scrambling Republicans are saying, "OK, he said it, but it's not impeachable. Let the election settle it."

This scandal is about election interference from a foreign country. And don't forget, this corruption would have been done in secret, without American citizens ever knowing it occurred, without the whistleblower.

- Blake K. Wallace, Arlington

This time, it is really different

For months, as the subject of impeaching President Donald Trump roiled in the news, my steadfast opinion was that regardless of how abhorrent I found his behavior, his eviction must come through the election process. His supporters say the same today.

My belief was unswayed by Trump's outrageous conduct, damaging international posturing and feckless domestic leadership. Pivotal to my thinking was the assumption of a fair election process.

But now we have compelling evidence that Trump has actively worked to corrupt that process. Without fair elections, our nation ceases to be a republic.

Impeachment is now our only recourse.

- Clement Kichuk, Austin

Nobody above oath of office

President Donald Trump is a clear and present danger. He is in a downward spiral as he continues to ask foreign countries to investigate fraudulent charges against his 2020 political opponents.

This blatant, open disregard for our democracy and rule of law compels me to wonder: Which of our local mayors and city councils will be the first to call on their members of Congress to support impeachment?

Our children are watching. Our elected representatives take the same oath, to preserve and protect the laws of Texas and the United States, that the president does.

Silence is complicity.

- Stephen "Buddy" Luce, Southlake

Send the military to the border

Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill E. Waybourn** told it like it is about criminals, including undocumented immigrants, in jails like Tarrant County's. (Oct. 11, 1A, "Texas sheriff draws national attention for ICE comments")

He said that 72% of the inmates in his jail are repeat offenders. Some repeat this pattern a dozen times or more.

This has been going on all over America. These criminals are coddled in our justice system.

Send the foreign ones home. Pull our troops from other countries and put them on the border.



- Jack O. Lewis, Haltom City

Not what that word means

President Donald Trump says the House impeachment inquiry is a "coup." Apparently, this is another word he doesn't understand.

If he should be impeached and removed, Vice President Mike Pence would take over. In a real coup he would be replaced by the leader of the investigation, Rep. Adam Schiff. That will not happen.

- Delmar H. Dolbier, Fort Worth

'Corruption' is a smokescreen

I find it very ironic that the president insists his main goal is to expose corruption. Historians will record President Donald Trump as the most corrupt chief executive in American history.

I say make America great again by dumping Trump.

- T.N. Taylor, Colleyville

Load-Date: October 13, 2019

End of Document

LETTERS

THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS
October 12, 2019 Saturday, 1 EDITION

Copyright 2019 THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

DallasNews.com

Section: EDITORIALS; Pg. A11

Length: 791 words

Body

Talking about recidivists

Re: "Sheriff blasts ruling on migrants — Tarrant lawman takes heat for words at White House about repeat DWI offenders," Friday news story.

As predictable as thunder following distant lightning were the howls by the League of United Latin American Citizens and a few others in response to Sheriff **Bill Waybourn's** comments on the handling of criminals who are in this country illegally.



Anyone who actually listened to Waybourn's speech knows that his words and actions were not racist, and that he was not disparaging an entire race or immigrants in general.

He was speaking of recidivists who happen to be illegal immigrants and the wisdom of not releasing them to threaten the public again.

But the self-appointed spokesperson for Latinos, Domingo Garcia, rarely lets facts get in the way of his rants. His too-frequent playing of the race card does a disservice to citizens in general and Latinos in particular. They and we deserve better.

I've known **Bill Waybourn** for over 20 years and can attest to his fairness, honesty and clear thinking.

He is a true gentleman who is unlikely to let himself be drawn into a silly tug-of-war with someone with such an obvious political agenda.

Phil S. Mayfield, Dallas

Cornyn on Trump

For months, Texans have been waiting for Sen. John Cornyn to break his silence and address the many scandals involving President Donald Trump.

He finally did by asking, in New York magazine on Thursday: "Do I wish President Trump hadn't raised the issue with the Ukrainian president? Yes. Should he have left it to Attorney General Bob Barr and U.S. Attorney John Durham to raise what role — if any — Ukrainians played in the 2016 election including serving as a conduit for the Russian intelligence agencies who hacked Clinton's emails? Yes. But really, is it right for Democrats to now call for his removal from office over this?"

He said this on the same day that associates for Trump's personal attorney, Rudy Giuliani, were arrested for conspiring to funnel money from Ukraine to affect the U.S. elections — the same attorney Trump directed in his call transcript.

You have answered your own question, Cornyn — yes! But stop making this a Democrats thing. It is the American people and all those who support the U.S. Constitution calling for his removal, not just Democrats.

Stop trying to defend indefensible behavior. It's people like you who have pushed me toward the Democratic Party.

Bill Hudman, Plano

Creuzot is dumbfounding

Re: "Dallas DA's Dangerous Mistake," Sept. 25 Editorials.

I am angered and dumbfounded by what I consider the prosecutorial malfeasance of Dallas County District Attorney John Creuzot.

In my 42 years of service to the city of Dallas, I have never seen a district attorney vilify law enforcement to incite the community rather than seek justice. If there are fires in this city, let it be known that Creuzot furnished the matches.

We should demand the highest behavior of our police officers, public officials and our citizens. Creuzot's standards have fallen far short of the behavior expected of a Dallas County district attorney.



His comments on the Amber Guyger trial violating the judge's gag order demonstrate his failure to consider the ramifications of his actions. Just as egregious is his unilateral defiance of statutes, creating lawlessness by saying he will no longer prosecute some property crimes.

In response, Gov. Greg Abbott and Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton wrote in April:

"Reform is one thing. Actions that abandon the rule of law and that could promote lawlessness are altogether different ... [Texas law] grants no power to criminal district attorneys to categorically rewrite the law."

Creuzot's actions are a violation of his oath of office

Paul McCaghren, North Dallas

Thursday's editorials

Seldom do I read two Dallas Morning News editorials in the same edition that strike such an emotional chord.

First, "When a Witness Is Suddenly Slain," challenging all of us to not rush to judgment. Ever. Knee-jerk speculation can indeed lead to injustice. And any injustice allowed to stand is harmful to our community at large.

Secondly, "Don't Give Up on Kids," is an important challenge to Dallas ISD to stay the course in offering its "Creating Accelerated Performance" summer camp to kids who can't read. I agree that to be successful, DISD leadership must educate parents. To do so, they must use methods designed to instruct adult parents who are also unable to read.

If the reading program is successful, I imagine the joy and much-needed inspiration a young teacher might experience having a child who could not read last year come into the classroom in the fall able to read with fluency. I would call it "collateral success."

Jesse Wade, Dallas/Lake Highlands

Load-Date: October 13, 2019

End of Document

[Peeping Tom defendant indicted for indecent exposure in front of children in Tarrant County](#)

Legal Monitor Worldwide

October 12, 2019 Saturday

Copyright 2019 Legal Monitor Worldwide Provided by Syndigate Media Inc. All Rights Reserved





Length: 176 words

Body

A 37-year-old man faces charges of possession of child pornography and exposing himself to a child, the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office says.

The department's human trafficking and child exploitation unit arrested Christopher Alan Black after it determined he exposed himself to women and children in the Watauga area and approached homes to record video of children through a window.

"We will always look to protect children from predators. The Sheriff's Office is committed to tracking down people who seek to exploit or hurt children and will be relentless in bringing them to justice for their actions," said David McClelland, chief of staff for the Tarrant County Sheriff's Department.

"**Sheriff Waybourn** started this unit when he came into office because we knew that men, women and children were being exploited right here in Tarrant County, and we knew that this unit would make a difference."

Anyone with information about the case is asked to call Det. J. Schoonover at the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office at 817-884-1436. 2019 Legal Monitor Worldwide.

Load-Date: October 12, 2019

End of Document

[**LULAC Issues Statement on Texas Sheriff Waybourn Immigrants Comment**](#)

Targeted News Service

October 11, 2019 Friday 8:10 AM EST

Copyright 2019 Targeted News Service LLC All Rights Reserved

Length: 224 words

Byline: Targeted News Service

Dateline: WASHINGTON



Body

The League of United Latin American Citizens issued the following statement by National President Domingo Garcia in response to Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** delivered remarks during a White House press briefing about border security, calling immigrants "drunks who would run over your children":

"It is appalling that a man with a badge and gun like **Sheriff Waybourn** would make such ignorant and twisted racist statements influenced by his far right-wing ideology.

"We know that in Texas, the data shows that native-born residents are much more likely to be convicted of a crime than immigrants.

"This sheriff needs to resign and apologize for his bigoted comments immediately.

"The domestic terrorist attacks in El Paso and Gilroy have shown that this rhetoric can have deadly consequences."

* * *

About LULAC

The League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) is the nation's largest and oldest civil rights volunteer-based organization that empowers Hispanic Americans and builds strong Latino communities. Headquartered in Washington, DC, with 1,000 councils around the United States and Puerto Rico, LULAC's programs, services and advocacy address the most important issues for Latinos, meeting critical needs of today and the future. For more information, visit <https://lulac.org/>

Copyright Targeted News Services

MSTRUCK-6888524 MSTRUCK

Load-Date: October 11, 2019

End of Document

[Press Briefing by Acting ICE Director Matthew Albence](#)

Impact News Service

October 11, 2019 Friday

Copyright 2019 Impact Media Limited All Rights Reserved





Length: 6339 words

Body

Washington: White House Administration has issued the following news release:

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: Good morning. Thank you for making time to be with us today. My name is Matt Albence. I'm the Deputy Director of ICE and the senior official performing the duties of the Director.

I want to take a moment before I begin to recognize and thank the sheriffs joining me today: Sheriff Robert Nolan from Cape May County, New Jersey; Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** from Tarrant County, Texas; Sheriff Butch Conway from Gwinnett County, Georgia; Sheriff Mike Lewis from Wicomico County, Maryland; and Sheriff Chuck Jenkins from Fredrick County, Maryland.

I'd also like to thank ICE Assistant Director Barbara Gonzalez from the Victims of Immigration Crime Engagement Office for the work she does with these sheriffs to support their communities.

Two weeks ago today, I was joined at this podium, as I am today, by sheriffs from around the country: valued partners who understand the importance of law enforcement at every level, working together on behalf of all Americans.

We shared our ongoing frustration with jurisdictions that allow political rhetoric to get in the way of public safety, and the risks and dangers associated with bad laws and policies.

Since then, U.S Immigration and Customs Enforcement's ability to enforce immigration law has again fallen victim to judicial overreach. And our agency's authorities are being singled out and marginalized in ways that no other federal law enforcement organization has to tolerate. Tying our hands from the bench does not make our country any safer.

Our commitment to justice is fundamental. The rule of law is a critical component of our democracy, but a recent ruling handed down by the U.S District Court for the Central District of California holds ICE to a different standard for lawful cooperation and will hinder our ability to faithfully carry out our congressionally mandated mission.

This decision will threaten public safety, as it will lead to the release of criminal aliens back onto the street — criminals that we won't find before they hurt or, worse, more innocent victims — victims that could have been spared their pain and suffering if only ICE had been allowed to do its job.

For decades now, immigration officers have utilized detainers as a collaborative law enforcement tool to request that other law enforcement agencies notify ICE upon the upcoming release of an alien that has been arrested for a criminal violation completely unrelated to their immigration status.



The detainer serves as a request to hold that person for a short period of time, enabling ICE to assume custody. ICE issues detainers based on a finding by trained immigration officers that there is probable cause to believe an individual is a removable alien.

Like all law enforcement agencies, ICE utilizes all evidence at its disposal to determine if probable cause exists, including various databases and electronic data. Probable cause is the same legal standard that other law enforcement agencies must meet in order to make an arrest.

The reality is we live in an electronic age where information is increasingly digitized, and evidence used to support a finding of probable cause will likely stem from databases, to include those that contain biometric data and other similar data sources.

Despite this reality, a judge in California has opined that immigration officers cannot develop probable cause to believe that an individual may be removable based on certain database checks alone.

This conclusion is out of step with the realities of modern law enforcement, endangers the public, and construes probable cause in an unfairly restrictive way. Moreover, this decision, issued by a single judge in Los Angeles, will impact at least 43 states, threatening communities far beyond the one in which this judge sits.

While I wish I could say this is an isolated occurrence, it is but the latest example of judicial overreach targeting immigration enforcement and the application of laws already passed by Congress, often decades ago.

Time and again, DHS has been prevented from exercising the authority granted to it by Congress because of the decisions of unelected judges who substitute their judgment for that of our legislators or the government officials entrusted with enforcing our laws.

We need people to understand the laws we enforce were not written by ICE. We do not grant ourselves the power to enforce them. Our authorities come from the United States Congress; from the laws they draft, debate, pass, and send to the President for signature. Accordingly, these decisions are not just an attack on DHS and the executive branch, but an attack on the ability of Congress to carry out its most basic function of passing laws for the protection and general welfare of our country.

Our commitment is to strengthen national security and uphold public safety, which we accomplish by enforcing the law as it has been enacted: with the utmost professionalism, despite challenges faced by no other law enforcement agency in this country.

Mitigating some of the challenges faced by ICE through cooperation with our state and local law enforcement agencies in every jurisdiction would make our public safety efforts more effective and our entire country safer.

To be clear, we ask only for the cooperation provided to other federal agencies within the law enforcement community. We ask no law enforcement agency to enforce immigration laws on our behalf, except those who have volunteered to obtain this authority under the 287(g) program, within which we have 79 valued, trusted partners — some of them on stage with us today.

Despite significant changes in immigration patterns — both legal and illegal — over the last 20 years, Congress has failed to modernize our laws accordingly. And unfortunately, as we have seen repeatedly in this context, Congress will only act or even acknowledge there is a crisis when it has no other choice.



Congressional inaction in the face of a documented and growing public safety threat is not only an abdication of its duty; it is dangerous to all who reside in this country, citizen and immigrant alike.

As much as I would like to, I cannot stand here today and promise you that dangerous criminal aliens are not being let out of jails to potentially harm others. In fact, it's quite the opposite. And court decisions that negate our lawful authorities only compound this risk. To be clear, the principal beneficiaries of the recent court decision limiting ICE's ability to use its detainer authorities are criminal aliens who have been arrested for criminal offenses by state and local jurisdictions.

What I can promise you, however, is that ICE and our cooperative partners will do everything in our power, consistent with the law, to prevent the release of dangerous criminal aliens into your communities, and when they are released by sanctuary jurisdictions, to take them off the street before they can re-offend.

But the threat to your communities remains, and it is real. ICE Enforcement and Removal Operations officers throughout the country are out there every day, unnecessarily putting themselves in harm's way, searching for repeat and often violent offenders who were released from custody because local law enforcement is not permitted, or makes the conscious decision to not cooperate with ICE, and a lawfully placed detainer request and warrant are ignored.

A recent case, in a litany of tragic examples, clearly illustrates this danger. Carlos Carillo Lopez entered this country illegally as an unaccompanied alien child in 2015. He was arrested no less than four times in the past seven months in the state of Washington, for charges including criminal trespass, theft, malicious mischief, and failure to appear. Each time, ICE lodged a detainer; each time, the detaining entities — proud sanctuary jurisdictions — released him without notifying ICE. Tragically, on September 30, 2019, he was arrested for homicide, his victim another young man.

ICE has made approximately 140,000 arrests this year. About 75 percent of those arrests came from ICE working with the jails and prisons. The other 25 percent are made by ICE's at-large teams. It is critically important work, but it takes a lot more time and resources to make those arrests, at a much greater risk to our officers, the public, and the subjects themselves, when we could have apprehended those criminal aliens from the safe confines of a jail upon their release.

Moreover, ICE's ability to conduct this at-large enforcement has been increasingly crippled by Congress's failure to provide sufficient additional funding for detention beds, transportation, ICE officers and agents, and attorneys.

Unfortunately, ICE is seeing its efforts to protect this country undermined by more than just certain courts. Just last week, the New Jersey Attorney General took another step to undercut how individual sheriffs are working directly with ICE.

We have two partners in our 287(g) program in New Jersey where we have designated and trained local jail officers who work under ICE supervision to identify criminal aliens in their custody.

These partnerships are vital to our success. They give ICE the operational flexibility to use resources that would otherwise be assigned to those jails, and to be redeployed to target dangerous, at-large criminal aliens — many from neighboring jurisdictions who fail to provide such cooperation.

These sheriffs, in Monmouth and Cape May Counties — elected by their constituents to perform their duties in a manner that reflected their desires — had established a great working relationship with ICE. But the State Attorney General thinks he knows better what's for those communities than the people within them. I don't understand how an attorney general, the chief law enforcement officer of the state, tells other law enforcement officers under his command to ignore the law.



Perhaps he made a few friends in the statehouse and the Governor's office, but he surely did nothing to put the citizens of New Jersey at greater risk. Excuse me, he surely did nothing but put the citizens of New Jersey at greater risk.

The oath of office taken by the men and women of ICE means something to us, which is why we will adapt, like we always do. Why we will persevere, like we always do. Why we'll continue to put our lives on the line to protect the American public, despite the best efforts of those who would like to see no enforcement or open borders.

But make no mistake: Rulings from any individual federal court sitting in a single judicial district but purporting to cripple ICE authorities on a nationwide basis puts people at risk — innocent victims whose lives will be forever changed for the worse all across our great country. And we could've stopped it.

There are more than 3,000 sheriffs in this country, and the vast majority of them see the benefit in working with ICE, honoring our requests to hold someone, or even something as simple as notifying us before criminal aliens are released. We have done this for decades because it is good policy and it is even better public safety.

I'll take a few questions, but first I want to introduce **Sheriff Waybourn** from Tarrant County, Texas, to make a few remarks.

SHERIFF WAYBOURN: Thank you, Matt. It's an honor to be here, especially standing with our brothers and sisters in Immigration Enforcement, along with my fellow sheriffs. And let me just be clear about this, is that the narrative of trying to go after ICE and Immigrations is very much like the narrative that was used against our Vietnam returning soldiers. They're eviscerating honorable people doing noble things, standing on the wall between good and evil for you and me. And if these people want to change things, Capitol Hill is down the street. And that's where they're changed at. They're not the policymakers, but people will often get confused with that.

But drilling down just a little bit, in Tarrant County, Texas — it's the 15th largest county in the nation — is this morning, we had 4,200 inmates. Out of that, 7 percent were illegal aliens. And they were being held for such offenses as murder, sexual assault of children — there was about 70 of them — and there were robbers in there, and kidnappers, and people who committed arson, and people who were DWI.

And out of that, you know, you think about that, if we returned them with this radical ruling out of California, where you have a federal judge making law for the nation, or attempting to, it will put our communities in jeopardy.

Of those people that we have in custody, we know for a fact that 72 percent of them are repeat offenders. So if we have to turn them loose, or they get released — they're coming back to your neighborhood and my neighborhood — these drunks will run over your children and they will run over my children. And if that happens, I know that you will want, and certainly I would want for you, the full force of the law. And Immigrations is part of that full force. These people have come into the country illegally. And I understand that many of these migrants come across that river, down there in Texas, looking for a better day, for something better for their family. And I don't think anybody disagrees with that.

But the problem is, the very people that they were fleeing, who preyed upon them, came with them. And that's who we're trying to initially eliminate out of our country.

In Tarrant County, you have to commit a Class-B misdemeanor or higher to even have your immigration status challenged in our jail. But it's in our jail that that happens at. They've already committed another offense to get there.



And — but with victims — and there's plenty of them — and the people that we have in jail are here illegally in the first place. Then they commit an offense against one of our citizens, and often, some people from their own community. For instance, aggravated sexual assault on children are not children who are legally here. They're their children that are here illegally. And, fortunately, those people are crying out and we're taking care of them and treating them as victims. We work with ICE on those things, and they're not deported. We don't even ask them their immigration status. We make sure that we can prosecute these people to the full extent of the law. And once again, that full extent includes their immigration status.

And I — you know, as in Texas, as the Director said, we take an oath of office down there, and it says we will defend the Constitution and will uphold the federal laws. And anything less than that, such as the Attorney General in New Jersey, I think he forsakes his oath.

Thank you.

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: Excuse me, I'm going to have Assistant Director Gonzalez speak briefly, and then I'll answer your questions. Thank you.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR GONZALEZ: Thank you, Director. Good morning. It's an honor to be here today representing the men and women of U.S Immigration and Customs Enforcement. First off, I want to say I've been with ICE since it was created, and prior to that, I was with Immigration and Naturalization Service. So I've been in public service over 20 years, and I have served in many administrations.

I also help lead the Victims of Immigration Crime Engagement Office, a very important office where we're helping victims who have been impacted by crimes committed by individuals with a nexus to immigration.

I've had to hold the hand of too many mothers who have lost a child to a DUI, or somebody else who's been raped by an illegal alien or someone with a nexus to immigration. It is a problem. It is a problem we cannot ignore as a country. We have the sovereign responsibility to protect our borders.

And the fact of the matter is, while crime happens in America, these people weren't supposed to be here in the first place unlawfully, in many of these cases. So, many of these people violated immigration law and then subsequently went and killed others. It is a problem, and it is one that should not be partisan.

We have people that are being victimized — and not just Americans being victimized; other people from other countries as well that are here lawfully. And also, individuals that may be here unlawfully, as the Sheriff said, are being victimized or being raped or being abused.

So I really want to impart the importance of this conversation: that public safety needs to come before any political rhetoric. And this is about public safety. And, really, I think that everybody needs to have this conversation where, sure, crime happens, but these crimes were preventable because many of these individuals shouldn't have been here in the country in the first place.

So I just wanted to share that with you. Thank you.

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: Sir.

Q Is there a new approach or a new outreach that you all might consider? Just because it seems like this thing is going the wrong direction on you. You got the probable cause case out in the West Coast. You got this GitHub contract controversy going. D.C Council here, right in town, just voted essentially to go the other way from, you know, what you've been advocating. Is there a new approach you can try?



ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: So, this is part of that new approach, but frankly, we liaise with these jurisdictions continually. Our field office directors, our special agents in charge, have relationships in these jurisdictions.

I think as I mentioned last time I was up here, Secretary Johnson himself went to New York City, went to Chicago multiple times, trying to get these jurisdictions to cooperate with this. This is not a new problem. This is not a problem limited to one administration. This is a problem in which politics — and people are using politics and putting it ahead of public safety.

Why doesn't the D.C City Council try to figure out a way to help us to get these criminals out? If everybody is complaining about resources and they don't have enough cops to work the area, one of the easiest ways is as **Sheriff Waybourn** mentioned. A lot of these are recidivist offenders. We know, out in California, out of one cohort that we've been tracking, 46 percent of these individuals are repeat offenders.

So it's these jurisdictions that are continually dealing with the crime problems created by these individuals. It seems perfectly logical to find a way, if they're here unlawfully, to assist us to get them out of those communities.

Q But there's no middle ground, right? I mean, how — there's got to be something you can say to those —

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: What's the middle ground on public safety? How safe? Do we want to be somewhat safe or do we want to be as safe as possible? I don't think there's a middle ground for public safety.

Q But they won't negotiate or anything.

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: Ma'am.

Q Yes. What do you attribute the spike in illegal crossings to at the end of the fiscal year of this year?

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: I mean, this is something that we've spoken about a significant amount. I'll answer it briefly because I really want to stay on the topic. But we've talked about —

Q Well, it is topic.

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: Well, what we're talking about here is public safety. We're talking about criminal aliens that are — people that are here illegally already then getting engaged in other criminal activity.

The spike with regard to crossings, as we've documented very well: the fact that Congress has failed to act to fix the Flores loophole, to fix the TVPRA. Those pull factors, which allow people to come to this country, present as a family or as a UAC, and are — us having to ability to detain those individuals during the pendency of the immigration process, and thus having them be released. It's all about the release. The goal of these people is to — that are coming here illegally, is to get into the country and to be released.

Q But haven't you stepped up measures? Sorry, haven't you stepped up measures, though, with personnel as well as surveillance and things of that nature to help prevent or to push back those who are coming across the border?

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: So, again, we've — under this administration, we've created a lot of programs. And as you've seen the numbers, they've gone down somewhat over the past several months. We're still not out of the crisis. But the Migrant Protection Protocols program, the IFR with regard to safe third countries, the 71 miles of new wall that's been built — I would love to have put more resource to it.



And this is one of the problems with this issue, is that we've had to redeploy our ICE resources to support the Border Patrol and Customs and Border Protection with those challenges at the border, which has made us less safe because we've had some field offices where we've had to shut down our at-large criminal alien teams so that they could handle the influx of people that are coming to this country illegally, as well as the increase in people in detention.

As a result, we arrest — we're going to arrest about 15,000 or so fewer criminal aliens this year as a result of what's going on at the border.

So, for those people that say we should be going after the worst of the worst and going after criminal aliens, I would love to, but that has to come with strong border security.

Sir.

Q Thank you. You opened your remarks by criticizing a federal judge who ruled that you couldn't use databases that were inaccurate enough that they were causing you to detain American citizens. So what I'm just trying to figure out, sir: Under what circumstances do you think that judges should be able to order your agency to do or not do things? Do you reject the courts' authority to tell you what the law is?

And also, Hogan, it's been 213 days since our last briefing. Could you maybe come up here when they're done and talk to us for a bit?

MR. HOGAN: I'll discuss that with you afterwards. This is about another topic.

Go ahead, sir.

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: So, unfortunately, the litigation is ongoing and there's very little I could say more than what I've said already. Obviously, we respect judge rulings — judges' rulings. We do that all day. We're law enforcement officers, and we have to respect the —

Q (Inaudible) —

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: Excuse me, I'm answering your question.

Q Okay.

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: We respect the laws that Congress has passed, and we enforce them in accordance with the matter in which Congress has said. When judicial rulings come out, we abide by those judicial rulings. If those judicial rulings are overturned, then we abide by that.

We don't get the ability, nor should we have the ability, to pick and choose what laws that we should enforce.

Ma'am.Q But the judge was telling you, sir, that —

Q Thank you, Acting Director Albence —

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: Ma'am, go ahead.

Q Thank you. You said that with the lack of cooperation, you're always adapting — you're looking at ways of adapting. What are you currently doing? There have been talks of DNA sampling, facial recognition. Can you just explain that a little bit better?



ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: So, we're utilizing DNA sampling right now in the border environment, trying to ferret out the false families. As I mentioned earlier, many of the individuals that are coming here to this country are not legitimate families.

So, the family units, they're utilizing the loopholes in the Flores Settlement Agreement to come here as a family, which has led to significant numbers of children being recycled and victimized for the sole purpose of unrelated adults posing as a family unit with those children. That's what the DNA sampling goes after. We're hitting about a 15 percent rate of individuals or families presenting as families that really aren't families. And we're prosecuting those cases.

We got great support from the U.S Attorney's Office along the southwest border, but we've processed more — or, excuse me, prosecuted more than 1,000 cases along the southwest border dealing with fraudulent families or imposters.

We've also seen instances in which unaccompanied alien children, or adults are posing as unaccompanied alien children — 18-, 19-, 20-, 21-year-olds posing as 15-, 16-year-olds. And those children — those adults, unfortunately, end up in an HHS shelter that's full of children. That is an unsafe environment for those children if you're putting adults in there.

Q Director, but in regards to criminals being released and your office is not — or your agency not notified, how are you dealing with that and adapting to that? And in regards to the judge's ruling in California that says this digital option or the database is not relevant?

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: Right. So, you know, we're continuing to look to modify ways in which we can conduct our enforcement operations. Now that the (inaudible) on the border has slowed a bit, we're able to pull back some of our resources and get them back out on the street. We rely upon our partners. We've increased the 287(g) program from 32, in 2017, to 79, now.

We have a Warrant Service Officer program, which is a limited authority program which will allow those cooperating jurisdictions to actually effectuate arrests on our behalf. As we expand that, that will give us greater bandwidth.

The easiest answer is: Congress can give us more resources for both officers and attorneys to work these cases, but they haven't been deemed fit to do so.

Q Sir, can you just — to follow up on that, to what degree are you still targeting undocumented families as a deterrent to other migrants?

And my second question is, are you planning to conduct more workplace operations like we saw in Mississippi over the summer?

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: So, the families that we are going after are those that have had the opportunity to avail themselves of due process in the immigration court system and have either not shown up, as the vast majority — about 87 percent, last time I checked the numbers, of those cases that were placed in the accelerated docket — have failed to show up for even their initial court hearing. Those that do go through the court process and are ordered removed by an immigration judge, it's incumbent upon us to effectuate those removal orders so that there's integrity to the system.

Our system is going to have no integrity if these removal orders are not actually effectuated. So we will continue, as we said back when we started this family unit operation, we'll continue to do it. We have teams out there every day going after these family units. And it's not — it's not a matter of deterrence. Deterrence is an effect of us enforcing the law.



What was your second question?

Q How has that operation grown? How has it grown?

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: How has it grown?

Q Since the President pushed for it?

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: Well, the number — the number of families that continue to fail to show up for their court hearings and then get removal orders continues to grow.

Q Director, a follow-up about the workplace operations that we saw in Mississippi?

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: So, Mississippi was just one operation. We enforced more than 400 laws that Congress has passed. Those laws regarding legal employment and worksite enforcement are part of that portfolio. We'll continue to do those cases.

Sir.

Q Director, thank you. Quick question about what you want the American people to understand about the crisis itself. They will hear this, they will hear you, and they will want the brass tax. What are you trying to say, simply speaking, about what you're attempting to do and what you're not getting from other stakeholders, like congressional lawmakers and local law enforcement, or rather, local leadership, in places like Chicago or Texas or whatever?

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: What I would tell them is that if they live in a sanctuary jurisdiction, their elected and appointed leaders are making them less safe.

Yes, sir.

Q Could you speak to the issue of the accuracy of the databases that ICE is using —

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: Obviously, as I mentioned —

Q — that, at times, led to the arrest of American citizens? Is ICE getting better at this?

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: So, I can't speak to ongoing litigation. As part of our investigations, we'll be taking enforcement actions against somebody. That includes a very substantial investigation into an individual's background.

Many times, individuals that we come across that are United States citizens don't even know that they are, because the laws around citizenship are so complicated.

Ma'am.

Q Director, a follow. A couple of questions. I want to follow up with you on something that I asked your counterpart at CBP earlier this week. How many children are currently being held at the border?

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: Okay, so, that's a perfect question for Mark Morgan, because he controls the detention facilities. ICE has no authority to detain children. Under the TVPRA, ICE has —

Q You're not briefed on those numbers at all? You don't know? Okay.

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: I'm sure he answered you at the time you asked it.



Q No, we haven't gotten an answer yet —

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: I would follow up with his press people, I'm sorry.

Q — which is why I was wondering if you guys had an answer.

Broader question: The President has expressed concerns about terrorists making their way across the border — the need to prevent that. Given what we're seeing in Syria right now, given that there are reports that ISIS fighters are being released as we speak, how concerned are you about that? What are you doing to make sure that they don't, in fact, cross over if they were to make their way here? And are you in touch with any counterparts (inaudible)?

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: So, we have an extensive attaché network within our Homeland Security investigations. We have visa security posts in over 35 locations throughout the world. We continue to expand those programs as Congress gives us funding with which to do so. ICE is the second-largest participant in the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force. We do a significant amount of investigations involving individuals that are suspected of or believe —

Look, this agency — in fact, this entire department — was sworn after 9/11. Our primary mission is national security. And that goes along with public safety.

Sir.

Q Again, just to follow up on something I asked you last time you were here: One of the biggest complaints that sanctuary jurisdictions have about ICE is that they would like to cooperate, but when victims — as you noted, most of the victims of crime of illegal immigrants are themselves illegal immigrants, and when they come forward and show up, you all prosecute them and take them away as well. Can you assure that community that that's not the case? Can you make a guarantee that you will not go after the victims of crime but those that are perpetrating the crime?

And to follow up — and just a real quick follow to what you said earlier about having to help out Border Patrol: Is that not because there are — we have been promised — the President promised like 10,000 new Border Patrol agents, but because of pay disputes, you haven't been able to hire that many?

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: Well, let me address that one first. We can only hire the people that Congress appropriates funds for. ICE has no problem hiring people. Our non-retirement —

Q You're helping out Border Patrol because they have been able to hire —

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: Understand we can only hire up to the level that Congress has authorized and appropriated. So, we fill our vacancies very quickly. We don't have a problem with hiring individuals. Our non-attrition — excuse me, non-retirement attrition rate is about 2 percent.

Q That's in ICE?

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: That's in ICE, correct.

Q Okay. And then —

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: I can't speak to CBP's hiring.

But to your first question — and as the Sheriff mentioned there — and I believe I mentioned this last time: We generally find out about an individual through their interaction with the criminal justice system. That



interaction means that they were booked into a jurisdiction's facility, their fingerprints were run, their data was taken. They bounce off the FBI's databases and they bounce off our databases. That is how we find out about these individuals.

Victims are not booked into criminal custody. Absent that, we would not be out there looking for victims. We would not even know who the — in most cases — I'm answering your question.

Q Sure.

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: In most cases, we would not know who the victims are.

And I will tell you, in many of these cases that we work jointly with our state and local partners, we have an extensive network of victim assistance specialists within ICE because we deal with so many victims when it comes to human trafficking, smuggling, when it comes to child exploitation. We deal with victims all day long, unfortunately. I wish we didn't have to deal with so many victims, but we do. And we're very skilled at working with them. And we work with prosecutors and everybody in the criminal justice system to ensure that if there is a case that they want to prosecute, that they have the people available to do so.

Q But if they come forward do you have to get rid of them?

Q Yes, sir. You mentioned resource reallocation. I'm wondering if you can provide us any breakdown between arrests and deportation of people with final orders of removal, versus anyone with past criminal convictions and other people of interest.

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: So we've been putting — well, first off, we can only remove those individuals with final orders of removal. So everybody that we remove has a final order of removal. So we removed, I believe, 246,000 or so people last year. Every one of those individuals had a final order of removal.

We'll probably arrest around 140,000 people this year. We'll be releasing our numbers in the not-too-distant future. I don't have the exact breakdown of how many of those already have final orders. But that's a good question and one that I think there's misinformation out there about.

When we arrest somebody that's here illegally, if they have not already been through the court process and had their due process, they get that ability. This is the front end of the process. Just when these sheriffs arrest somebody for aggravated assault or domestic violence, that arrest — they don't go from arrest to prison and serve a sentence. They have to go through the judicial process within the criminal justice system. We have a process within the Executive Office of Immigration Review that provides for that same due process in the immigration courts.

Sir, right behind you.

Q Thanks, sir. Yeah. There are rumors of — a couple of months ago, there was an attempted attack at a Tacoma ICE facility, and there's been a lot of social media threats toward ICE facilities or agents. Has that been a problem in terms of the ability to enforce laws? And has there been extra protection for agents or anything like that?

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: So, obviously, the safety and security of our personnel, officers and non-officers alike, is our primary concern. I think that's why we've been so strident with our concerns about some of the ugly rhetoric that has been utilized around this issue and the vilification of the men and women of ICE and CBP and our other DHS partners that are merely enforcing the laws that Congress has passed.



It's especially disheartening when it comes from individuals who actually have the ability to pass laws or change laws if they don't like them. But instead, they would rather vilify our officers for doing their sworn duties.

You know, a third of our officers are military veterans. They were heroes before they ever strapped on a badge. And they should be given the respect as any other law enforcement officer in this country.

So it is, yes. And I'm very concerned. It's dangerous. And hopefully those people that have opinions as to how immigration enforcement should be conducted would do so in a professional and responsible manner.

MR. GIDLEY: Let's do one more.

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: One more.

Q Sir, we you mentioned the GitHub issue earlier. I wonder if you could comment on that, whether —

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: I can't. I can't.

Q Is that contract — are you having any problem as ICE getting (inaudible)?

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: I learned about it this morning so I can't really —

Q But you're not having no problem? Are tech companies willing to work with you given the current discourse between you and Secretary —

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: No, we're — we're doing fine.

Q Okay.

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: So, I want to get one question that's on topic. Sir.

Q You mentioned that 246,000 people were removed last year. Do you have any data about how many were criminal and how many were families?

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: We do. It's on our website. I would say about criminals — and I don't want to get it wrong, but it's in the 140,000 or so range. But it's right on our website. If you go to our FY18 yearend report you can look at it.

Q But you don't have the data for '19 yet?

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: We have the data for '19. I don't have it in — we're going through and vetting it. And we're releasing it shortly.

Q Do you expect an expansion of the counties that are working right now — the 287(g) counties? And how many more do you think will join up?

ACTING DIRECTOR ALBENCE: I mean, I can't predict the future. I think we will. We've seen the expansion. Again, the best partners when it comes to us working in the civil immigration enforcement and getting criminal aliens off the street are these sheriffs right here.

We work very closely with a lot of police departments, with our Homeland Security investigations doing criminal investigations. But generally, the entities that are detaining individuals for their criminal violations are the sheriffs. And those are the ones that we work with closely. I expect we will continue to expand it.



Thank you very much for your time.

END

11:39 A.M EDT

Load-Date: October 12, 2019

End of Document

[ICE, sheriff say immigration ruling threatens public safety](#)

Post & Courier (Charleston, SC)

October 11, 2019 Friday

Copyright 2019 The Post and Courier All Rights Reserved

Section: A; news/politics; Pg. 5

Length: 751 words

Byline: KEVIN FREKING and NOMAAN MERCHANT Associated Press ;

Highlight: WASHINGTON, D.C. - The acting director of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement on Thursday criticized a judge's ruling barring his agency from relying solely on databases that have at times led to the wrongful detention of American citizens.

Body

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The acting director of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement on Thursday criticized a judge's ruling barring his agency from relying solely on databases that have at times led to the wrongful detention of American citizens.

Speaking Thursday at the White House, Matthew Albence called the September ruling an example of "judicial overreach" that threatened public safety.

Following Albence was a Texas sheriff who suggested the ruling would require releasing immigrants who were "drunks" and would "run over your children," a comment immediately denounced by advocates.

U.S. District Judge André Birotte Jr. barred ICE from issuing requests known as "detainers" based solely on database searches considered to be unreliable. The ruling applies to states that do not explicitly authorize civil immigration arrests using detainers.

ICE cross-checks jail rosters around the U.S. with federal databases that track people's nationality and immigration status. When it detects a person is unauthorized to be in the U.S., ICE will issue a detainer asking the agency to hold the person until he or she can be taken into immigration custody.



Advocates say relying on electronic databases alone to issue detainers is unreliable because they often have erroneous data and can lead to falsely accusing people of being in the U.S. illegally. Citing ICE's data, Birotte wrote that 42 detainers between May 2015 and February 2016 were explicitly lifted because the person was a citizen. Nearly 800 detainers of almost 13,000 issued during that time were withdrawn because the person was a citizen "or otherwise not subject to removal," the judge wrote.

Asked about the detention of Americans, Albence said he could not speak about ongoing litigation.

"Many times, individuals that we come across that are United States citizens don't even know that they are because the laws around citizenship are so complicated," he said.

President Donald Trump - as well as his top officials and allies - has long assailed judges who have ruled against his administration's efforts to restrict immigration and ramp up arrests and deportations.

Jennie Pasquarella, a lawyer with the American Civil Liberties Union of Southern California, which helped bring the lawsuit, said the ruling was "critical to protecting the rights of everyone" and ensuring that ICE does not subject people to baseless arrests and detention.

U.S. immigration agencies earlier this year detained an American-born 18-year-old for more than three weeks even though he had copies of paperwork documenting his citizenship.

A Democratic congresswoman from California visiting a Border Patrol processing center in South Texas in July encountered a 13-year-old girl holding a U.S. passport next to her mother, who had been accused of crossing the border illegally.

Albence spoke next to local sheriffs from around the U.S. who are cooperating with ICE. As the agency has faced resistance to its operations in some parts of the country, the Trump administration has held several White House events featuring local officials who support its immigration priorities.

Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** of Fort Worth, Texas, said many unauthorized immigrants in his jail were accused of felonies like murder and sexual assault as well as drunken-driving offenses. He said Birotte's ruling "will put our communities in jeopardy."

"If we have to turn them loose or they get released, they're coming back to your neighborhood and my neighborhood," he said. "These drunks will run over your children, and they will run over my children."

Waybourn said about 7% of the 4,200 people currently detained in Tarrant County are in the U.S. illegally. His office issued a statement saying that nearly 25% of the unauthorized immigrants jailed in Tarrant County were accused of driving while intoxicated or being a DWI "repeat offender."

The sheriff also acknowledged that many people who cross the U.S.-Mexico border migrate "looking for a better day, for something better for their family."

Texas State Rep. Chris Turner, whose district includes Tarrant County, tweeted that the comments were "ignorant, irresponsible fear-mongering" in light of the August mass shooting in El Paso, Texas, where a gunman alleged to have targeted Mexicans killed 22 people.

Pasquarella said Waybourn's statement was "fueled by xenophobia and racism."

"They're applying this narrative they would never apply to citizens just because they're not citizens," she said.



Immigration and Customs Enforcement Director Matt Albence speaks in the Briefing Room at the White House in Washington, Thursday, Oct. 10, 2019.

AP Photo/Andrew Harnik

Immigration and Customs Enforcement Director Matt Albence, right, accompanied by sheriffs from around the country including Tarrant County, Texas Sheriff **Bill Waybourn**, center, speaks in the Briefing Room at the White House in Washington, Thursday, Oct. 10, 2019.

Andrew Harnik

Immigration and Customs Enforcement Director Matt Albence, center, accompanied by sheriffs from around the country including Tarrant County, Texas Sheriff **Bill Waybourn**, second from left, speaks in the Briefing Room at the White House in Washington, Thursday, Oct. 10, 2019.

Andrew Harnik

Load-Date: October 11, 2019

End of Document

[Tarrant sheriff: Immigrants will run over children](#)

San Antonio Express News

October 11, 2019 Friday, State Edition

Copyright 2019 Hearst Newspapers, a division of Hearst Communications, Inc. All Rights Reserved

Section: METRO; Pg. A004

Length: 506 words

Byline: Benjamin Wermund, Washington Bureau

Highlight: 1) Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn**, flanked by acting ICE Director Matt Albence, said immigrants in the country illegally are "drunks" who "will run over your children" while at a news conference Thursday at the White House. PHOTO: Andrew Harnik/Associated Press

Body

WASHINGTON - A North Texas sheriff on Thursday called immigrants living in the country illegally "drunks" who will "run over your children," citing repeat offenders in the jail he oversees during a White House media briefing with the director of Immigration and Customs Enforcement. "If we have to turn them loose or they



get released, they're coming back to your neighborhood and my neighborhood," said Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn**, clad in a black cowboy hat and hunkered over the White House podium. "These drunks will run over your children, and they will run over my children."

Waybourn said he understands that "many of these migrants come across that river down there in Texas looking for a better day, for something better for their family." "The problem is, the very people they were fleeing - who preyed upon them - came with them," he said. "That's who we're trying to initially eliminate out of our country." Waybourn said 7 percent of the 4,200 inmates in the Tarrant County jail are in the country without documentation. He said 72 percent are "repeat offenders." Waybourn's chief of staff, David McClelland, later added in a statement that nearly a quarter of the undocumented inmates in the jail "have charges of DWI and/or DWI repeat offender." He said Waybourn "was not referring to all legal or illegal immigrants when making his comments about DWI/DWI repeat offenders." Waybourn's comments sparked outrage. State Sen. Beverly Powell, a Democrat who represents the majority of Fort Worth, tweeted that "these are unnecessary and divisive remarks that instill fear and hate." A recent study from the libertarian Cato Institute found that in Texas in 2017, immigrants who entered the country illegally were 47 percent less likely to be convicted of a crime than native-born Americans and legal immigrants were about 65 percent less likely to be convicted of a crime than native-born Americans. "Tarrant County is a growing diverse community. As elected leaders, we should respect and celebrate this diversity," Powell said. "The sheriff should immediately apologize for his hateful rhetoric." At the White House, Waybourn also compared ICE officers to returning Vietnam soldiers, saying critics are "eviscerating honorable people doing noble things, standing on the wall between good and evil for you and me." Waybourn was brought to speak by ICE's acting director, Matt Albence, who said the agency's ability to enforce immigration law has "fallen victim to judicial overreach" after a federal judge in California last month barred ICE from issuing requests known as "detainers" based solely on database searches considered to be unreliable. ICE cross-checks jail rosters around the U.S. with federal databases that track people's nationality and immigration status. When it detects that a person is unauthorized to be in the U.S., ICE will issue a detainer asking the agency to hold the person until he or she can be taken into immigration custody. This report contains information from the Associated Press.

Load-Date: October 12, 2019

End of Document

[ICE Chief: Lawmakers Must Stop 'Ugly Rhetoric' and 'Vilification' of Immigration Agents](#)

State Capital Newsfeed

Western Free Press(Arizona)

October 11, 2019 Friday 1:08 AM EST

Copyright 2019 Newstex LLC All Rights Reserved

Length: 1122 words

Body



Oct 11, 2019(Western Free Press: <http://www.westernfreepress.com/Delivered> by Newstex) The chief of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement called out members of Congress for demonizing federal agents while not addressing relevant laws. 'The safety and security of our personnel-officers and non-officers alike is our primary concern. I think that's why we've been so strident with our concerns about the ugly rhetoric that has been utilized around this issue and the vilification of the men and women of ICE,' Matt Albence, acting director of the agency, told The Daily Signal on Thursday during a White House press briefing. A string of threats[1] against ICE agents and facilities has occurred in recent months, including a shooting at one facility in San Antonio, Texas, and an attempted firebomb attack at another in Tacoma, Washington.

Police also arrested protesters[2] in Washington, D.C., for charging an ICE building. Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, D-N.Y., has called ICE detention centers for illegal aliens 'concentration camps,' invoking Nazi Germany. Other lawmakers on the state and federal levels also have been highly critical of ICE and say they want to abolish[3] the agency within the Department of Homeland Security. This is a problem, Albence said, mainly because ICE is 'merely enforcing the laws that Congress has passed.' He added:It's especially disheartening when it comes from individuals who actually have the ability to pass laws or change laws if they don't like them. But, instead, they would rather vilify our officers for doing their sworn duties. A third of our officers are military veterans. They were heroes before they ever strapped on a badge. They should be given the respect of any other law enforcement officer in this country. Yes, I'm very concerned. It's dangerous. Hopefully, those people that have opinions as to how immigration enforcement should be conducted [can] do so in a professional and responsible manner. The ICE chief spoke the same day that other agencies released numbers on Trump administration efforts to control illegal immigration. U.S. Customs and Border Protection released statistics on enforcement actions for September that show apprehensions along the Southwest border totaled 52,385, the lowest number of arrests for the year. They also show a 64% decline since the 144,116 apprehensions logged in May. Also Thursday, the Justice Department's Executive Office for Immigration Review announced that the agency's case completion numbers topped 275,000 cases for fiscal year 2019, which ended Sept 30. This marked an increase of about 80,000 completed immigration cases from fiscal year 2018. The completion rate also comes with an increase of cases. Immigration courts, which operate under the Justice Department, have a pending load of 987,000 cases. Of those, 444,000 new cases came in fiscal year 2019, the highest number in history. The historical average has been 225,294 cases from fiscal 2009 to fiscal 2016. Also speaking at the press briefing was Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** of Tarrant County, Texas, who talked about the importance of working with ICE to keep local communities safe. 'The narrative of trying to go after ICE and immigration is very much like the narrative used against our Vietnam returning soldiers,' Waybourn said. 'They're eviscerating honorable people doing noble things, standing on the wall between good and evil for you and me.' ' If these people want to change things, Capitol Hill is down the street,' the sheriff said, adding that ICE agents 'are not the policymakers.' In late September, U.S. District Judge Andre Birrote Jr. prevented ICE[4] from solely using information databases for its requests to law enforcement agencies to detain illegal immigrants for up to 48 hours. 'We have 4,200 inmates. Out of that, we had 7% were illegal aliens,' Waybourn said, adding:They were being held for such offenses as murder [and] sexual assault of children. There was about 70 of them. There were robbers, kidnappers, people who committed arson, people who were DWI. If we return them, with this radical ruling out of California, where you have a federal judge making law for the nation, or attempting to, it will put our communities in jeopardy.The Texas sheriff said that 72% of illegal immigrants arrested in his jurisdiction are repeat offenders. 'So if we have to turn them loose, or they get released, they are coming back to your neighborhood and my neighborhood,' Waybourn said. 'These drunks will run over your children and they will run over my children. And if that happens, I know you would want-and I would want for you-the full force of the law. Immigration is part of that full force.' Albence, the ICE chief, said the California ruling will affect at least 43 states. 'Rulings from any individual federal court sitting in a single judicial district purporting to cripple ICE authorities on a nationwide basis puts people at risk,' Albence said. 'Innocent victims whose lives will be changed for the worst all across our great country.



And we could have stopped it.' The post ICE Chief: Lawmakers Must Stop 'Ugly Rhetoric' and 'Vilification' of Immigration Agents[5] appeared first on The Daily Signal[6]. Originally posted at https://www.dailysignal.com/2019/10/10/ice-chief-lawmakers-must-stop-ugly-rhetoric-and-vilification-of-immigration-agents/?utm_source=rssutm_medium=rssutm_campaign=ice-chief-lawmakers-must-stop-ugly-rhetoric-and-vilification-of-immigration-agents[7]. The post ICE Chief: Lawmakers Must Stop 'Ugly Rhetoric' and 'Vilification' of Immigration Agents[8] appeared first on Western Free Press[9]. [1]: <https://www.dailysignal.com/2019/08/14/open-borders-inc-whos-funding-the-wicked-war-on-ice/> [2]: <https://www.foxnews.com/politics/ice-offices-workers-wave-of-violence-threats> [3]: <https://www.cnn.com/2018/07/02/politics/abolish-ice-democrats-list/index.html> [4]: https://www.washingtonpost.com/national/judge-blocks-sole-use-of-databases-to-detain-immigrants/2019/09/28/7acd072e-e1b0-11e9-be7f-4cc85017c36f_story.html [5]: <https://www.dailysignal.com/2019/10/10/ice-chief-lawmakers-must-stop-ugly-rhetoric-and-vilification-of-immigration-agents/> [6]: <https://www.dailysignal.com/> [7]: https://www.dailysignal.com/2019/10/10/ice-chief-lawmakers-must-stop-ugly-rhetoric-and-vilification-of-immigration-agents/?utm_source=rssutm_medium=rssutm_campaign=ice-chief-lawmakers-must-stop-ugly-rhetoric-and-vilification-of-immigration-agents [8]: <https://westernfreepress.com/ice-chief-lawmakers-must-stop-ugly-rhetoric-and-vilification-of-immigration-agents/> [9]: <https://westernfreepress.com>

Load-Date: October 11, 2019

End of Document

ICE 'criminal alien' arrests plummet amid border surge

The Washington Times

11 October 2019

Copyright 2019 The Washington Times All Rights Reserved

Section: NATIONAL

Length: 1014 words

Byline: Stephen Dinan

Body

Homeland Security's success in curbing the border crisis came at a cost: ICE saw its arrest numbers tumble over the last year, officials revealed Thursday, saying they had to pull personnel off their usual duties of tracking illegal immigrants and gangs to send them to the border.

Acting Director Matt Albence said ICE made about 15,000 fewer arrests of "criminal aliens," or immigrants who have racked up charges or convictions beyond immigration violations, and he blamed the border surge, judicial resistance and a growing number of sanctuary cities for cutting into the numbers.

"We've had to redeploy our ICE resources to support the Border Patrol and Customs and Border Protection with those challenges at the border, which has made us less safe because we've had some field offices



where we've had to shut down our at-large criminal alien teams so that they could handle the influx of people that are coming to this country illegally, as well as the increase in people in detention," Mr. Albence said at a White House press conference, standing alongside sheriffs who begged for more respect for ICE.

The border surge also took a toll on the immigration courts, with Homeland Security filing a record 444,000 new cases in fiscal year 2019.

That's almost double the numbers during the Obama administration, and it reflects the massive number of asylum and complex deportation cases that had to be brought against caravans and other illegal immigrants that streamed toward the U.S. this year.

The Executive Office of Immigration Review, which oversees the courts, said it cleared cases at near-record pace, closing out more than 275,000 up 80,000 from a year earlier. But EOIR was overwhelmed by the sheer number of new cases, sending its backlog up to nearly 1 million cases.

"Our immigration courts are doing everything in their power to efficiently adjudicate immigration cases while respecting due process rights, but efficient adjudication alone cannot resolve the crisis at the border," said James McHenry, director of EOIR.

The revelations come as the administration takes stock of the just-concluded fiscal year, which ended Sept. 30.

Border captures will total nearly 1 million but that's actually better than feared this spring, when Customs and Border Protection nabbed 144,000 people in May alone, setting records for the number of children and families.

Those numbers have improved dramatically, with roughly 52,000 captures in September, officials announced this week.

Acting Homeland Security Secretary Kevin McAleenan said the department has made such headway that it is about to end catch-and-release of illegal immigrant families.

Yet the effects of the surge are tough to overstate.

ICE officers who usually scour prisons and jails for illegal immigrants with criminal records were pulled off duty and sent to the border where they were tasked with facilitating catch-and-release by opening doors on vans to actually release the illegal immigrants who'd just been caught.

With officers distracted, ICE's arrests tumbled to about 140,000 in fiscal year 2019, Mr. Albence said.

He said 75% of those arrests came from scouring prisons and jails for illegal immigrants with criminal records. The other 25% were from the at-large teams tracking down fugitives.

He pushed back against the constraints on his agency's ability to go after those migrants in jails.

In particular, he unloaded on a federal judge who issued a ruling late last month puncturing the detainer system ICE uses to try to get local authorities to turn over illegal immigrants they encounter. Judge Andre Birotte Jr., whom President Barack Obama appointee to the bench, said the computer systems ICE uses are so unreliable that it's snaring U.S. citizens and others who shouldn't be detained.

"This decision will threaten public safety as it will lead to the release of criminal aliens back onto the street," Mr. Albence said.



The acting ICE chief also blasted sanctuary jurisdictions that limit cooperation with ICE, saying they too endanger communities by releasing illegal immigrants.

One Texas sheriff who stood alongside Mr. Albence compared anti-ICE sentiment sweeping the country to the treatment aimed at returning Vietnam war veterans, saying Thursday that deportation officers are being vilified for enforcing laws Congress passed.

"They're eviscerating honorable people doing noble things, standing on the wall between good and evil for you and me," said **Bill Waybourn**, the sheriff of Tarrant County, which contains Fort Worth.

ICE revealed one sanctuary case this week out of Oklahoma, where the agency says the Oklahoma County Sheriff's Department defied a detainer request placed on an accused rapist, and instead released him onto the streets.

Hours later, ICE said, suspect Antonio Ulises Perez was back at the door of the woman he is accused of having raped.

ICE deportations officers were eventually able to round the suspect up and he now awaits deportation proceedings, the agency said.

"It is unconscionable that someone who is sworn to uphold the law would find it acceptable to release an alleged rapist who is illegally present in the U.S. back into the community when there are other options available under federal immigration law," said Marc Moore, director of ICE's Dallas field office.

The sheriff's department, in a statement, said ICE was wrong on several counts.

The department said another agency, not the sheriff's department, made the arrest. And while Mr. Perez was booked on suspicion of rape, he was never formally charged, the department said.

Beyond that, the sheriff's department said it does try to cooperate with ICE, and even allows space in its jail for agents. The department said ICE didn't have a warrant to justify holding Mr. Lopez for pickup, but said they did alert ICE of his impending release.

"ICE had an hour and a half to take the individual into custody but did not send anyone to pick up the individual before his scheduled release, and, without any legal authority to hold the individual, he was released," the sheriff's office said.

Load-Date: October 11, 2019

End of Document

[Acting Immigrations and Customs Enforcement Director Matthew Albence Holds White House News Conference](#)

CQ Transcriptions

October 10, 2019 Thursday



All materials herein are protected by United States copyright law and may not be reproduced, distributed, transmitted, displayed, published or broadcast without the prior written permission of CQ Transcriptions. You may not alter or remove any trademark, copyright or other notice from copies of the content.

Body

Ice Acting Director Matt Albence Holds News Briefing

October 10, 2019 11:00 A.M.

SPEAKERS:

IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT ACTING DIRECTOR MATT ALBENCE

TARRANT COUNTY, TEXAS SHERIFF **BILL E. WAYBOURN**

IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANT DIRECTOR BARBARA M. GONZALEZ

[*]ALBENCE: Good morning. Thank you for making time to be with us today. My name is Matt Albence I'm the deputy director of ICE, and the senior official performing the duties of the director. I want to take a moment before I begin to recognize and thank the sheriffs joining me today Sheriff Robert Nolan from Cape May County, New Jersey; Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** from Tarrant County, Texas; Sheriff Butch Conway from Gwinnett County, Georgia; Sheriff Mike Lo--Lewis from Wicomico County, Maryland and Sheriff Chuck Jenkins from Frederick County, Maryland. I would also like to thank ICE Assistant Director Barbara Gonzalez from the victims of immigration crime engagement office for the work she does with these sheriffs to support their communities.

Two weeks ago, today, I was joined at this podium as I am today by sheriffs from around the country, valued partners who understand the importance of law enforcement at every level working together on behalf of all Americans. We shared our ongoing frustration with jurisdictions that allow political rhetoric to get in the way of public safety and the risks and dangers associated with bad laws and policies.

Since then U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's ability to enforce immigration law has again fallen victim to judicial overreach, and our agency's authorities are being singled out and marginalized in ways that no other federal law enforcement organization has to tolerate. Tying our hands from the bench does not make our country any safer. Our commitment to justice is fundamental.

The rule of law is a critical component of our democracy, but a recent ruling handed down by the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California holds ICE to a different standard for lawful cooperation and will hinder our (INAUDIBLE) to faithfully carry out our congressionally mandated mission. This decision will threaten public safety as it will lead to the release of criminal aliens back onto the street. Criminals that we won't find before they hurt or worse more innocent victims, victims that could be spared their pain and suffering if only ICE had been allowed to do its job.

For decades now immigration officers have utilized detainers as a collaborative law enforcement tool to request that other law enforcement agencies notify ICE upon the upcoming release of an alien that has been arrested for criminal violation completely unrelated to their immigration status. The detainer serves as a request to hold that person for short period of time, enabling ICE to assume custody. ICE issues detainers based on a finding by trained immigration officers that there is probable cause to believe an individual is a removable alien.



Like all law enforcement agencies ICE utilizes all evidence at its disposal to determine if probable cause exists, including various databases and electronic data. Probable cause is the same legal sooner than Vermont horseman agencies must meet in order to make an arrest. The reality is we live in an electronic age where information is increasingly digitized, and evidence used to support a finding of probable cause will likely stem from databases to include those that contain biometric data and other similar data sources.

Despite this reality a judge in California has opined that immigration officers cannot develop probable cause to believe that an individual may be removable based on certain database checks alone. This conclusion is out of step with the realities of modern law enforcement, endangers the public, and construes probable cause in a fairly restrictive way. Moreover this decision issued by a single judge in Los Angeles will impact at least 43 states threatening communities far beyond the one in which this judge sits.

While I wish I could say this is an isolated occurrence it is but the latest example of judicial overreach targeting immigration enforcement and the application of laws already passed by Congress, often decades ago. Time and again, DHS has been prevented from exercising the authority granted to it by Congress because of the decisions of unelected judges who substitute their judgment for that of our legislators or the government officials entrusted with enforcing our laws.

We need people to understand the laws we enforce were not written by ICE, we do not grant ourselves the power to enforce them. Our authorities come from the United States Congress from the laws they draft, debate, pass, and send to the president for signature. Accordingly these decisions are not just an attack on DHS and the executive branch but an attack on the ability of Congress to carry out its most basic function of passing laws for the protection and general welfare of our country.

Our commitment is to strengthen national security and uphold public safety which we accomplish by enforcing the law as it has been enacted.

[*]ALBENCE: With the utmost professionalism, despite challenges faced by no other law enforcement agency in this country. Mitigating some of the challenges faced by ICE through cooperation with our state and local law enforcement agencies in every jurisdiction would make our public safety efforts more effective and our entire country safer. To be clear, we ask only for the cooperation provided to other federal agencies within the law enforcement community. We ask no law enforcement agency to enforce immigration laws on our behalf, except those who have volunteered to obtain this authority under the 2A7G program, within which we have 79 value trusted partners, some of them on stage with us today.

Despite significant changes in immigration patterns, both legal and illegal over the last 20 years, Congress has failed to modernize our laws accordingly. And unfortunately, as we have seen repeatedly in this context, Congress will only act or even acknowledge there is a crisis when it has no other choice. Congressional inaction in the face of a documented and growing public safety threat is not only an abdication of its duty, it is dangerous to all who reside in this country citizen and immigrant alike.

As much as I would like to, I cannot stand here today and promise you that dangerous criminal aliens are not being let out of jail to potentially harm others. In fact, it's quite the opposite, and court decisions that negate our lawful authorities only compound those risks. To be clear, the principal beneficiaries of the recent court decision limiting ICE's ability to use its detainer (SP) authorities are criminal aliens who have been arrested for criminal offenses by state and local jurisdictions. What I can promise you, however, is that ICE and our cooperative partners will do everything in our power consistent with the law to prevent the release of dangerous criminal aliens into your communities, and when they are released by sanctuary jurisdictions to take them off the street before they can reoffend. But the threat to your communities remains and it is real.



ICE enforcement and removal operations officers throughout the country are out there every day unnecessarily putting themselves in harm's way searching for repeat and often violent offenders who are released from custody because local law enforcement is not permitted or makes a conscious decision to not cooperate with ICE and they lawfully place detainer requests and warrant are ignored. A recent case in the litany of tragic examples clearly illustrates this danger. Carlos Corea Lopez (SP) entered this country illegally as an unaccompanied alien child in 2015. He was arrested no less than four times in the past seven months in the State of Washington for charges including criminal trespass, theft, malicious mischief, and failure to appear. Each time, ICE lodged a detainer. Each time, the detaining entities, proud sanctuary jurisdictions, released him without notifying eyes. Tragically, on September 30, 2019, he was arrested for homicide. His victim, another young man.

ICE has made approximately 140,000 arrests this year. About 75 percent of those arrests came from ICE working with the jails and prisons. The other 25 percent are made by ICE's at-large teams. It is critically important work, but it takes a lot more time and resources to make those arrests and a much greater risk to our officers, the public, and the subjects themselves. And we could have apprehended those criminal aliens from the safe confines of a jail upon their release. Moreover, ICE's ability to conduct this at-large enforcement has been increasingly crippled by Congress failure to provide sufficient additional funding for detention beds, transportation, ICE officers agents and attorneys.

Unfortunately, ICE has seen its efforts to protect this country undermined by more than just certain courts. Just last week, the New Jersey Attorney General took another step to undercut how individual sheriffs are working directly with ICE. We have two partners in our 2A7G program in New Jersey where we have designated and trained local jail officers who work under ICE supervision to identify criminal aliens in their custody. These partnerships are vital to our success. They give ICE the operational flexibility to use resources that would otherwise be assigned to those jails and to be redeployed to target dangerous at large criminal aliens, many from neighboring jurisdictions who fail to provide such cooperation.

These sheriffs in Monmouth and Cape May counties elected by their constituents to perform their duties in a manner that reflected their desires had established a great working relationship with ice. But the state attorney general thinks he knows better what's for those communities than the people within them. I don't understand how an attorney in general, the chief law enforcement officer of the state, tells other law enforcement officers under his command to ignore the law. Perhaps he made a few friends in the statehouse and the governor's office, but he surely did nothing to put the citizens of New Jersey at greater risk. Excuse me, he surely did nothing but put the citizens of New Jersey at greater risk.

The oath of office taken by the men and women of ICE means something to us, which is why we will adapt like we always do, why we will persevere like we always do, why we will continue to put our lives on the line to protect the American public, despite the best efforts of those who would like to see no enforcement for open borders. But make no mistake. Rulings from any individual federal court sitting in a single judicial district but purporting to cripple ICE authorities on a nationwide basis puts people at risk. Innocent victims whose lives will forever be changed for the worse all across our great country and we could have stopped it.

There are more than 3000 sheriffs in this country, and the vast majority of them see the benefit in working with ICE, honoring our request to hold someone, or even something as simple as notifying us before criminal aliens are released. We've done this for decades because it is good policy and it is even better public safety. I'll take a few questions, but first I want to introduce **Sheriff Waybourn** from Tarrant County, Texas to make a few remarks.

WAYBOURN: Thank you, Matt. It's an honor to be here, especially standing with our brothers and sisters in immigration enforcement along with my fellow sheriffs. And let me just be clear about this is that the



narrative of trying to go after ICE and immigrations is very much like the narrative that was used against our Vietnam returning soldiers. They are eviscerating honorable people doing ignoble things, standing on the wall between good and evil for you and me. And of these people want to change things, Capitol Hill is down the street and that's where they are change that. They are not the policymakers, and people often get confused with that.

But drilling down just a little bit, in Tarrant County Texas, it's the 15th largest county in the nation is this morning we had 4200 inmates. Out of that, 7 percent were illegal aliens and they were being held for such offenses as murder, sexual assault of children, there was about 70 of them, and--and there were robbers in there and kidnappers and people who committed arson and people who were DWI. And out of that, you know, you think about that, if we return them with this radical ruling out of California where you have a federal judge making law for the nation, or attempting to, it will put our communities in jeopardy.

Of those people that we have in custody, we know for a fact that 72 percent of them are repeat offenders. So if we have to turn them loose or they get released, they're coming back to your neighborhood and my neighborhood. These drunks will run over your children and they will run over my children. And if that happens, I know that you want and certainly I would want for you the full force of the law, and immigration is part of that full force. These people have come into the country illegally and I understand that many of these migrants come across that river down there in Texas looking for a better day, for something better for their family, and I don't think anybody disagrees with that. But the problem is the very people that they were fleeing, who preyed upon them came with them. And that's who we are trying to initially eliminate out of our country.

In Tarrant County, you have to commit a class B misdemeanor or higher to even have your immigration status challenged in our jail. But it's in our jail that that happens at. They've already committed another offense to get there. And--but with victims, and there's plenty of them, and the people that we have in jail are here illegally in the first place. Then they commit an offense against one of our citizens, and often some people from their own community. For instance, aggravated sexual assault on children are not children who are legally here. They're their children that are here illegally. Fortunately, those people are crying out and we're taking care of them and treating them as victims when there--we work on with ICE on those things and they are not deported. We don't even ask them their immigration status. We make sure that we can prosecute these people to the full extent of the law.

And once again, that full extent includes their immigration status. And I, you know, as in Texas as the director said, we take an oath of office down there that says we will defend the Constitution and we will uphold the federal laws. And anything less than that, such as the attorney general of New Jersey, I think he forsakes his oath. Thank you.

ALBENCE: Excuse me, I'm going to have Assistant Director Gonzalez speak briefly and then I'll answer your questions. Thank you.

GONZALEZ: Thank you, director. Good morning. It's an honor to be here today representing the men and women of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. First off, I want to say I've been with ICE since it was created. And prior to that, I was with Immigration and Naturalization Service. So I've been in public service over 20 years and I've served in many administrations. I also helped lead to the Victims of Immigration Crime Engagement Office, a very important office where we are helping victims who've been impacted by crimes committed by individuals with a nexus to immigration. I've had to hold the hand of too many mothers who have lost a child two a DUI or somebody else who's been raped by an illegal alien or someone with a nexus to immigration.



[*]GONZALEZ: It is a problem. It is a problem we cannot ignore as a country. We have the sovereign responsibility to protect our borders.

And the fact of the matter is, while crime happens in America, these people weren't supposed to be here in the first place unlawfully in many of these cases. So, many of these people violated immigration law and then subsequently went and killed others. It is a problem, and it is one that should not be partisan.

We have people that are being victimized, and not just Americans being victimized. Other people from other countries as well that are here lawfully and also individuals that may be here unlawfully, as the sheriff said, are being victimized, are being raped, are being abused. So, I--I really want to impart the importance of--of this conversation that public safety needs to come before any political rhetoric.

And this is about public safety. And really, I think that everybody needs to have this conversation where, sure, crime happens, but these crimes were preventable because many of these individuals shouldn't have been here in the country in the first place. So, I just wanted to share that with you. Thank you.

ALBENCE: Sir?

QUESTION: Is there a new approach or a new outreach that you all might consider just because it seems like this thing has gone the wrong direction on you? You got the probable cause case out on the West Coast. You got this GitHub contract controversy going. DC Council, here right in town, just voted essentially to go the other way from, you know, what you've been advocating. Is there a new approach you can try?

ALBENCE: So, this is part of that new approach, but frankly we liaise with these jurisdictions continually. Our field office directors, our special agents in charge, have relationships in these--in these jurisdictions. I think as I mentioned last time I was up here, Secretary Johnson himself went to New York City, went to Chicago multiple times trying to get these jurisdictions to cooperate with us.

This is not a new problem. This is not a problem limited to one administration. This is a problem in which politics, and people are using politics, and putting it ahead of public safety. Why doesn't the DC City Council try to figure out a way to help us to get these criminals out? If everybody's complaining about resources and they don't have enough cops to--to work the area, one of the easiest way is as **Sheriff Waybourn** mentioned. These are--a lot of these are recidivist offenders.

We know out of California, out of one cohort that we've been tracking, 46 percent of these individuals are repeat offenders. So, it's these jurisdictions that are continually dealing with the crime problems created by these individuals. It seems perfectly logical to find a way, if they are here unlawfully, to assist us to get them out of those communities.

QUESTION: So, there's no middle ground, right? I mean, how--you know, there's got to be something you could say to them.

ALBENCE: What--what's the middle ground with public safety? How--how safe? Do we want to be somewhat safe or do we want to be as safe as possible? I don't think there's a middle ground for public safety.

QUESTION: You won't negotiate or anything.

ALBENCE: Ma'am?

QUESTION: Yes. What do you attribute the spike in illegal crossings to that ended in the fiscal year this year?



ALBENCE: I mean, this is something that we've spoken about a significant amount. I'll answer briefly because I really want to stay on the topic. But we've talked about--we've--

QUESTION: --Well, it is topic.

ALBENCE: Well, we--what we're talking about here is public safety. We're talking about criminal aliens that are--people that are here illegally already then getting engaged in other criminal activity.

QUESTION: The spike in crossings?

ALBENCE: The--the spike--the spike with regard to crossings, as we've--we've documented very well the fact that Congress has failed to act to fix the Flores loophole, to fix the TVPRA, those pull factors which allow people to come to this country, present as a family or as a UAC, and our--is having no ability to detain those individuals during the pendency of their immigration process and thus having them be released.

It's all about the release. The goal of these people is to--that are coming here illegally is to get into the country and to be released.

QUESTION: But haven't you stepped up measures--

ALBENCE: --Ma'am--

QUESTION: --You're actually--

QUESTION: --Sorry. Haven't you stepped up measures though with personnel as well as surveillance and things of that nature to help prevent or to--to push back those who are coming across the border?

ALBENCE: So, again, we've--we've--under this administration, we've created a lot of programs. And as you've seen the numbers, they've gone down somewhat over the past several months. We're still not out of the crisis, but the Migrant Protection Protocols Program, the IFR with regard to safe third countries, the 71 miles of new wall that's been built. I would love to have put more resources to it.

This is one of the problems with this issue, is that we've had to redeploy our ICE resources to support the Border Patrol and--and Customs and Border Protection with those challenges at the border, which has made us less safe because we've had some field offices where we've had to shut down our at-large criminal alien teams so that they can handle the influx of people that are coming to this country illegally as well as the increase in people in detention. As a result, we arrested--we're going to arrest about 15,000 or so fewer criminal aliens this year as a result of what's going on at the border.

So, for those people that say we should be going after the worst of the worst and going after criminal aliens, I would love to, but that has to come with strong border security.

Sir?

QUESTION: Thank you. You--you opened--you opened your remarks by criticizing a federal judge who ruled that you couldn't use databases that were inaccurate enough that they were causing you to detain American citizens. So, I'm just trying to figure out, sir, under what circumstances do you think that judges should be able to order your agency to do or not do things? Do you reject the court's authority to tell you what the law is?

And also, Hogan, it's been 213 days since our last briefing. Could you maybe come up here when they're done and talk to us for a bit?



UNKNOWN: I'll discuss that with you afterwards. This is about another topic. Go ahead, sir.

ALBENCE: So, I've--unfortunately, the litigation is ongoing and there's very little I could say more than what I've said already. Obviously, we respect judge rulings--judge's rulings. We do that all the time.

We are law enforcement officers. We have to respect the--the--the law. Excuse me. I'm answering your question. We respect the laws that Congress has passed and we enforce them in accordance with the manner in which Congress has said. When judicial rulings come out, we abide by those judicial rulings. If those judicial rulings are overturned, then we abide by that. We don't get the--the ability, nor should we have the ability to pick and choose what laws that we should--should enforce.

Ma'am?

QUESTION: But a--the judge is telling you, sir--

QUESTION: --Director Albence--

QUESTION: --That it--that you--

ALBENCE: --Ma'am, go ahead.

QUESTION: --You were saying it's a--

QUESTION: --Thank you. You said that with the lack of cooperation you're always adapting--you're looking at ways of adapting. What are you currently doing--there has been talk of DNA sampling, facial recognition. Can you just explain that a little bit better?

ALBENCE: So, we're utilizing DNA sampling right now in the--in the border environment trying to ferret out the false families. As I mentioned earlier, many of the individuals that are coming here to this country are not legitimate families.

So, the family units, they're--they're utilizing the loopholes in the Flores settlement agreement to come here as a family, which will--which has led to significant numbers of children being recycled and victimized for the sole purpose of unrelated adults posing as a family unit with those children. That's what the DNA sampling goes after.

We're hitting about a 15 percent rate of individuals or families presenting as families that really aren't families. And we are prosecuting those cases. We've got great support from the U.S. attorneys office along the Southwest Border. But we processed more--or, excuse me, prosecuted more than 1,000 cases along the southwest border dealing with fraudulent families or imposters.

We've also seen instances in which unaccompanied alien children--or adults are posing as unaccompanied alien children, 18, 19, 20, 21-year-olds posing as 15, 16-year-olds. And those children unfortunate--those adults unfortunately end up in and HHS shelter that's full of children. That is an unsafe environment for those--for those children if you're putting adults in there.

QUESTION: Director, that--

QUESTION: --But in regards to criminals being released and your office is not--or your agency not notified, how are you dealing with that and adapting to that in regards to the judge's ruling in California that says this digital option or the database--

ALBENCE: --Right--



QUESTION: --Is not relevant.

ALBENCE: So, you know, we're continuing to look to--to modify ways in which we can conduct our--our enforcement operations. We're a--now that things on the border have slowed a bit, we're able to pull back some of our resources and get them back out on the street.

We rely upon our partners. We've increased the 287(g) program from 32 in 2017 to 79 now. We have a warrant service or officer program which is a--a limited authority program which will allow those cooperating jurisdictions to actually effectually arrested--arrest on our behalf. As we expand that, that will give us greater bandwidth. I--the easiest answer is Congress can give us more resources for both officers and attorneys to work these cases, but they haven't deemed--deemed fit to do so.

QUESTION: Director? Director?

ALBENCE: Yeah.

QUESTION: Sir, can you--just to follow up on that, to what degree are you still targeting undocumented families as a deterrent to other migrants? And my second question is are you planning to conduct more workplace operations like we saw in Mississippi over the summer?

ALBENCE: So, the families that we are going after are those that have had the opportunity to avail themselves of due process in the immigration court system and have either not shown up, as the vast majority, about 87 percent last time I checked the numbers, of those cases that were placed on the accelerated docket have failed to show up for either their initial court hearing. Those that do go through the court process and are ordered removed by an immigration judge, it's incumbent upon us to effectuate those removal orders so that there is integrity to the system.

Our system is going to have no integrity if those removal orders are not actually effectuated. So, we will continue--as we said back when we started this family unit operation, we'll continue to do it. We have teams out there every day going after these family units. And it's not just--it's not a matter of deterrence. Deterrence is--is--is an effect of us enforcing the law.

What was your second question?

QUESTION: Has that operation grown? How has it grown--

ALBENCE: --How has it grown? Well--

QUESTION: --Since the president--

ALBENCE: --The--the number--the number--the number of families that continue to fail to show up for their court hearings and then get removal orders continues to grow.

QUESTION: Director, follow-up about the workplace operations that we saw in Mississippi.

ALBENCE: So, Mississippi was just one operation. We--we enforce more than 400 laws that Congress has passed. Those walls--those laws regarding legal employment and worksite enforcement are part of that--that portfolio. We'll continue to do those cases.

Sir?

QUESTION: Director, thank you. A quick question about what you want the American people to understand about the crisis itself. They will hear this. They will hear you, and they will want the brass tacks. What are



you trying to say, simply speaking, about what you're attempting to do and what you're not getting from other stakeholders like congressional lawmakers and local law enforcement--or rather local leadership in places like Chicago or Texas?

ALBENCE: Well, what I would tell them is that, if they live in a sanctuary jurisdiction, their elected and appointed leaders are making them less safe.

[*]QUESTION: Can you speak to the issue of the accuracy of the databases that ICE is using (INAUDIBLE)?

ALBENCE: Obviously as I mentioned--

QUESTION: (INAUDIBLE) at times led to the arrest of American citizens or is ICE getting better at this?

ALBENCE: So I can't speak to on--ongoing litigation. As part of our investigations when we take enforcement action against somebody that includes a very substantial investigation into an individual's background. Many times individuals that we, cross that are United States citizens don't even know that they are because the laws around citizenship are so complicated. Ma'am?

QUESTION: A follow-up. A couple of questions. I want to follow up with you on something that I ask your counterpart at CBP earlier this week. How many children are currently being held at the border?

ALBENCE: Okay, so that is a perfect question for Mark Morgan because he controls the detention facilities. ICE has no authority today in children. Under the TV PRA ICE has - might

QUESTION: You are not briefed on those numbers that all? You don't know? Okay.

ALBENCE: I am sure she answered you at the time you ask him.

QUESTION: No, we haven't gotten an answer yet which is why I was wondering - Max

ALBENCE: I would follow up with his press people. Sorry.

QUESTION: Broader question, the president has expressed concerns about terrorists making their way across the border, the need to prevent that. Given what we are seeing in Syria right now, given that there are reports that ISIS fighters are being released as we speak how concerned are you about that? What are you doing to make sure that they don't in fact crossover if they were to make their way here? And are you in touch with any counterparts abroad about (INAUDIBLE)?

ALBENCE: So we have an extensive attache network within our Homeland Security investigations. We had (INAUDIBLE) security post in over 35 locations throughout the world. We continue to expand those programs as Congress gives us funding with which to do so ICE is the second largest participant in the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force. We do a significant amount of investigations involving individuals that are suspected of or believe--look, this agency in fact this entire department was formed after 9/11. Our primary mission is national security and that goes along with public safety. Sir?

QUESTION: Yes. Just to follow up on something I ask you last time you were here one of the biggest complaints that sanctuary jurisdictions have about ICE is that they would like to cooperate but when victims as you noted most of the victims of crime of illegal immigrants are themselves illegal immigrants and when they come forward and show up you all prosecute them and take them away as well. Can you--can you assure that community that that is not the case?

Can you make a guarantee that you will not go after the victims of crime but those that are perpetrating the crime? And to follow and just a real quick follow-up to what you said earlier about having to help out border



patrol is that not because we have been promised, the president promised like 10,000 new Border Patrol agents but because of pay disputes you haven't been able to hire that many?

ALBENCE: Well, let me address that one first. We can only hire the people that Congress appropriates funds for. ICE has no problem hiring people. Our nonretirement--Max

QUESTION: You are helping Border Patrol because they--

ALBENCE: Understand but we can only hire up to the level that Congress has authorized and appropriated so we fill our vacancies very quickly. We don't have a problem with hiring individuals. Our non-attribution--or excuse me nonretirement attrition rate is about 2 percent.

QUESTION: That's at ICE?

ALBENCE: That's at ICE, correct. So I can't speak to CBP's hiring but to your first question and as the sheriff mentioned there and I believe I mentioned this last time, we generally find out about an individual through their interaction with the criminal justice system, that interaction means that they were booked into a jurisdiction's facility, their fingerprints were run, their data was taken, they bounce off of FBI's data bases and they bounce off our databases.

That is how we find out about these individuals. Victims are not booked into criminal custody. Absent that we would not be out there looking for victims, we would not even know who in most cases--I am answering your question. In most cases we would not know who the victims are.

And I will tell you in many of these cases that we work jointly with our state and local partners we have an extensive network of victim assistance specialist within ICE because we deal with so many victims when it comes to human trafficking, smuggling, when it comes to child exploitation. We deal with victims on all day long unfortunately. I wish we didn't have to deal with so many victims but we do and we are very skilled at working with them and we work with prosecutors and everybody in the criminal justice system to ensure that if there is a case that they want to prosecute that they have the people available to do so.

QUESTION: (INAUDIBLE) get rid of them?

QUESTION: Yes, sir. You mentioned a resource reallocation. I am wondering if you can provide us any breakdown between arrest and deportation of people with final orders of removal versus anyone with past criminal convictions and other people of interest?

ALBENCE: Well first off we can only remove those individuals with final orders of removal so everybody that we remove has a final order of removal so we removed I believe 246,000 or so people last year. Every one of those individuals have a final order of removal. We are--we will probably arrest around 140,000 people this year. We will be releasing our numbers in the not too distant future. I don't have the exact breakdown of how many of those already have final orders but that is a good question and one that I think there is misinformation out there about.

When we arrest somebody that is here illegally if they have not already been through the court process and have their due process they get that ability. This is the front end of the process, just when these Sheriff's arrest somebody for aggravated assault or domestic violence that are rest they don't get to go from arrest to prison and serve a sentence. They have to go through the judicial process within the criminal justice system. We have a process within the executive office of immigration review that provides for that same due process in the immigration courts. Sir, right behind you.



QUESTION: There was a--a few months ago there was an attempted attack at a (INAUDIBLE) ICE facility and there has been a lot of social media threats towards ICE facilities and agents has that been a problem in terms of the ability to enforce the laws? I mean has there been extra protection for agents or anything like that?

ALBENCE: So obviously the safety and security of our personnel, officers and non-officers alike is our primary concern. I think that is why we have been so strident with our concerns about some of the ugly rhetoric that has been utilized around this issue and the vilification of the men and women of ICE and CBP and our other DHS partners that are merely enforcing the laws that Congress has passed. It is especially disheartening when it comes from individuals who actually have the ability to pass laws or change laws if they don't like them but instead they would rather vilify our officers for doing their sworn duties.

You know a third of our officers are military veterans. They were heroes before they ever strapped on a badge and they should be given the respect as any other law enforcement officer in this country so yes, I am very concerned. It is dangerous and hopefully those people that have opinions as to how immigration enforcement should be conducted would do so in a professional and responsible manner. Sir?

QUESTION: You mention the (INAUDIBLE) issue earlier I wondered if you can comment on that--

ALBENCE: I can't--I can't.

QUESTION: Is there (INAUDIBLE) are you having any problem as ICE (INAUDIBLE)?

ALBENCE: I learned about it this morning so I can't really--

QUESTION: You are having no problem or are (INAUDIBLE) willing to work with you given the current discourse between you and sanctuary cities?

ALBENCE: We are doing fine. I (INAUDIBLE) one question that is on topic, sir.

QUESTION: You mention the 246,000 people (INAUDIBLE) last year do you have any data about how many were criminal and how many were families?

ALBENCE: We do. It is on their website. I would say about criminals and I don't want to get it wrong but it was in the 140,000 or so range but is right on our website if you go to our FY '18 yearend report you can look at it.

QUESTION: You don't have the data for '19 yet?

ALBENCE: We have the data for '19, I don't we were going through vetting we are releasing it shortly.

QUESTION: Do you expect an expansion of the counties that are working right now, the 287(SP) counties how many more do you think will join up?

ALBENCE: I can't predict the future, I think we will, we have seen an expansion. Again the best partners when it comes to us working in the civil immigration enforcement and getting criminal aliens off the street are these sheriff's right here. We work very closely with a lot of police departments with our Homeland Security investigations doing criminal investigations but generally the entities that are detaining individuals for their criminal violations are the Sheriff's and those are the ones we work with closely. I expect we will continue to expand it. Thank you very much for your time. Appreciate it.

Load-Date: October 16, 2019



End of Document

[Texas Sheriff Calls Migrants 'Drunks Who Would Run Over Your Children' in White House Press Briefing; Tarrant County Sheriff Bill Waybourn went off the rails during a White House press briefing Thursday about border security.](#)

The Daily Beast

October 10, 2019 Thursday

Copyright 2019 ProQuest Information and Learning
All Rights Reserved
Copyright 2019 The Newsweek/Daily Beast Company LLC

Length: 109 words

Byline: Pilar Melendez

Dateline: New York

Body

FULL TEXT

A Texas sheriff went off the rails during a White House press briefing on border security Thursday, calling jailed undocumented immigrants “drunks who would run over your children.” Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** was speaking alongside Immigration and Customs Enforcement Director Matt Albence when he said releasing migrants who are currently imprisoned, instead of turning them over to U.S. authorities, would lead to more crime. “If we have to turn them loose or they get released, they’re coming back to your neighborhood and my neighborhood. These drunks will run over your children and they will run over my children,” Waybourn said.

Load-Date: October 11, 2019

End of Document

[Sheriff: If migrant DWI offenders released, 'these drunks will run over your children'](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

October 10, 2019 Thursday

Copyright 2019 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: politics_government

Length: 1054 words

Byline: Tessa Weinberg and Anna M. Tinsley

Star-Telegram

Dateline: Austin

Body

While speaking about the jail population that includes undocumented immigrants, drunken drivers and repeat offenders, Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill E. Waybourn** said that if released, "these drunks will run over your children and they will run over my children."

His comments about DWI offenders Thursday came during a White House press briefing with ICE Director Matt Albence, when the sheriff expressed concern for what would happen if repeat offenders were released.

"This morning we had 4,200 inmates. Out of that, 7% were illegal aliens. And they were being held for such offenses as murder, sexual assault of children -- there was about 70 of them. And there were robbers in there and kidnapers and people who committed arson and people who were DWI," Waybourn said.

Waybourn referenced a September ruling by a federal judge in California that made it more difficult for immigration officials to detain migrants longer.

"It will put our communities in jeopardy," he said. "Of those people that we have in custody, we know for a fact that 72% of them are repeat offenders, so if we have to turn them loose, or they get released, they're coming back to your neighborhood and my neighborhood. These drunks will run over your children, and they will run over my children.

"And if that happens, I know that you would want, and certainly I would want for you, the full force of the law. And immigration is part of that full force." Waybourn said during the briefing.

Waybourn comments

His comments quickly drew reaction from critics.

"It is appalling that a man with a badge and gun like **Sheriff Waybourn** would make such ignorant and twisted racist statements influenced by his far right-wing ideology," Domingo Garcia, the national president of LULAC, said in a statement. "We know that in Texas, the data shows that native-born residents are much more likely to be convicted of a crime than immigrants.

"This sheriff needs to resign and apologize for his bigoted comments immediately. The domestic terrorist attacks in El Paso and Gilroy have shown that this rhetoric can have deadly consequences."

Vance Keyes, who will seek the Democratic nomination for sheriff next year, said Waybourn's comments are "an embarrassment" to Tarrant County,

"All drunk drivers pose a threat to our communities," Keyes said in a statement. "The Sheriff makes an unsubstantiated association between intoxicated drivers and undocumented residents. The labeling of an entire group of people with such rhetoric is reckless and only serves to divide our diverse community.

"We need to bring balance to the Sheriff's office."

Migrant issues

Waybourn said he knows about the danger migrants are fleeing from when they cross the U.S.-Mexico border.

"I understand that many of these migrants come across that river down there in Texas looking for a better day, for something better for their family and I don't think anybody disagrees with that," Waybourn said. "But the problem is, the very people that they were fleeing who preyed upon them, came with them. And that's who we're trying to initially eliminate out of our country."

When asked for a response to the White House comments, Waybourn spokesman David McClelland said a review of the jail numbers shows that nearly 25% of immigrants in the jail face DWI charges or are repeat DWI offenders.

"We believe DWI is a very serious charge, and any time a person chooses to drive under the influence, they run the risk of killing or seriously injuring members of our community," he wrote in an email. "By prosecuting repeat offenders to the fullest extent of the law, we help keep our communities safer."

tx politics newsletter

Some Democratic leaders in Tarrant County quickly took to social media to respond to Waybourn's comments.

"This is the kind of ignorant, irresponsible fear-mongering rhetoric that creates hate & division," Rep. Chris Turner, D-Grand Prairie, and chair of the House Democratic Caucus, tweeted. "Has **Sheriff Waybourn** learned nothing in the aftermath of El Paso tragedy? No elected official should say things like this, especially in a county as diverse as Tarrant."

Following the shooting in El Paso that left 22 dead in an attack targeting Hispanics, state leaders faced criticism for language they've used in the past that some have said stoked anti-Hispanic and anti-immigrant attitudes.

"Immigrants are not drunks, and they commit crime at a far lower rate than the rest of the population, but **Sheriff Waybourn** will not let facts get in the way of cozying up to our inept president," Rep. Ramon Romero, D-Fort Worth, said in a statement. "His comments, thoughts, and policies make Tarrant County less safe by pushing the immigrant community further into the shadows and emboldening others to embrace racist and harmful ideologies."

Romero called on elected officials to condemn Waybourn's comments, warning of potential violence to the Latino community.

"Wow! This is coming from one of the top law enforcement officials in Tarrant County; someone who is supposed to be impartial while carrying out their elected duties," Rep. Nicole Collier, D-Fort Worth, wrote.

And Sen. Beverly Powell, D-Fort Worth, called on Waybourn to "immediately apologize for his hateful rhetoric."



287(g)

Waybourn has long been outspoken about migrants.

Earlier this year, Tarrant County commissions approved, at his request, letting sheriff's deputies continue to work as ICE agents.

It was a controversial issue, as supporters said the program made Tarrant County safer and opponents say migrants are scared they will be targeted and deported for something as small as a traffic ticket.

Tarrant County is home to more than 2 million people, including about 16% who are foreign born.

Debate and public testimony was heated before officials voted to extend for one year the contract known as 287(g). This refers to a section of the Immigration and Nationality Act that allows law enforcement agencies to work with federal immigration officers and "perform immigration law enforcement functions."

President Donald Trump pushed for more of these agreements between law enforcement agencies and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement in 2017 through an executive order.

In 2017, Waybourn, who was newly elected, agreed to have 12 deputies trained to act as local ICE agents under the federal program known as 287(g).

Load-Date: October 10, 2019

End of Document

[Texas sheriff at White House briefing: If criminal immigrants are released, 'drunks' will 'run over your children.'](#)

Newstex Blogs

The Texas Tribune

October 10, 2019 Thursday 7:07 PM EST

Copyright 2019 Newstex LLC All Rights Reserved

Length: 503 words

Byline: Stacy Fernandez

Body

Oct 10, 2019(The Texas Tribune: <http://texastribune.org> Delivered by Newstex) A Texas sheriff called undocumented immigrants "drunks who would run over your children and they will run over my children" during a Thursday morning White House press briefing[1] with Immigration and Customs Enforcement Director Matt Albence. "If we have to turn them loose or they get released, they're coming back to your neighborhood and my neighborhood.



These drunks will run over your children and they will run over my children," Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill E. Waybourn**. Waybourn said he knows many undocumented immigrants cross Texas' southern border looking for "a better day and something better for their family," but "the problem is, the very people they were fleeing, who preyed upon them, came with them." He said the Tarrant County Jail holds undocumented immigrants who are repeat offenders. "That's who we're trying to initially eliminate out of our country," Waybourn said. The Texas Tribune thanks its sponsors. Become one[2]. The sheriff also defended Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents, comparing public criticism of ICE to how soldiers returning from Vietnam were treated. "[They are] eviscerating honorable people [who are] doing noble things and standing on the wall between good and evil for you and me," he said. Immigration agents don't write the policies they enforce, Waybourn said. If people want change, "Capitol Hill is down the street," he said. Shortly after Waybourn's comments, state Rep. Chris Turner D-Grand Prairie, responded on Twitter: This is the kind of ignorant, irresponsible fear-mongering rhetoric that creates hate ... vision. Has **Sheriff Waybourn** learned nothing in the aftermath of El Paso tragedy? No elected official should say things like this, especially in a county as diverse as Tarrant. #txlege[3] <https://t.co/Ba1BrBbRwm>[4] — Chris Turner (@ChrisGTurner) October 10, 2019[5] Read related Tribune coverage Quality journalism doesn't come free Perhaps it goes without saying — but producing quality journalism isn't cheap. At a time when newsroom resources and revenue across the country are declining, The Texas Tribune remains committed to sustaining our mission[6]: creating a more engaged and informed Texas with every story we cover, every event we convene and every newsletter we send. As a nonprofit newsroom, we rely on members to help keep our stories free and our events open to the public. Do you value our journalism? Show us with your support. Yes, I'll donate today[7] [1]:

2]: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/live/> [

3]: <https://mediakit.texastribune.org/> [

4]: https://twitter.com/hashtag/txlege?src=hash..._src=twsrc%5Etfw [

5]: <https://t.co/Ba1BrBbRwm> [

6]: https://twitter.com/ChrisGTurner/status/1182325674284965888?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw [

7]: <https://www.texastribune.org/about> [

<https://support.texastribune.org/donate?installmentPeriod=yearly...unt=150...paignId=70146000007V3QAAU#join-today>

Load-Date: October 11, 2019

End of Document

[Texas sheriff at White House briefing: If criminal immigrants are released, "drunks" will "run over your children."](#)

Longview News-Journal (TX)

10 October 2019

Copyright 2019 Longview News-Journal, Longview, TX
Distributed by Newsbank, Inc. All Rights Reserved

Section: STATE

Length: 303 words

Byline: Staff Writer



Body

A Texas sheriff spoke at a Thursday morning White House press briefing with Immigration and Customs Enforcement Director Matt Albence and said that if law enforcement were forced to release undocumented immigrants with criminal convictions from jails, it would put the public at risk.

Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill E. Waybourn** said about 7% of the 4,200 inmates in his county jail are undocumented immigrants convicted of crimes including murder, sexual assault of a child and driving while intoxicated — and 72% are repeat offenders. He then made reference to a federal court ruling by a California judge — he didn't specify which judge or what the ruling did — and said, "If we return them with this radical ruling out of California where you have a federal judge making law for the nation, or attempting to, it will put our communities in jeopardy."

"If we have to turn them loose or they get released, they're coming back to your neighborhood and my neighborhood," he said. "These drunks will run over your children and they will run over my children."

Waybourn said he knows many undocumented immigrants cross Texas' southern border looking for "a better day and something better for their family," but "the problem is, the very people they were fleeing, who preyed upon them, came with them.

"That's who we're trying to initially eliminate out of our country," Waybourn said.

The sheriff also defended Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents, comparing public criticism of ICE to how soldiers returning from Vietnam were treated.

"[They are] eviscerating honorable people [who are] doing noble things and standing on the wall between good and evil for you and me," he said.

Immigration agents don't write the policies they enforce, Waybourn said. If people want change, he said, "Capitol Hill is down the street."

Load-Date: October 11, 2019

End of Document

['These drunks will run over your children': Texas sheriff uses White House podium to warn that federal court rulings force him to release illegal immigrants with multiple DWIs](#)

MailOnline

October 10, 2019 Thursday 5:08 PM GMT

Copyright 2019 Associated Newspapers Ltd. All Rights Reserved



Section: NEWS; Version:6

Length: 1398 words

Byline: David Martosko, U.S. Political EditorFrancesca Chambers, Senior White House Correspondent
For Dailymail.comAssociated Press

Body

- Acting director of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement said the agency is administering DNA tests to migrants 'to ferret out the false families'
- Speaking Thursday at the White House, Matthew Albence said the DNA tests have assisted in the prosecution of 'more than 1,000' migrants
- Said to be claiming to be 'fraudulent families or imposters' so that they can be released into the United States
- Albence claimed they are identifying 'loopholes' a court settlement prohibiting the detention of children for more than 20 days by the federal government
- Tarrant County, TX Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** also spoke from the podium about repeat-offender drink drivers who he has to release because of federal judges
- 'If we have to turn them loose or they get released, they're coming back to your neighborhood and my neighborhood. These drunks will run over your children'

A Texas sheriff warned on Thursday that illegal immigrants who commit other crimes while they're in the U.S. are likely to put communities at risk if they're released, including drunk drivers who would 'run over' children.

Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** said 7 per cent of the 4,200 inmates in his jail are in the U.S. illegally, and 72 per cent of them are repeat offenders. They include people 'being held for such offense as murder, sexual assault of children - there were about 70 of them - and there were robbers in there, and kidnappers, and people who committed arson, and people who were DWI [offenders],' he told reporters at the White House.

'If we have to turn them loose, or they get released, they're coming back to your neighborhood and my neighborhood,' said Waybourne.

'These drunks will run over your children, and they will run over my children. And if that happens, I know that you will want, and I would want for you, the full force of the law. And immigration is part of that full force.'

Officials have used charged rhetoric to highlight cases of crimes committed by illegal immigrants. Waybourn was criticizing federal court rulings that force local and county-level law enforcement to release jailed illegal immigrants instead of turning them over to federal ICE authorities.

The acting director of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement said during Thursday's briefing that his agency is administering DNA tests to asylum seekers and other immigrants 'to ferret out the false families' taking advantage of rules governing the detention of children.

Matthew Albence said the DNA tests have assisted in the prosecution of 'more than 1,000' migrants claiming to be 'fraudulent families or imposters' so that they can be released into the United States.

Albence claimed they are identifying 'loopholes' a court settlement prohibiting the detention of children for more than 20 days by the federal government.

'So, we're utilizing DNA sampling right now in the border environment, trying to ferret out the false families,' he said, claiming it 'has led to significant numbers of children being recycled and victimized' by unrelated adults.

He said, 'That's what the DNA sampling goes after. We're hitting about a 15 percent rate of individuals or families presenting as families that really aren't families. And we're prosecuting those cases.'

Albence also stated that young adults are posing as unaccompanied teens to skirt the laws and it's posing a danger to children who are lawfully in the shelters.

'That is an unsafe environment for those children if you're putting adults in there,' he said during a briefing at the podium.

Texas sheriff's White House comments about criminal aliens

'In Tarrant County, Texas, it's the 15th largest county in the nation, this morning we had 4,200 inmates. Out of that, 7 per cent were illegal aliens. And they were being held for such offense as murder, sexual assault of children -- there were about 70 of them. And there were robbers in there, and kidnappers, and people who committed arson, and people who were DWI [offenders]. And out of that, you know, you think about that, if we returned them, with this radical ruling out of California where you have a federal judge making law for the nation, or attempting to, it will put our communities in jeopardy. Of those people that we have in custody, we know for a fact that 72 per cent of them are repeat offenders. So if we have to turn them loose, or they get released, they're coming back to your neighborhood and my neighborhood. These drunks will run over your children, and they will run over my children. And if that happens, I know that you will want, and I would want for you, the full force of the law. And immigration is part of that full force.'

- Tarrant County, Texas Sheriff **Bill Waybourn**

The acting director of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement held the briefing to criticize a judge's ruling barring his agency from relying solely on databases that have at times led to the wrongful detention of American citizens.

Albence called the September ruling an example of 'judicial overreach' that threatened public safety.

The ruling by U.S. District Judge André Birotte Jr. bars ICE from issuing requests known as 'detainers' based solely on database searches considered to be unreliable. It applies to states that do not explicitly authorize civil immigration arrests using detainers.

ICE cross-checks jail rosters around the U.S. with federal databases that track people's nationality and immigration status. When it detects that a person is unauthorized to be in the U.S., ICE will issue a detainer asking the agency to hold the person until he or she can be taken into immigration custody.



Advocates allege relying on electronic databases alone to issue detainers is unreliable because they often have erroneous data and can lead to falsely accusing people of being in the U.S. illegally.

Citing ICE's data, Birotte wrote that 42 detainers between May 2015 and February 2016 were explicitly lifted because the person was a citizen. Nearly 800 detainers out of almost 13,000 issued during that time were withdrawn because the person was a citizen 'or otherwise not subject to removal,' the judge wrote.

Asked about the detention of Americans, Albence said he could not speak about ongoing litigation.

'Many times, individuals that we come across that are United States citizens don't even know that they are because the laws around citizenship are so complicated,' he said.

Jennie Pasquarella, a lawyer with the American Civil Liberties Union of Southern California, which helped bring the lawsuit, said the ruling was 'critical to protecting the rights of everyone' and ensuring that ICE does not subject people to baseless arrests and detention.

U.S. immigration agencies earlier this year detained an American-born 18-year-old for more than three weeks even though he had copies of paperwork documenting his citizenship.

A Democratic congresswoman from California visiting a Border Patrol processing center in South Texas in July encountered a 13-year-old girl holding a U.S. passport next to her mother, who had been accused of crossing the border illegally.

Albence spoke next to local sheriffs from around the U.S. who are cooperating with ICE. As the agency has faced resistance to its operations in some parts of the country, the Trump administration has held several White House events featuring local officials who support its immigration priorities.

Sheriff Waybourne acknowledged that 'many of these migrants come across that river, down there in Texas, looking for a better day, for something better for their family. And I don't think anybody disagrees with that.'

'But the problem is, the very people that they were fleeing, who preyed upon them, came with them. And that's who we're trying to initially eliminate out of our country.'

Pasquarella said Waybourn's statement was 'fueled by xenophobia and racism.'

'They're applying this narrative they would never apply to citizens just because they're not citizens,' she said.

At the White House, Waybourn also said that the narrative against law enforcement officers is similar to the one that was 'used against our Vietnam returning soldiers' and critics should run for office if they want to see a rule change.

'They're eviscerating honorable people doing noble things, standing on the wall between good and evil for you and me. And if these people want to change things, Capitol Hill is down the street,' he said.

Load-Date: October 10, 2019

End of Document

[ICE, sheriff say immigration ruling threatens public safety](#)

The Associated Press



October 10, 2019 Thursday 9:24 PM GMT

Copyright 2019 Associated Press All Rights Reserved

Section: WASHINGTON DATELINE

Length: 755 words

Byline: By KEVIN FREKING and NOMAAN MERCHANT, Associated Press

Dateline: WASHINGTON

Body

WASHINGTON (AP) - The acting director of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement on Thursday criticized a judge's ruling barring his agency from relying solely on databases that have at times led to the wrongful detention of American citizens.

Speaking Thursday at the White House, Matthew Albence called the September ruling an example of "judicial overreach" that threatened public safety.

Following Albence was a Texas sheriff who suggested the ruling would require releasing jailed immigrants who were "drunks" and would "run over your children," a comment that was immediately denounced by advocates.

U.S. District Judge André Birotte Jr. barred ICE from issuing requests known as "detainers" based solely on database searches considered to be unreliable. The ruling applies to states that do not explicitly authorize civil immigration arrests using detainers.

ICE cross-checks jail rosters around the U.S. with federal databases that track people's nationality and immigration status. When it detects that a person is unauthorized to be in the U.S., ICE will issue a detainer asking the agency to hold the person until he or she can be taken into immigration custody.

Advocates say relying on electronic databases alone to issue detainers is unreliable because they often have erroneous data and can lead to falsely accusing people of being in the U.S. illegally.

Citing ICE's data, Birotte wrote that 42 detainers between May 2015 and February 2016 were explicitly lifted because the person was a citizen. Nearly 800 detainers out of almost 13,000 issued during that time were withdrawn because the person was a citizen "or otherwise not subject to removal," the judge wrote.

Asked about the detention of Americans, Albence said he could not speak about ongoing litigation.

"Many times, individuals that we come across that are United States citizens don't even know that they are because the laws around citizenship are so complicated," he said.

President Donald Trump - as well as his top officials and allies - has long assailed judges who have ruled against his administration's efforts to restrict immigration and ramp up arrests and deportations.

Jennie Pasquarella, a lawyer with the American Civil Liberties Union of Southern California, which helped bring the lawsuit, said the ruling was "critical to protecting the rights of everyone" and ensuring that ICE does not subject people to baseless arrests and detention.



U.S. immigration agencies earlier this year detained an American-born 18-year-old for more than three weeks even though he had copies of paperwork documenting his citizenship.

A Democratic congresswoman from California visiting a Border Patrol processing center in South Texas in July encountered a 13-year-old girl holding a U.S. passport next to her mother, who had been accused of crossing the border illegally.

Albence spoke next to local sheriffs from around the U.S. who are cooperating with ICE. As the agency has faced resistance to its operations in some parts of the country, the Trump administration has held several White House events featuring local officials who support its immigration priorities.

Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** of Fort Worth, Texas, said many unauthorized immigrants in his jail were accused of felonies like murder and sexual assault as well as drunken-driving offenses. He said Birotte's ruling "will put our communities in jeopardy."

"If we have to turn them loose or they get released, they're coming back to your neighborhood and my neighborhood," he said. "These drunks will run over your children, and they will run over my children."

Waybourn said about 7% of the 4,200 people currently detained in Tarrant County are in the U.S. illegally. His office issued a statement saying that nearly 25% of the unauthorized immigrants jailed in Tarrant County were accused of driving while intoxicated or being a DWI "repeat offender."

The sheriff also acknowledged that many people who cross the U.S.-Mexico border migrate "looking for a better day, for something better for their family."

Texas State Rep. Chris Turner, whose district includes Tarrant County, tweeted that the comments were "ignorant, irresponsible fear-mongering" in light of the August mass shooting in El Paso, Texas, where a gunman alleged to have targeted Mexicans killed 22 people.

Pasquarella said Waybourn's statement was "fueled by xenophobia and racism."

"They're applying this narrative they would never apply to citizens just because they're not citizens," she said.

—

Merchant reported from Houston.

Load-Date: October 11, 2019

End of Document

[Tarrant sheriff didn't bash all immigrants as drunks. But he should be more careful](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

October 10, 2019 Thursday

Copyright 2019 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: editorials

Length: 451 words

Byline: The Fort Worth Star-Telegram Editorial Board

Star-Telegram

Body

Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** acquired some useful experience Thursday that not all lawmen can claim: He was accused of a crime he didn't commit and convicted in the court of the fast-moving news cycle.

Waybourn, a Republican, was at the White House for an event defending immigration enforcement. He's popular among illegal-immigration hardliners, in part because his jail is one of the largest in the country that cooperates with federal authorities to check the immigration status of those arrested.

From a White House lectern, Waybourn said that among the current Tarrant County Jail inmates, 7% are in the country illegally. Some of those, he noted, have multiple arrests for driving while intoxicated. After providing some other information, he said: "If we have to turn them loose, or they get released, they're coming back to your neighborhood and my neighborhood. These drunks will run over your children, and they will run over my children."

Some sloppy or too-fast reporting suggested Waybourn was saying that all or many illegal immigrants are "drunks" who are a danger to Tarrant County's precious youth. No fair reading of his comments suggests he was speaking broadly of anyone beyond habitual drunken drivers. Political opponents pounced, and in a world where too few people read beyond an inflammatory headline, let alone watch the full couple minutes of video, Waybourn was guilty and sentenced to a day of being one of Twitter's piñatas.

That said, the sheriff should be extremely careful with his words on such a volatile topic. His decision to participate in the 287 (g) program that has county officers doing ICE status checks has roiled Tarrant County immigrants and their allies -- including many citizens who don't want their public officials participating in such a program.

Waybourn White House tweet

There's no evidence that immigrants here illegally commit more crimes, or have a higher share of "drunks" endangering children, than native citizens. So Waybourn's language was unnecessarily inflammatory.

And when you're speaking from the White House, with Trump administration immigration officials at your side, your words carry tremendous weight. You must be precise. To so many in the world, Tarrant County now looks intolerant. That's not entirely Waybourn's fault, but he handed opponents a stick to hit him with.

Waybourn is up for re-election next year, and with Tarrant County trending Democratic, he could be in for a tough fight. He's walking a line on enforcing the law, keeping a campaign promise and appearing reasonable on a topic that spikes blood pressure on all sides.

His words Thursday didn't help, even if he was unfairly convicted.

tx politics newsletter

Load-Date: October 10, 2019

End of Document

PUBLIC SAFETY BRIEFS

THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

September 12, 2019 Thursday, 1 EDITION

Copyright 2019 THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

DallasNews.com

Section: METRO & STATE; Pg. B02

Length: 393 words

Body

FORT WORTH

Man gets life for attack

on 12-year-old girl

A Tarrant County jury sentenced a man to life in prison Wednesday for the brutal attack on a 12-year-old girl as she walked to a school bus stop last year.

Terry Wayne King II, 37, was convicted Tuesday of injury to a child causing serious bodily injury and attempted aggravated kidnapping. He received life sentences on both counts that will be served concurrently, according to the Tarrant County district attorney's office.

Dorika Uwimana was choked and beaten April 19, 2018, in West Fort Worth, police said. A bus driver called police after Dorika got on the bus, bleeding and unresponsive.

DNA evidence recovered from her hands matched King's, according to the Tarrant County district attorney's office said.

Dana Branham,

Claire Z. Cardona

4 injured when school



bus crashes into tree

Four people were injured Wednesday when a school bus crashed into a tree in Fort Worth.

The crash happened shortly before 5 p.m. in the 6900 block of Sheridan Road, near Hallmark Drive West, according to MedStar spokesman Matt Zavadsky.

Three children and an adult with minor injuries were taken to a hospital, Zavadsky said.

The Everman ISD bus was the only vehicle involved in the crash, according to KDFW-TV (Channel 4).

LaVendrick Smith

Firefighters rescue

woman from blaze

A woman was hospitalized in serious condition after fire gutted her Fort Worth home Wednesday morning.

Police officers who were patrolling in the area smelled smoke and discovered the fire around 1:50 a.m. in the 2000 block of Andrew Avenue.

Firefighters were able to rescue the woman.

She had severe smoke inhalation and was taken to Parkland Memorial Hospital in serious but stable condition.

Loyd Brumfield

SOUTHLAKE

Teen migrant forced

into labor to pay debt

A 36-year-old man is accused of forcing a 15-year-old Guatemalan girl to work at a fast-food restaurant in Southlake to pay off a \$10,000 debt for smuggling her into the U.S., Tarrant County authorities say.

Cesar Valdez-Perez faces charges of child trafficking and forging government documents. He was booked into the Tarrant County jail and released on bond.

Valdez-Perez was picked up by federal immigration agents after he was freed, said David McClelland, the sheriff's chief of staff.

Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** said the girl has been handed over to the proper authorities.

Sriya Reddy

Load-Date: September 12, 2019

End of Document



[15-year-old girl forced to work to pay off \\$10K debt in trafficking case, sheriff says](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

September 10, 2019 Tuesday

Copyright 2019 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: northeast_tarrant

Length: 293 words

Byline: Domingo Ramirez Jr.

Star-Telegram

Dateline: Fort Worth

Body

A 15-year-old from Guatemala has been rescued from human trafficking after Tarrant County authorities were tipped off they she was being forced to pay off a \$10,000 debt.

The girl was forced to work all night at a local restaurant to pay off the debt she incurred for being brought to the United States, authorities said.

Authorities have arrested Cesar Augusto Valdez-Perez, 36, who faces charges of trafficking a child and two counts of fraudulent use/possession of identifying information.

Valdez-Perez, who also is from Guatemala, has an immigration hold.

An investigation began after the teen made an outcry to a friend who contacted her counselor and Southlake police. Officials with the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office's human trafficking unit assisted in the investigation.

Through the investigation, Valdez-Perez is accused of providing false documentation allowing the girl to obtain the job needed to work off the debt.

"We aren't releasing the name of the restaurant at this point given that it is an ongoing investigation," said David McClelland, a spokesman with the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office, in a Tuesday email.

Detectives also believe Valdez-Perez would drop off the teen at the restaurant in the evening and had the child work throughout the night.

"Exploitation of a child, and human trafficking are both unacceptable," said Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** in a Tuesday news release. "As adults we all should do everything possible to protect children. We don't know what long-term trauma has been done to this child by these actions."



The suspect was arrested last month in Southlake.

His bail was set at \$15,000 on the trafficking charge and \$1,500 each on the fraudulent identification charges.

No information was released on the girl.

Load-Date: September 10, 2019

End of Document

**[Arlington honors 9/11 victims, first responders with special memorial.
'It's in our DNA'](#)**

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

September 2, 2019 Monday

Copyright 2019 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: arlington

Length: 681 words

Byline: Rick Mauch

Star-Telegram

Body

In Arlington this year, the heroism and sacrifice of a select group of Americans will be remembered in a special display.

As part of Patriot Day remembrance, the city will extend its recognition with a Field of Honor that will memorialize victims and the first responder heroes in the September 11 terrorist attacks in 2001. Patriot Day is held on that day each year across the United States.

At least 900 American flags will be planted in Veterans Park. In addition, 100 flags will be planted in Dr. Robert Cluck Park near Texas Live! where a 9/11 Patriot Day commemoration ceremony will be held at noon.

A closing ceremony is Saturday, Sept. 14.

"There are several parts to this patriotic week, all coming together at just the right time to demonstrate why Arlington is the best place for the National Medal of Honor Museum," said Clete McAlister, President of the



Arlington Veterans Park Foundation. "We especially want to honor fire, police, emergency medical personnel and active and retired military."

Arlington and Denver are the two finalists for the new National Medal of Honor Museum. A site is expected to be announced in September.

Actually, even more flags could be planted with the community's help. Flags can be purchased for \$40. Anyone who purchases a flag can have it installed in someone's honor. The honoree's information will be included on every flag.

The opening ceremony for the week will begin at 9 a.m. at Veterans Park. It will be followed immediately by a ribbon-cutting for the newly planned Korean War Memorial in Veterans Park.

At Dr. Robert Cluck Park, Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** will emcee a patriotic program in which Mayor Jeff Williams will speak, followed by keynote speaker and Pentagon 9/11 attack survivor Texas State Senator Brian Birdwell.

"We expect one or more Medal of Honor recipients to be in attendance," McAlister said.

"Arlington has a long history of stepping up and showing strong support for our veterans, first responders and law enforcement. It's in our DNA," Williams said. "The Field of Honor is another shining example of that and will be an outstanding display of patriotism by the Arlington community."

Afterward, Texas Live! will host a program of music. That evening, the Texas Rangers baseball team will give discount tickets for active military, veterans, and first responders.

McAlister said the Arlington Veterans Park Foundation was looking for a way to raise funds to complete the memorial area of Veterans Park. They had heard about the Field of Honor in Georgetown and the Veterans Day Field of Honor in Keller.

"We did not want to conflict with the Veterans Day Event in Keller, so after considering Memorial Day, we decided to hold this event on Patriot Day," he said. "There are no other patriotic events happening in early September that we know of. We also did not want to conflict with any of the many Veterans Day events in Arlington."

McAlister noted that it should be remembered that victims of the 9/11 attacks include civilians as well as the first responders and military who "always rush toward the dangers in our world."

"The American flag is the symbol of our nation's unity in times of peril, and it is the symbol that we use to honor the sacrifice of our heroes," McAlister said.

Volunteers are needed to help install the flags in the park Sept. 6.

Money raised from flag sales and sponsorships benefits the nonprofit Arlington Veterans Park Foundation. Event sponsors include the Greater Arlington Lions Club, the Jim Ross Law Firm and the Rotary Club of Arlington.

At the end of the week, the flags will be taken down and given to the purchaser or honoree. They will be mailed for an additional fee.

All money raised from the Patriot week events will go to the Arlington Veterans Park Foundation to complete the memorial area there. More information is available at arlingtonFOH.org.



Mansfield Summit student excited, grateful for \$100,000 college scholarship "It wasn't only a big win for me, it was also a big win for my brother and my aunt," Shaykeim Powe said after the Beyonce-Jay-Z concert was the thrill of a lifetime.

Load-Date: September 2, 2019

End of Document

[Don't let immigrants' fears derail common sense on terrorism patrols, Census question](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

August 30, 2019 Friday

Copyright 2019 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: ryan_j_rusak

Length: 838 words

Byline: Ryan J. Rusak

Star-Telegram

Body

Add certain counterterrorism exercises to the list of things that, apparently, must be curtailed because they might frighten people who are in the country illegally.

Last month, agents of a special Department of Homeland Security team were patrolling a Dallas light-rail station, and word spread of possible immigration enforcement activity, The Dallas Morning News reports.

It was nothing of the sort. The Transportation Security Administration's Visible Intermodal Prevention and Response, or VIPR, team, was patrolling alongside Dallas Area Rapid Transit police. (An aside: Government acronyms are just the worst). It happens a few times a year, The News reported, in an effort to dampen the risk of terrorist attack.

A member of DART's board says it needs to re-examine the relationship with the federal agency because it may not be -- wait for it -- "culturally sensitive" enough.

I don't know what it's like to fear my family could be torn apart over immigration status. I don't like the idea that hardworking, otherwise law-abiding people panic at the sight of federal law enforcement agents. I want the vast majority to be able to stay and, eventually, pursue citizenship.



But a lot of perfectly reasonable government actions are being declared out of bounds because some leaders and activists fear they might upset people who are, to begin with, breaking the law by being in the U.S. Perversely, this hurts the cause of finally fixing our dysfunctional approach to immigration.

CENSUS CITIZENSHIP QUESTION

Consider the kerfuffle over whether to include a question about citizenship on the U.S. Census. Set aside the Trump administration's botched handling of the legal case on it, the idea that we can ask people about race, relationships and even how many toilets they have, but not their citizenship, is silly.

Immigrant advocates contend, admittedly with some justification, that some families will duck the Census for fear that federal law enforcement might abuse the information.

Making matters worse is that the entire issue is framed around the precious drip, drip, drip of federal funding. Local officials warn that cities will collapse if a single deficit-fueled dollar is missed. That trope has gotten so out of hand that Texas schoolchildren are being enlisted to nag their parents to fill out Census forms. Apparently instilling fear is just fine if a few more federal bucks are to be gained.

There's more. Recently, El Paso lawmakers took Gov. Greg Abbott to task because he dared to tweet the unquestionable fact that a Supreme Court ruling puts states on the hook for educating unauthorized immigrants. Saying so was deemed "dangerous" in the wake of the El Paso shooting.

Abbott didn't use pejoratives. He didn't even say immigrants should be turned out of schools; he knows that would be immoral. But even discussing the matter is beyond the pale?

abbott immigration schools tweet

Here in Fort Worth, we saw the overhyped debate over whether Tarrant County jailers should be able to check the immigration status of people arrested and brought to the jail. The program, known as 287(g) after a section of U.S. law, merely has sheriff's deputies doing on nights and weekends what Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents working at the jail do during normal business hours.

The jail has been participating for more than two years under Sheriff **Bill Waybourn**, and when it recently came up for renewal, opponents couldn't point to a single person actually harmed under the program. But they portrayed merely cooperating with federal law enforcement as akin to a hate crime.

On the DART patrols, like many Americans, I have grown weary of security theater. Don't get me started on the sad state of our airport experiences. But if the sight of an armed federal agent makes a potential bomber think twice about attacking a DART platform or train, it's worth it. Period.

And it should go without saying that immigrants using DART will benefit if we do whatever we can to protect mass transit from terrorist attacks.

NEED FOR NEW LAW

These increasingly frustrating debates underscore the need for a major shift in immigration policy. The vast majority of unauthorized immigrants are law-abiding and contribute much more to society than they take out. Many are raising American citizens. We need solutions that allow them to live without fear.

Most urgently, young people who were brought here and know no other home need access to education and a quick path to citizenship.



As with so many things, President Donald Trump's noxious approach to the issue distorts the debate. We need not antagonize millions of families with vague warnings of ICE raids, and the wall that he just can't seem to deliver as promised isn't the answer, either.

But the cause of fixing our immigration system is misserved when we can't take common-sense steps because some immigrants might be upset. You won't win a lot of converts to the cause by arguing against anti-terrorism patrols, the deportation of violent criminals or a simple Census question.

Load-Date: August 30, 2019

End of Document

Other Voices: What Texas editors are saying

Longview News-Journal (TX)

21 June 2019

Copyright 2019 Longview News-Journal, Longview, TX
Distributed by Newsbank, Inc. All Rights Reserved

Section: OPINION

Length: 766 words

Byline: Staff Writer

Body

Questions for Tarrant

Fort Worth Star-Telegram

Don't think Tarrant County commissioners' vote this week to let sheriff's deputies continue enforcing federal immigration law at the jail settles the issue.

If anything, two meetings and hours of passionate public testimony have revealed more questions about the county's participation in the so-called 287(g) program that must be addressed. And if Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** can't provide more complete information about the costs and scope of the effort, commissioners should withdraw the county from it next year.

There are plenty of misconceptions about the program, and the sheriff and his staff tried to address them. A huge workforce isn't suddenly devoted to immigration; 10 jailers have been trained, at federal cost, to perform checks. No one's immigration status is considered until they've been arrested on at least a Class B misdemeanor charge. So no, a simple speeding ticket, in and of itself, won't suddenly lead to deportation.

But information about exactly what charges lead to the involvement of Immigration and Customs Enforcement is spotty. In a county that spends more than \$625 million a year, we were treated to the spectacle of the county judge going line-by-line through a massive spreadsheet to determine what county charges those held for immigration purposes faced.



Sheriff's officials say a lack of good jail management software is the issue. That needs to be fixed; if the county can't run a simple data query about who has come through the jail, how can it properly set policy?
...

Transparency on these matters would be a good start. But Waybourn and other county officials have work to do to persuade immigrants that 287(g) doesn't put a target on them.

There's a case to be made — most immigrants, even if they came here illegally, stay on the right side of the law and contribute to society. They are unlikely to run afoul of 287(g). And immigrant communities benefit when dangerous criminals are removed.

Waybourn will never win over some critics, but if he wants to continue 287(g) as an effective law enforcement tool, he needs to reach out.

In reality, 287(g) isn't as big as either its supporters or detractors make it out to be. It's not removing large numbers of hardened criminals from the streets; nor is it leading to roundups and deportations of law-abiding residents. It's a proxy fight over the larger question of how to manage immigration.

That means it will continue to be a flashpoint. The yearlong extension was granted on a slim 3-2 vote, and County Judge Glen Whitley, a Republican, seemed willing to consider whether the program does more harm than good. ...

Reduce flooding risks

The (McAllen) Monitor

The Rio Grande Valley — isn't.

Despite the catchy misnomer, local residents live in a flood plain. And as those living in the Mid-Valley a year ago can attest, that's the name it lives up to.

The 2018 inundations also remind us that even though we live at the western end of the Atlantic hurricane corridor it doesn't take a major storm to leave us underwater. Two days of steady rains were enough to overwhelm drainage systems, flooding hundreds of homes and leaving more than 13,000 without power.

It's only the most recent high-water event. A year earlier similar rains had flooded much of Cameron County. Other parts of the Valley have faced similar fates over the years. ...

After a series of major storms including Katrina and Rita devastated much of the Gulf Coast in 2005, a risk assessment study of the area concluded that if a Category 5 storm swept directly through the South Padre Island-Port Isabel area, it would send surges for several miles up the Rio Grande and the several ship channels in the area, leaving much of the land east of Los Fresnos completely underwater. Thousands of residents would be displaced and the cost of damages would be in the billions.

Forecasters predict the current hurricane season will be a little more active than normal, with 13 storms strong enough to receive names. But it can't be denied that storms have been increasing in frequency and strength in recent years, so local officials must always look for ways to mitigate the damage.

That begins with improving drainage as much as possible; winds might create an immediate threat, but flooding often has more long-lasting effects. ...



So while it's important to invest in the future, Valley officials must recognize the need to spend whatever is necessary to maintain and improve basic infrastructure such as drainage systems. After all, that's the foundation upon which the future will be built. ...

Load-Date: June 21, 2019

End of Document

[Questions Tarrant County must answer to keep deputies in 287\(g\) immigration program](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

June 19, 2019 Wednesday

Copyright 2019 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: editorials

Length: 583 words

Byline: The Fort Worth-Star Telegram Editorial Board

Star-Telegram

Body

Don't think that Tarrant County commissioners' vote this week to let sheriff's deputies continue enforcing federal immigration law at the jail settles the issue.

If anything, two meetings and hours of passionate public testimony have revealed more questions about the county's participation in the so-called 287(g) program that must be addressed. And if Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** can't provide more complete information about the costs and scope of the effort, commissioners should withdraw the county from it next year.

There are plenty of misconceptions about the program, and the sheriff and his staff tried to address them. A huge workforce isn't suddenly devoted to immigration; 10 jailers have been trained, at federal cost, to perform checks. No one's immigration status is considered until they've been arrested on at least a Class B misdemeanor charge. So no, a simple speeding ticket, in and of itself, won't suddenly lead to deportation.

But information about exactly what charges lead to the involvement of Immigration and Customs Enforcement is spotty. In a county that spends more than \$625 million a year, we were treated to the spectacle of the county judge going line-by-line through a massive spreadsheet to determine what county charges those held for immigration purposes faced.



Sheriff's officials say a lack of good jail management software is the issue. That needs to be fixed; if the county can't run a simple data query about who has come through the jail, how can it properly set policy?

The same goes for the program's cost. Waybourn argued that local taxpayers were on the hook for just a few thousand dollars, based on the relatively quick time that it takes a deputy to perform the ICE function and the fact that the federal government reimburses training costs, including travel.

But as critics noted, he left out the salaries paid to those deputies while they're in training and not performing other county functions. That number won't be so large as to turn supporters off the program, so why be cute about it?

Transparency on these matters would be a good start. But Waybourn and other county officials have work to do to persuade immigrants that 287(g) doesn't put a target on them.

There's a case to be made -- most immigrants, even if they came here illegally, stay on the right side of the law and contribute to society. They are unlikely to run afoul of 287(g). And immigrant communities benefit when dangerous criminals are removed.

Waybourn will never win over some critics, but if he wants to continue 287(g) as an effective law enforcement tool, he needs to reach out.

In reality, 287(g) isn't as big as either its supporters or detractors make it out to be. It's not removing large numbers of hardened criminals from the streets; nor is it leading to roundups and deportations of law-abiding residents. It's a proxy fight over the larger question of how to manage immigration.

That means it will continue to be a flashpoint. The year-long extension was granted on a slim 3-2 vote, and County Judge Glen Whitley, a Republican, seemed willing to consider whether the program does more harm than good.

When the issue next comes before the Commissioners Court, we'll be in the throes of an election year. Among those on the ballot will be **Sheriff Waybourn**, if he chooses to run again. If his office's handling of 287(g) hasn't improved, and county commissioners haven't taken steps to ensure they get the information the public needs, voters should take that into account.

Load-Date: June 19, 2019

End of Document

[***Tarrant County officials extend immigration enforcement program***](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

June 18, 2019 Tuesday

Copyright 2019 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram
Found on DFW.com



Section: fort_worth

Length: 1288 words

Byline: Diane Smith and Anna M. Tinsley

Star-Telegram

Dateline: Fort Worth

Body

Tarrant County Commissioners on Tuesday approved a plan to stay in a federal program that lets sheriff's deputies work as ICE agents.

After more than 2 1/2 hours of public comment, commissioners voted 3-2 for a one-year extension of a contract known as 287(g). This refers to a section of the Immigration and Nationality Act that allows law enforcement agencies to work with federal immigration officers and "perform immigration law enforcement functions."

"I know that fear exists ... for that, I am very, very sorry," Tarrant County Judge Glen Whitley said before the vote. "I wish Congress would get off the dime and get (an immigration policy) taken care of."

He and commissioners Gary Fickes and J.D. Johnson voted to extend the contract. Commissioners Roy Charles Brooks and Devan Allen opposed the extension.

"I think we have created a monster that runs amok in our community, generating fear, mistrust and adds no value when it comes to public safety," Brooks said, adding that the community can't financially or morally afford the extension.

At one point before commissioners voted, there was a heated outburst in the crowd.

Republican Marie Howard -- who was wearing a red football jersey emblazoned with Trump's name and the number 45 on the back -- had just spoken to commissioners, encouraging support for the program, when she stopped and asked what someone said to her.

"Someone over here just called me a b----," she said.

Deputies escorted out immigrant ally Mindia Whittier after she made an obscene hand gesture.

"I disagreed with what she was saying," said Whittier, a member of United Fort Worth. "They said they wanted us not to be disruptive so I was making a silent gesture that I didn't feel was disruptive. The police told me I had to leave."

Asked if she regretted making the gesture, she said: "No I don't regret it. ... They interpret my gesture as offensive and I interpret the woman wearing a Trump shirt as offensive."

After the vote, more than a dozen people stood up, loudly chanting, "Ain't no power like the power of the people because the power of the people don't stop." They then walked out of the meeting.

President Donald Trump -- who on Tuesday said millions of people illegally living in the country will be deported starting next week -- pushed for more of these agreements between law enforcement agencies



and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement in 2017 through an executive order. The order was perceived by Trump supporters as a delivery of his campaign promise to focus on illegal immigration.

In 2017, newly elected Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** agreed to have 12 deputies trained to act as local ICE agents under the federal program known as 287(g).

The clock expires nationwide on this and other 287(g) agreements on June 30, which prompted Tarrant County Commissioners to vote. Communities across the state are voting on whether to extend the agreements as well.

287(g) enforcement

Supporters say the program makes Tarrant County safer. Opponents believe migrants are scared they will be targeted and deported for something as small as a traffic ticket. Tarrant County is home to more than 2 million people, including about 16 percent who are foreign born.

Waybourn told the crowd Tuesday that sheriff's deputies are not racially profiling or conducting raids for ICE.

"This is something that happens inside the jail," he said.

State lawmakers on both sides of the issue sent letters to the commissioners court. Republicans urged the continuation of the program; Democrats urged the cancellation of it.

Even though many speakers Tuesday urged commissioners to not let the vote be partisan, many comments fell along party lines. At least one person in the crowd wore a red "Make America Great Again" baseball hat.

Tarrant County Republican Party chairman Darl Easton said he would like to see the county extend the program for three to four years, not just one.

He said people here illegally "first violated our laws coming into the country and then they violated the U.S. laws while they were here. ... I believe this is an adequate program and it's not racist."

Former state Rep. Lon Burnam, D-Fort Worth, said many people across the county are afraid of police and law enforcers.

"There's no doubt in my mind (this program) is racist," he said. "We feel less safe in our community because of things like this and the things we heard today."

veasey tweet

U.S. Rep. Marc Veasey, D-Fort Worth, tweeted that he was disappointed in the vote to renew the agreement.

"Especially in light of the President's threats, we need to stand up for our immigrant communities more than ever," he wrote.

Immigration holds

Jehovany Julian Gonzalez, 19, told commissioners he was arrested by a local police department and booked into the Tarrant County jail last year on a misdemeanor possession charge. In less than three hours, an ICE hold was placed on him. He ended up in detention.



While in the custody of ICE, he missed a court hearing on the original charge and an arrest warrant was issued for him.

Ultimately, he was able to fight the original charge, and said it was dismissed after he was found not guilty. Now he faces an immigration hearing in 2021.

Whitley said the process appeared to work as it should. Brooks responded, "What it did was criminalize an immigration offense."

Republican Sara Legvold told commissioners it's important to follow the rule of law -- and she believes Gonzalez likely will ignore his immigration hearing next year.

Burnam spoke up for Gonzalez, saying he doesn't believe he will skip out on the hearing next year at all.

"He has showed more bravery here than anyone in the room," Burnam said.

ICE debate

In the days leading up to Tuesday's meeting, the issue fueled debate and discussion on social media.

One area of concern was the cost to local taxpayers.

Last week, Waybourn told the commissioners court that detainees with ICE holds are not staying in the jail past 48 hours, but questions remained among elected officials and the community about who is held, for how long and how much it costs taxpayers.

Waybourn said most of the cost for 287(g) falls on the federal government. It was unclear during the meeting how much the county spends on 287g.

Waybourn, who likened the work to being on a task force, said deputies perform ICE duties while also doing their routine tasks. And he said the deputies' salaries are paid by the county. However, the federal government pays for travel, boarding, meals and other expenses associated with ICE training.

County officials said during the meeting they expect to be reimbursed about \$500,000 from the federal government for their work on the program last year.

Waybourn said that, as of Tuesday, there were 280 inmates in custody with ICE detainers for charges ranging from felony homicides and misdemeanor charges such as interfering with an emergency call.

The program is not new, but it became a piece of the nation's immigration debate with Trump's 2016 election. The program has existed for several decades. It has come under fire by immigration allies, who describe it as discriminatory because it opens the door to racial profiling.

The program has been practiced under Republican and Democratic administrations. Through the years, it has been criticized by people in both parties.

The Tarrant County Sheriff's Department is one of 80 law enforcement agencies in 21 states participating in this program, and one of 25 sheriff's departments in Texas, according to a list updated through May from the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

In Tarrant County, the undocumented population is estimated to be about 109,000, according to the Migration Policy Institute. The institute is a non-partisan uses research to develop policy.



Load-Date: July 10, 2019

End of Document

[Tarrant pushes back on jail deal](#)

THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

June 17, 2019 Monday, 1 EDITION

Copyright 2019 THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

DallasNews.com

Section: NEWS; Pg. A01

Length: 1266 words

Byline: JAMES BARRAGÁN, jbarragan@dallasnews.com

Body

In deep red Tarrant County, the fate of a program that has become a symbol of the “tough on immigration” tactics of national and state Republican leaders is facing an unexpectedly difficult road to renewal after outcry from immigrant rights activists and local advocacy groups.

In recent weeks, opponents of the county’s 287(g) agreement — which allows sheriff employees at the county jail to flag and hold unauthorized immigrants in their custody for federal immigration authorities — have lobbied county commissioners, held rallies and turned out dozens of people at a county meeting to testify against the partnership.

Some see the boisterous opposition as a sign of changing political trends in the historically conservative county, which has seen Democrats make gains in recent years.

“There’s a strong correlation between rejecting these agreements and emerging or strong Democratic local success,” said Brandon Rottinghaus, a political science professor at the University of Houston who is studying the dissolution of these agreements in counties across the country. “The fact that there’s friction about it suggests that the county is in transition politically.”

In recent years, large urban counties across the country have moved away from 287(g) agreements — named for the section of the Immigration and Nationality Act that authorizes them — citing concerns with costs and legal liabilities for holding people beyond the legal limit for immigration authorities.

In 2017, Harris County ended its partnership with immigration authorities after the election of a new Democratic sheriff. That same year, Fort Bend County Sheriff Troy Nehls said he would not start a program in his office because it would cost half a million dollars in taxpayer money to train his deputies for the program.



But in Tarrant County, Sheriff **Bill E. Waybourn** joined dozens of other rural and suburban counties, including Rockwall, in signing up for the program when he was elected two years ago — making the county an outlier among the state’s largest counties, which had rejected such agreements.

Waybourn said he joined the partnership because he saw unauthorized immigrants who committed crimes not being identified for ICE because the jail only had immigration officers working on weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Those offenders would leave the jail and come back after committing another crime, he said.

By having his staff trained in the enforcement of immigration law, he said, the jail could run immigration checks all the time and more consistently flag and turn over unauthorized immigrants to federal immigration authorities. Their deportations, Waybourn said, would lead to a safer community.

But local activists say the program creates distrust between law enforcement and immigrants in the community who fear they could be deported for minor traffic offenses, such as having a broken tail light or running a red light.

That fear, opponents say, also leads to less safe communities because immigrants do not report crimes for fear of being turned over to immigration authorities. They also say it could cost the county hundreds of thousands of dollars a year and leave it open to lawsuits.

Waybourn said he has set up the program to only turn over people who have committed crimes that are Class B misdemeanors or higher. If someone was sent to jail for a traffic infraction, which usually fall under a Class C misdemeanor, he or she would not be flagged for ICE by jail employees.

After the county entered the program, several community organizations concerned about its impact on the immigrant community formed a coalition called “ICE Out of Tarrant” to push for an end to the 287(g) agreement.

“If we can start with one of the reddest, deep red, blood red counties in the state, we’ll take it,” said Giovanni Torres, a member of the coalition. “We’ve all gotta start somewhere.”

During the commissioners’ meeting Tuesday, County Judge B. Glen Whitley, a Republican, expressed concern about how the program was being implemented and whether people were being turned over to ICE for traffic infractions. Because of the makeup of the commissioner’s court — two Democrats and three Republicans — Whitley will likely cast the deciding vote.

After the meeting, he said he had analyzed data from the jail and could not find any evidence that the sheriff’s office had turned over people for Class C misdemeanors or that contradicted Waybourn’s claim that the program was costing only about \$1,800 because of reimbursements from the federal government — though advocates had provided data from the state’s jail commission showing that the jail had reported a cost of \$345,000 for holding immigrants for ICE in April.

But after looking at the data, Whitley said he plans to vote to renew the contract even though he understands the concerns of those who want the program ended.

“It’s the toughest vote I’ve ever taken,” said Whitley, who’s served as county judge for 13 years and was a county commissioner for 10 years before that. “I feel very compassionate about the folks who are in fear but the folks we’re trying to deport are the ones that are bad actors.”

The program’s supporters say they have felt the increased pressure from opponents to end the program, but that their opposition is not surprising. They’ve seen similar opposition to other immigration proposals,



like the state's sanctuary cities ban in 2017. Even though Democrats and liberals are getting more organized, they say, the majority of the county is still conservative.

"I live in Precinct 3, which is Northeast Tarrant — I don't need to explain to you the demographics of that area," said Commissioner Gary Fickes, referring to the Northeast Tarrant Tea Party, which is one of the strongest conservative grassroots groups in the state. "Almost every email I've received has been to continue this program."

Whitley echoed that idea, saying that Republicans still dominate most of the elected positions in the county and that Beto O'Rourke's Senate campaign against Ted Cruz motivated a lot of Democrats, while some Republicans who were unhappy with Cruz stayed home.

Still, Rottinghaus, the political science professor, said the strong debate around the issue shows political tension in the county. Republicans are keen to support the program because it signals to voters that they are addressing one of the major issues the party wants to tackle nationwide.

But even if the program remains, Rottinghaus said, the battle may not be over. The agreement would have to be renewed in another two years and opponents may try to influence elected officials again then — this time at the ballot box.

"We're looking at case studies in Tennessee and North Carolina where the communities who are against these agreements have rallied to unseat people who have backed the agreements," he said. "There is a lot of evidence of local community organizing groups trying to oust some local elected officials."

Twitter: @James_Barragan

UPDATE

Immigration poll

'GONE TOO FAR': Half of

American voters say the Trump

administration has gone too far

on immigration enforcement, a

Fox News poll shows. The 50%

who say enforcement of

immigration laws has "gone too

far" is more than double, 24%,

those who say actions haven't

gone far enough. About one in

five say the measures are about

right.



SUPPORT FOR DREAMERS: By a wide majority — 73% to 24% — Americans favor giving legal status to Dreamers, young people brought to the U.S. illegally as children. Also, allocating more agents to the border was a more popular choice than imposing tariffs on Mexican imports or building a border wall.
Bloomberg News

Load-Date: June 17, 2019

End of Document

[***This immigration issue has divided Tarrant County. Now it's up for a vote***](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

June 17, 2019 Monday

Copyright 2019 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: fort_worth

Length: 1735 words

Byline: Diane Smith and Anna M. Tinsley

Star-Telegram

Dateline: Fort Worth

Body



Editor's note: County officials voted on this measure June 18. Read more here.

Tarrant County is on the political front line of one of President Donald Trump's signature immigration enforcement promises.

Officials must decide whether to continue participating in a federal program that lets sheriff's deputies work as ICE agents.

Supporters say this makes the community safer. Critics say migrants are scared they will be targeted through the program and deported for something as small as a traffic ticket. The county, one of the state's largest, is home to more than 2 million people, about 16% of them foreign born.

In 2017, newly elected Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** agreed to have 12 deputies trained to act as ICE agents under the federal program known as 287 (g).

Nationwide, the clock expires on these 287 (g) agreements on June 30 and, in Tarrant County, the Commissioners Court is scheduled to vote Tuesday on whether to continue the program..

Eight Republican lawmakers recently signed a letter to the Commissioners Court, urging it to continue the program.

"Tarrant County has reaped the benefits of keeping many violent repeat offenders off the streets," according to the letter signed by GOP Reps. Tony Tinderholt and Bill Zedler of Arlington, Craig Goldman, Charlie Geren, Matt Krause and Stephanie Klick of Fort Worth, Giovanni Capriglione of Southlake and Jonathan Stickland of Bedford.

The program has become a rallying cry for immigrant advocates and organizers who have fought against it with petitions, rallies, marches and open records requests. They argue that the program instills fear and is prone to racial profiling. They also want more transparency about how it works and its costs.

Immigrant communities are complex, say advocates, who explain that families include members with different types of immigrant statuses, from U.S.-born children to parents with green cards to relatives with no status at all. Often, fears of being flagged for deportation outweighs safety.

"The sheriff's office and other elected offices don't think the fear in the immigrant community is real," said Gabriela Rodriguez, an organizer with ICE Out of Tarrant County, who was among dozens of immigrant allies who attended a recent commissioners court meeting speaking against local involvement in the program.

Rodriguez said they will show up again Tuesday for the vote. In the meantime, they hope their efforts will convince three commissioners on the five-seat board to vote with "compassion for the immigrant community."

In Tarrant County, the undocumented population is estimated to be about 109,000, according to the Migration Policy Institute. The institute is non-partisan and uses research to develop policy.

A contract with ICE

Tarrant County is the largest of the 25 sheriff's departments in Texas with agreements to let local deputies take on U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement tasks.



In early 2017, President Trump began delivering his campaign promises on immigration with a slew of executive orders that focused on policing immigration laws and making all immigrants who lack legal status a priority for enforcement.

One order, "Enhancing Public Safety in the Interior of the United States," included boosting cooperation between local governments and federal immigration authorities through 287(g) agreements, which date to the 1990s.

On June 6, 2017, Waybourn and County Judge Glen Whitley signed off on a 287 (g) agreement with ICE. The term 287 (g) refers to a section of the Immigration and Nationality Act that lets law enforcement agencies such as the Tarrant County Sheriff's Department work with federal immigration officers and "perform immigration law enforcement functions."

The Tarrant County Sheriff's Department is one of 80 law enforcement agencies in 21 states participating in the program, according to a list updated through May from the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

Waybourn told the Star-Telegram in 2017 that the program allowed the department to tighten up the work that deputies were already doing.

"These are people who came into our country, forgot to sign the guest book," Waybourn said. "Then, they commit an offense and that's how they get to us. We are not out there looking for them."

Tarrant County 287 (g) agreement

Whitley said he has struggled with this issue.

He said he knows some people are scared to even go out and drive, fearing they could be pulled over for speeding, given a ticket for a Class C misdemeanor and deported.

Still, he plans to vote for the contract renewal based on data he collected in recent days.

Since Jan. 1 2014, he said, 1,195 people had been placed on immigration holds in Tarrant County, some with multiple immigration holds through the years. And Whitley said he didn't find anyone with holds for a Class C misdemeanor.

"I'm still looking at the information, (but) right now I support continuing the program," Whitley said. "If you had asked me a week ago, I probably would have said not."

He said even though it doesn't appear that Tarrant County deputies are arresting people for Class C misdemeanors and turning them over to ICE, that doesn't mean cities across the county and state aren't doing that.

"The folks that come to our jail are for a Class B misdemeanor and above," Whitley said, based on his review of the data. "If put on an immigration hold ... the sheriff will call ICE. Sometimes they will pick them up an sometimes they won't."

County Commissioner Gary Fickes also said he plans to support continuing the program.

Like Whitley, he's concerned that there's a misconception in the community about how the sheriff's department is handling the program. Deputies, he said, are not arresting people for minor infractions of the law to deport them.



"That's not what the Tarrant County Sheriff's Department is doing," Fickes said. "We are strictly working with individuals in the confines of our jail who were probably brought there by the 41 cities that bring people to our jail."

Commissioner Devan Allen said she has not decided how she will vote, but she has requested more detailed information from the sheriff about how the program has been working and how much it costs the county.

"Those are all valid questions," she said. She said she has been receiving a steady amount of calls from supporters of the program and from people who don't want it renewed.

Commissioner Roy Charles Brooks said during the meeting that the presentation didn't show conclusively that Tarrant County is safer because of 287 (g).

"I don't see how you can make the blanket statement that the consequence of not doing 287 (g) is a less safe community," he told the sheriff.

Commissioner J.D. Johnson did not return a phone call seeking comment for this story.

Public comment

On June 11, a large crowd showed up at the Tarrant County Commissioners Court to voice their opinions about the county's involvement in this program. Some wanted the court to continue the contract while others pushed for an end to it.

People on both sides of the issue crowded into the commissioners court meeting room, so many that some had to move to an overflow room.

Speakers addressed the court after Waybourn spoke, promising that discretion and compassion is used at the county jail and that he supports legal immigration.

The Project Fort Worth tea party group sent an email urging supporters of the program to call the Tarrant County Commissioners office to voice support for continuing the program. The email began: "Attention Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** needs help."

"We think it's a good idea to comply with that provision, that act," said David Lambertsen, a board member of the group. "I think it's good for the county, it's good for the state and we support the sheriff."

ICE Out of Tarrant County also has urged people to call commissioners, but they are asking them to end the program. This group also is circulating a petition that, as of Thursday afternoon, had more than 100 signatures.

Immigrant allies said the program is another layer in the national anti-immigrant agenda.

"The rhetoric coming from the White House -- they make it seem like they can take anybody's papers away," said Jessica Ramirez, a member of the steering committee for the group United Fort Worth.

Ramirez said the program is taking place as immigrants face open hostility. At Tuesday's meeting, she said, an immigrant ally was told by a stranger: "Shame on you. You people are trying to take our country."

Texas issue



The letter signed by GOP lawmakers notes that immigration holds have kept people with charges of DWIs, assault and sexual assault of a child off the streets.

"In the past, many of these individuals have slipped through the cracks, and due to the diligent work of our sheriff's department, that is no longer the case," according to the letter.

wilder fb post

"We are a state that has chosen law and order, and we are proud, to date, Tarrant County has made that same choice by implementing policies like the 287(g) program," it continued.

Meanwhile, a group of Democratic state lawmakers sent a letter to the commissioners opposing the county's involvement in this program. Democrats Sen. Beverly Powell of Fort Worth and Reps. Nicole Collier and Ramon Romero Jr. of Fort Worth and Chris Turner of Grand Prairie signed this letter.

"We all support safer communities, but there are far better ways to go achieve that goal," the letter stated. "We need programs that do not unfairly target minority groups and instead strengthen community policing efforts by accurately targeting serious offenders without placing a federal responsibility on the shoulders of our local governments and local taxpayers.

"This can all be achieved without 287(g)."

U.S. Rep. Marc Veasey, D-Fort Worth, also sent commissioners a letter noting that he signed on as a co-sponsor of a federal bill to end the 287(g) agreements across the country.

He said the program has been "incredibly divisive" and migrants view the program "with apprehension and with fear." As a result, he said many migrants are afraid to report crimes because they are afraid they could become targets.

"I hope you will seriously decline to renew Tarrant County's 287(g) agreement," Veasey wrote in his letter. "I continue to hear from affected families and businesses throughout North Texas that we urgently need immigration reform that would help families already here and allow needed workers to get to their jobs."

Load-Date: June 18, 2019

End of Document

[**Tarrant sheriff needs to give straight story on immigration program's costs, drawbacks**](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

June 17, 2019 Monday

Copyright 2019 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram
Found on DFW.com



Section: opn_columns_blogs

Length: 653 words

Byline: Max Krochmal

Star-Telegram

Body

Tarrant County is going out of its way to deport unauthorized immigrants in the area. Two years ago, it entered into a voluntary agreement with the federal government to deputize the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office to enforce immigration laws at the county jail.

Such an act was completely optional; section 287(g) of the Clinton-era immigration law, under which the program operates, imposes no mandates on local governments. Tarrant County had long ignored the provision, as had most large counties in America, until Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** abruptly changed course and secured a 287(g) contract -- with virtually no debate.

County commissioners are set to vote Tuesday on renewing the program for two more years. Proponents argue that it targets only the worst criminals for removal and that it's supposed to be cost-neutral.

But there's a catch: It doesn't work. There are innumerable hidden costs, and the agreement has not been subject to public scrutiny. Worse, the sheriff's office has stonewalled requests from scholars, activists, and even public officials who sought to learn more about the 287(g) contract.

A closer look offers much cause for concern. At a hearing before the Commissioners Court last week, Waybourn deliberately misled the governing body charged with overseeing his department. He claimed that all costs for 287(g) amounted to less than one-tenth of 1 percent of his budget, but he didn't account for any daily labor costs.

By the sheriff's own admission, the staff doing the work earn at least \$42,000 per year, which means that they are paid \$0.33 per minute -- add benefits and it becomes about half-dollar. Yet the amount of time and pay required for officers to place immigration holds, complete the required paperwork, transfer inmates and more were completely absent from the department's misleading presentation.

What else might Waybourn be hiding? Immigrant advocates contend that 287(g) has led to racial profiling and a climate of fear in our county. Yet the sheriff's office refuses to release any information related to the traffic stops and workplace raids that often ensnare immigrants. Instead, Waybourn cites unspecified legal restrictions, leaving fair-minded residents to wonder.

The lack of information has been so acute that County Judge Glen Whitley had to call the county's information-technology department on his own to try to track down information on immigration holds at the jail -- and then interpreted the data by himself just hours before the hearing.

Why didn't the sheriff's office help him get the facts? Instead, when the commissioners posed a series of clarifying questions, the sheriff and his staff evaded, responding with unsubstantiated assertions and half-truths at best.

One would think that elected officials would not tolerate such behavior, that they would refuse to rubber-stamp the renewal of a contract with unknown costs, no transparency and questionable ethics.



Not in Tarrant County. Rather, Whitley buried his head in his spreadsheet, zooming in on one still-incomplete dataset while ignoring community members' calls to dig deeper.

Most shocking, the judge admitted that 287(g) fails at its stated purpose of deterring crime by deporting would-be repeat offenders. He highlighted multiple cases in which the sheriff's office placed an immigration hold on a detainee, but the offender was released on a bond, returned to the streets and then charged with another crime and returned to jail.

Who knows how many innocent people were stopped and questioned before deputies found the perpetrator? Did racial profiling occur? The sheriff's office won't give us the evidence.

And yet the majority of the commission is poised to vote to renew 287(g). We must ask: Why?

Max Krochmal is associate professor of history and chairman of the Department of Comparative Race and Ethnic Studies at Texas Christian University. He can be reached at professormax.org.

Load-Date: June 17, 2019

End of Document

[NATION & WORLD WATCH; 10 Kenyan police officers chasing suspects die in blast near Somalia](#)

The Tennessean (Nashville, Tennessee)

June 16, 2019 Sunday, 1 Edition

Copyright 2019 The Tennessean All Rights Reserved

Section: NEWS; Pg. A31

Length: 282 words

Body

NAIROBI, Kenya - At least 10 Kenyan police officers died after their vehicle struck an improvised explosive device near the Somali border in a suspected extremist attack on Saturday, officials said. Those killed in the Wajir County blast were among 13 officers who were pursuing suspected extremists who had kidnapped police reservists, the officials said. Police on Friday said a number of gunmen thought to be members of the Somalia-based al-Shabab group stormed Konton center in Wajir East and kidnapped three reservists.

Crew of damaged tanker arrives

in Dubai after two days in Iran

Crew members of the Norwegian-owned oil tanker that was attacked in the Gulf of Oman landed in Dubai after two days in Iran. Associated Press journalists saw the crew members of the MT Front Altair on Saturday night after their Iran Air flight from Bandar Abbas, Iran, landed in Dubai in the United Arab Emirates. The Front Altair caught fire after the attack Thursday, which the U.S. has blamed on Iran, saying



it was a limpet mine attack. Tehran has denied being involved and accused America of an "Iranophobic" campaign against it.

Texas sheriff's deputy dies

after he's found with head injuries

FORT WORTH, Texas - Authorities say a Texas sheriff's sergeant died after being found in his car "with significant injuries to his head." Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** said Sgt. Keith Shepherd was found Friday night inside his personal car in a Fort Worth parking lot near the county jail, where Shepherd was assigned. Deputies who found Shepherd said he had been shot, but investigators found no evidence that a shooting occurred. Shepherd was a veteran officer, having served the department for 19 years.

Load-Date: June 25, 2019

End of Document

[Pulmonary embolism killed deputy](#)

THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

June 16, 2019 Sunday, 1 EDITION

Copyright 2019 THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

DallasNews.com

Section: METRO & STATE; Pg. B02

Length: 361 words

Byline: TOM STEELE, SARA COELLO and LOYD BRUMFIELD, tsteele@dallasnews.com; sara.coello@dallasnews.com

Body

A Tarrant County sheriff's deputy died of a sudden pulmonary embolism that struck while he was getting out of his car Friday night in downtown Fort Worth, Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** said.

Keith Darryl Shepherd, 58, was found in his personal vehicle with "significant head injuries" in a parking lot in the 100 block of North Burnett Street around 9:30 p.m.

Police initially said the 19-year veteran of the department had been shot, but that was retracted Saturday morning.

Instead, Waybourn said, an examination by the Tarrant County medical examiner's office indicated Shepherd suffered a blood clot in his lung that caused him to fall near his vehicle. The deputy then struck his head on something but managed to get back into his vehicle before he died.



“The pulmonary embolism started by the car, which caused the falling, and he was able to slightly recover and get into the car and was able to continue,” Waybourn said during a news conference Saturday.

Shepherd had a “star-shaped trauma to the back of the head,” which was caused by something on the ground that wounded the deputy, Waybourn said.

Shepherd was rushed to Texas Health Harris Methodist Fort Worth, where he died a short time later, Waybourn said.

Waybourn said Shepherd had been taking a dinner break and did not return as expected around 7 or 7:30 p.m. He was found in a parking lot near the Tarrant County jail.

Fort Worth police led the investigation, the sheriff said. The federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives also was on the scene.

Officers blocked off several streets, and police with rifles could be seen searching a nearby parking garage not long after Shepherd was found.

Shepherd had “a great reputation” in the department and was a strong leader, Waybourn said. He was also a great husband and father, the sheriff said.

“There are a lot of tears going on,” Waybourn said.

Shepherd is survived by his wife, Veronica, and two daughters.

Shepherd’s body was scheduled to be moved Saturday to Wade Family Funeral Home in Arlington, Waybourn said.

tsteele@dallasnews.com;

sara.coello@dallasnews.com; lbrumfield@dallasnews.com

Twitter: @tomsteele,

@smlcoello, @LloydBrumfield

Load-Date: June 16, 2019

End of Document

[Texas sheriff's sergeant found dead in vehicle](#)

The Houston Chronicle

June 16, 2019 Sunday, Conroe Edition

Copyright 2019 Hearst Newspapers, a division of Hearst Communications, Inc. All Rights Reserved

Section: A; Pg. A008

Length: 237 words



Body

FORT WORTH - A Texas sheriff's sergeant who died shortly after being found in his car with head injuries apparently suffered a medical emergency and wasn't shot, as deputies initially suspected, authorities said Saturday. The Tarrant County medical examiner's office determined that Sgt.

Keith Shepherd suffered a pulmonary embolism. After falling, he was able to make it back to his own car where he was found Friday evening by colleagues who searched for him when he didn't return from his break during a shift at the county jail. Deputies initially thought he had been shot, leading law enforcement personnel to swarm the area around the county jail in Fort Worth. But Fort Worth police, who are leading the investigation, said earlier Saturday that there was no evidence that a shooting occurred. "We've just got to follow the facts until we understand what happened," Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** said in the hours after Shepherd was found. It was initially believed that a suspect may be on the loose, but Waybourn had cautioned that there was no apparent ongoing threat to the public. "We're going to take it one piece at a time and see if we can find the answers," he said. Investigators found blood inside and outside the car, and they had planned to review area surveillance video for insight into what happened. Shepherd had worked for the sheriff's department for 19 years and was assigned to the jail.

Load-Date: June 19, 2019

End of Document

[Fort Worth: Encuentran a policía asesinado en su vehículo; Ningún sospechoso ha sido arrestado, por lo pronto las autoridades están revisando video de las cámaras de vigilancia](#)

La Opinion

15 junio 2019 sábado

Copyright 2019 La Opinion L.P. All Rights Reserved

Section: TEXAS

Length: 180 words

Byline: Redacción

Body

FORT WORTH-. Un alguacil de Texas informó que uno de sus oficiales fue encontrado muerto en el interior de su vehículo, cerca de la cárcel del condado.

Bill Waybourn, alguacil del Condado Tarrant, reportó a los medios que el sargento Keith Sheperd fue encontrado sin vida el viernes por la noche en su auto cerca del centro de Fort Worth en un lote de estacionamiento. El lote se encuentra enfrente de la cárcel del condado donde según el departamento Sheperd trabajaba.



La Policía de Forth Worth se encuentra realizando la investigación.

Ningún sospechoso ha sido arrestado, por lo pronto las autoridades están revisando video de las cámaras de vigilancia.

La víctima llevaba 19 años trabajando para el departamento.

May the good Lord comfort Sergeant Shepherd's family, friends, and his colleagues @tarrantcountys. May he also lift up everyone who loves the Shepherd family and give strength to Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** as he leads his agency during through this tragedy. RIP. <https://t.co/98ysAsRCq0>

— Chief Art Acevedo (@ArtAcevedo) June 15, 2019

No se han revelado mayores detalles.

Graphic

Fort Worth: Encuentran a polic ía asesinado en su vehículo Foto: Captura WFAA

Load-Date: June 16, 2019

End of Document

[**Football tournament raises \\$6K for family of fallen Fort Worth officer Garrett Hull**](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

June 15, 2019 Saturday

Copyright 2019 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram
Found on DFW.com

Section: fort_worth

Length: 334 words

Byline: James Hartley

Star-Telegram

Body



Area law enforcement, businesses and community members helped raise more than \$16,000 for the Robert L. Zore Foundation and the family of fallen Fort Worth police officer Garrett Hull with a football tournament Saturday.

Hull was killed last year while apprehending robbery suspects in south Fort Worth. He was the 58th officer to be killed in the line of duty in Fort Worth.

The Robert L. Zore Foundation, named after a fallen officer and father of the organization's founder, hosted the event to raise money for both the Hull family and a scholarship in Hull's name. The organization has similar events in the works in Oklahoma and California.

The tournament raised \$6,000 for the family, and organizer Michael Randall said the family may continue to receive donations after the event. The remainder of the money raised will go toward expenses for the tournament and the scholarship, though a figure for the scholarship amount was not immediately available.

Fort Worth Mayor Betsy Price, Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** and Fort Worth's interim police chief, Ed Kraus, all recognized Hull and his family during the tournament's opening ceremony.

"Everybody talked about how strong he was physically, emotionally," Kraus said of Hull. "But I saw that strength in his family, his parents there at the hospital. The night of the candlelight vigil where are officers were broken and crying, and not knowing what to do, and Sabrina (Hull, Garret Hull's wife), the rock, is hugging them and comforting them during her trying time. It was amazing to watch."

The tournament comes the morning after a Tarrant County Sheriff's Office sergeant died of a pulmonary embolism while on duty.

"This is a way for us to not only help us get over that loss but to come together," Tarrant County Sheriff's Officer Tylor West said before he and his team took the field in the tournament. "Nothing can keep us down. We want everyone to know that while these type of things are fun, they're to show our support, show our love."

Load-Date: June 15, 2019

End of Document

Sheriff's deputy found fatally shot in car in Texas

The Today File

June 15, 2019 Saturday 6:06 AM EST

Copyright 2019 Newstex LLC All Rights Reserved

Length: 137 words

Byline: The Associated Press

Body



Jun 15, 2019(The Today File: <https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/> Delivered by Newstex) FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — A Texas sheriff says one of his deputies was found fatally shot inside his car, near the county jail. Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** tells news outlets that Sgt. Keith Shepherd was found Friday night inside his car in a downtown Fort Worth parking lot. The parking lot is across from the county jail, where Sheriff's Department Chief of Staff David McClelland says Shepherd was assigned. Fort Worth police are leading the investigation into the shooting. No suspect has been identified, and McClelland says authorities are pulling surveillance video from a three-block radius. Waybourn says Shepherd worked for the department for 19 years. Further details have not been released. The Associated Press

Load-Date: June 15, 2019

End of Document

[Tarrant County sergeant likely died of pulmonary embolism, medical examiner says](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

June 15, 2019 Saturday

Copyright 2019 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram
Found on DFW.com

Section: local

Length: 524 words

Byline: Emerson Clarridge

Star-Telegram

Body

There was unease in the first police descriptions from a downtown parking lot late Friday.

A Tarrant County Sheriff's Office deputy was found dead inside his car, discovered when he did not return from a break to his job at the county jail across the street.

Police jammed the blocks around what they believed might be a crime scene at Weatherford and Burnett streets. Officers wearing ballistic helmets and carrying shotguns stood at doorways and walked sidewalks. Detectives focused on blood outside and inside the car.

It became clear Saturday that Sgt. Keith Shepherd's death was not what it first appeared and was not criminal. The Tarrant County Medical Examiner's Office determined that, at the foot of his car, Shepherd suffered a pulmonary embolism.



Shepherd, 58, fell to the parking lot and struck his head, Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** said. He recovered slightly and got inside his car, where a sheriff's office employee found him. A shift commander had been looking for Shepherd.

A star-shaped wound on Shepherd's head and significant bleeding led the person who found Shepherd to think that he had been shot, Waybourn said.

"Everybody initially did think the worst," Waybourn said. "And fortunately we don't have a killer out there running loose. Unfortunately, Sergeant Shepherd had a medical emergency and did not survive it."

Shepherd was a 18-year veteran of the sheriff's office detention bureau.

His was one of three local law enforcement officer deaths in eight days. Grand Prairie Police Officer A.J. Castaneda died June 7 when he was struck by a vehicle as he stood outside his car. On Saturday, North Richland Hills police announced 25-year-old Officer Caleb Rainey died. The cause of his death was not known, police said, but he had been ill.

Shepherd is survived by his wife, Veronica, and two daughters, Keisha and Kristina. He was pronounced dead at Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital Fort Worth.

A police procession left the Medical Examiner's office Saturday afternoon in Fort Worth and drove to Wade's Funeral Home in Arlington. Memorial service arrangement information had not been released Saturday night.

"He was a strong leader," Waybourn said of Shepherd as he announced his death Friday. "He was loved. He was a great husband and a good father."

Hundreds of police officers from across the state traveled to Castaneda's funeral Thursday in Dallas.

Officers spoke of police agencies being like a family and supporting each other amid tragedies.

"All police departments, regardless of what they are, are a family," Dallas Community College District Police Department Sgt. John Abbott said before the funeral Thursday. "And it's our job to support every officer, no matter what department they're from."

Waybourn spoke on Saturday during a flag football tournament honoring Garrett Hull, a Fort Worth officer killed in September 2018 by a man suspected in a series of robberies.

"Each time these awful things happen," Waybourn said, "it is our job to continue to press on and to celebrate the life of the great people we stand on the shoulders of."

Reporters Jack Howland, Luke Ranker and James Hartley contributed to this story.

Load-Date: June 16, 2019

End of Document

[The Latest: Texas sheriff's sergeant suffered medical crisis](#)

Associated Press State & Local

June 15, 2019 Saturday 9:23 PM GMT



Section: STATE AND REGIONAL

Length: 288 words

Dateline: FORT WORTH, Texas

Body

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) - The Latest on the death of a Texas sheriff's sergeant (all times local):

4 p.m.

Authorities say a Texas sheriff's sergeant who died after being found in his car suffered a medical emergency that caused him to fall and apparently strike his head.

The Tarrant County medical examiner's office determined Saturday that Sgt. Keith Shepherd suffered a pulmonary embolism.

After falling, he apparently was able to make it back to his car where he was found Friday evening by colleagues who searched for him when he didn't return from his break. He was rushed to the hospital, where he died.

Deputies initially thought he had been shot, leading law enforcement personnel to swarm the area around the county jail in Fort Worth.

Shepherd was assigned to the jail and had worked for the sheriff's department for 19 years.

—

12:15 p.m.

Authorities say a Texas sheriff's sergeant has died after being found in his car "with significant injuries to his head."

Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** says Sgt. Keith Shepherd was found Friday night inside his personal car in a downtown Fort Worth parking lot. The parking lot is across from the county jail, where Sheriff's Department Chief of Staff David McClelland says Shepherd was assigned.

Deputies who found Shepherd initially reported that he had been shot, but Fort Worth police, who are leading the investigation, say there's no evidence that a shooting occurred. Authorities have not indicated how Shepherd suffered his injuries.

Shepherd had gone on break and colleagues searched for him when he didn't return.

Waybourn says Shepherd worked for the department for 19 years.

—

This report has been corrected to reflect that the sheriff didn't say the deputy had been shot.



Load-Date: June 16, 2019

End of Document

['No evidence' deceased Tarrant Co. sheriff's deputy was shot; he died after head injuries](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

June 14, 2019 Friday

Copyright 2019 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: crime

Length: 704 words

Byline: Emerson Clarridge and Jack Howland

Star-Telegram

Body

There is no evidence to suggest Tarrant County Sheriff's Office Sgt. Keith Shepherd was shot when he died Friday night with significant injuries to his head, Fort Worth police said.

Fort Worth police are leading an investigation and were awaiting a cause of death determination from the Tarrant County Medical Examiner on Saturday, police said. Shepherd was found Friday night in his personal vehicle in the 100 block of Burnett Street across from the county jail, according to Sheriff **Bill Waybourn**.

Shepherd was a 19-year veteran of the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office Detention Bureau.

Shepherd's death is one of three local officer deaths within roughly one week. Officer A.J. Castaneda of the Grand Prairie Police Department was killed last week when he was struck while running radar, and on Saturday North Richland Hills police announced 25-year-old officer Caleb Rainey died. His cause of death was unknown, police said, but he had been ill.

Waybourn spoke on Saturday during a flag football tournament honoring Garrett Hull, an officer killed in September 2018 by a man suspected in a string of robberies.

"Each time these awful things happen," Waybourn said, "it is our job to continue to press on and to celebrate the life of the great people we stand on the shoulders of."

Sheriff's deputy dies



Fort Worth Sgt. Chris Daniels, a police spokesman, said evidence and information gathered at the scene Friday night and the hospital didn't suggest Shepherd had been shot.

Fort Worth officers were called at 9:27 p.m. and found Shepherd in his personal vehicle in a parking lot in the 100 block of Burnett Street across from the county jail, Waybourn said. He reportedly had significant head injuries.

No suspect has been identified, and the sheriff said he doesn't think there's a danger to the community.

"We've just got to follow the facts until we understand what happened," Waybourn said.

Shepherd had gone on a meal break and did not return, Waybourn said. He said he didn't want to speculate on whether Shepherd was armed.

There was blood inside and outside Shepherd's vehicle, police said. The call was reported Friday night on the police scanner as a shooting.

Press conference on death of Tarrant County sheriff's deputy

Waybourn said what he knows "about Keith is that he had a great reputation at the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office."

"He was a strong leader," he said. "He was loved. He was a great husband and a good father."

Earlier in the evening, police said they were pulling all available surveillance video from a three-block radius. Dozens of officers were on the scene investigating and searching the area. The parking area was blocked off with crime scene tape.

3 local officers dead in 1 week

Hundreds of police officers from across the state traveled to Castaneda's funeral in Dallas on Thursday, sitting in for the service and taking part in a police ceremony afterward.

Officers spoke of police agencies being like a family and supporting each other amid tragedies.

"All police departments, regardless of what they are, are a family," Dallas Community College District Police Department Sgt. John Abbott said before the funeral Thursday. "And it's our job to support every officer, no matter what department they're from."

Castaneda was remembered as a humble and kind officer who went above and beyond for his community, bringing pizzas to a local recreation center every Thursday and directing traffic at a local school.

Grand Prairie police tweeted on Friday night that it had the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office "in our thoughts and prayers" after Shepherd's death. Other police departments, including agencies from Dallas, Keller and Colleyville, tweeted support for the sheriff's office and family and friends of Shepherd.

Additionally, Colleyville Chief of Police Michael C. Miller tweeted to keep North Richland Hills police and "Officer Rainey's family in your thoughts and prayers" using the hashtag "BlueFamily." North Richland Hills police described him on Saturday as a true public servant, serving others with compassion, dedication and a joy for life.

Reporters Luke Ranker and James Hartley contributed to this story.

This is a developing story and will be updated as more information becomes available.



Load-Date: June 16, 2019

End of Document

[United States Courts Opinions: United States District Court Western District of TEXAS : ROSS THOMAS BRANTLEY III, § \(Tarrant CID # 0653759\) § Petitioner, § § v. § Civil Action No. 4:18-CV-962-Y § BILL WAYBOURN, Sheriff, § Tarrant County, Texas,](#)

US Official News

June 10, 2019 Monday

Copyright 2019 Plus Media Solutions Private Limited All Rights Reserved



Length: 245 words

Body

Washington: United States District Court Western District of TEXAS has issued the following order: IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS FORT WORTH DIVISION ROSS THOMAS BRANTLEY III, § (Tarrant CID # 0653759) § Petitioner, § § v. § Civil Action No. 4:18-CV-962-Y § **BILL WAYBOURN**, Sheriff, § Tarrant County, Texas, § § Respondent. § OPINION AND ORDER Before the Court is a Petition for a Writ of Habeas Corpus under U.S.C. § 2241 filed by petitioner Ross Thomas Brantley III, ("Brantley"), a pre-trial detainee in the Tarrant County jail. (Pet.(doc.

1.)) The Court has received a response from **Bill Waybourn**, sheriff, Tarrant County, Texas, and a reply from Brantley.(Resp.(doc. 8);(Objection/Rebuttal (doc. 10).) After considering the pleadings and relief sought by Petitioner, the response with exhibits thereto, the reply, and the applicable law, the Court concludes that the § 2241 petition must be DENIED. I. BACKGROUND In this § 2241 petition, Brantley challenges his pre-trial confinement in the Tarrant County Jail.(Pet.(doc. 1.)) Brantley is detained under an indictment for aggravated sexual assault of a child filed in July, 2016, in case number 1456461D in Criminal District Court Number One, Tarrant County, Texas. (Resp. (doc. 8) Case 4:18-cv-00962-Y Document 11 Filed 06/04/19 Page 1 of 4 PageID In case of any query regarding this article or other content needs please contact: editorial@plusmediasolutions.com

Load-Date: June 11, 2019

End of Document

['Model' officer dies in crash](#)



Copyright 2019 THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

DallasNews.com

Section: NEWS; Pg. A01

Length: 551 words

Byline: LOYD BRUMFIELD and LAVENDRICK SMITH

Body

A Grand Prairie police officer was killed Friday after a crash threw him off an overpass on the Bush Turnpike, police said.

Officer Albert "A.J." Castaneda, 38, was running radar while standing outside his SUV parked on the inside shoulder of the Dickey Road overpass around 10:40 a.m., Grand Prairie Police Chief Steve Dye said in a news conference Friday afternoon.

The driver of a Nissan 300ZX heading north on the turnpike lost control and struck Castaneda's vehicle, throwing Castaneda to the ground about 20 feet below, police said.

"We're always going to honor our fallen, but he was just the salt of the earth," Dye said. "A model police officer, but just a great human being."

Castaneda, a five-year veteran of the department and a Grand Prairie native, was pronounced dead at 10:58 a.m. at Medical City Arlington.

Fellow officers described him as a loving father of two children, a friend, a trusted colleague and an outstanding officer whose passion was providing service to the public.

The chief said Castaneda saw his service with the Grand Prairie police as an opportunity to give back to the neighborhood where he grew up. Each Thursday, he bought pizza for the children in that neighborhood.

"Our department is hurting ... our community is hurting ... our city is hurting," Dye said. "Please keep us in your thoughts and prayers as we move forward."

An off-duty Arlington officer witnessed the crash and rendered aid after Castaneda fell, Dye said.

The 17-year-old driver of the Nissan was not seriously injured and showed no signs of impairment, police said. It was unclear whether he will face charges, but none had been filed Friday, police said.

The Department of Public Safety is investigating the crash, Grand Prairie police said.

Officers shut down the northbound tollway after the crash, and traffic was diverted onto the service road.



Many police officers from Arlington and Grand Prairie gathered at Medical City, where a hearse picked up Castaneda's body and carried it in a procession to the Tarrant County medical examiner's office in Fort Worth.

Arlington Police Chief Will Johnson pledged his department's full support for Grand Prairie's officers.

"We stand with you @GrandPrairiePD," Johnson said in a tweet.

Before joining the department, Castaneda served in the U.S. Coast Guard from 2000 to 2008 and for six years with the Tarrant County Sheriff's Department until he joined the Grand Prairie police in 2013.

Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** offered words of support to the former deputy's family and friends.

"We stand in unity with the Grand Prairie Police Department as they face this tragic loss of an upstanding peace officer," he said.

Castaneda is the third officer in the department's history to die on duty. Sgt. Gregory Hunter died on June 18, 2004, and Officer Lyndon King died March 1, 1982.

Dye said Castaneda never sought out attention or recognition for doing his duty.

"He gave back as good, or better, than any officer that I've ever seen in my 35 years," the Grand Prairie chief said. "If I had to describe a model police officer, A.J. would be one that would come to mind first."

Staff writer Sarah Sarder contributed to this report.

lbrumfield@dallasnews.com,

lavendrick.smith@

dallasnews.com

Twitter: @LoydBrumfield,

@LaVendrickS

Chief: Officer 'was just the salt of the earth'

Load-Date: June 9, 2019

End of Document

[Football, national speakers and memorial event planned for fallen Fort Worth officer](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

May 30, 2019 Thursday

Copyright 2019 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: fort_worth

Length: 330 words

Byline: Kaley Johnson

Star-Telegram

Dateline: FORT WORTH

Body

Mike Randall said when he meets with families of fallen officers, they all have the same request: Don't forget about us.

He hopes to fulfill that request for the family of Garrett Hull.

Randall and his wife, Rosemary Zore, founded the organization The Fallen Officers in 2018 to help support the families of officers killed in the line of duty. On June 15, the organization will put on The Garrett Hull Blue Bowl at Farrington Field in Fort Worth from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Hull, a Fort Worth police officer, was killed in the line of duty in September.

The Robert L. Zore Foundation, based in Florida, will present a \$1,000 Garrett Hull College Scholarship and give a check to the Hull family, Randall said.

"We want this to be the best event Fort Worth has ever seen," he said.

The Garrett Hull Blue Bowl will consist of a memorial service, a flag football tournament and speeches from local and national leaders. Current and former NFL players will be on site for pictures and autographs. Admission as a spectator for the games is free.

Fort Worth Mayor Betsy Price, Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill E. Waybourn**, Congressman Roger Williams and Rep. Kay Granger are among the speakers at the event.

Flag football teams can register until June 13. The cost to register is \$50 per person or \$800 for a team. Teams can have up to 16 people. Game play will be 8-versus-8 and is co-ed, and each member will receive a Blue Bowl T-shirt, breakfast, lunch and soft drinks.

Registration is available through garretthull.com or thefallenofficers.com. To apply for the scholarship, visit thefallenofficers.com.

Garrett Hull's widow receives honorary plaque Since 2016 police have traveled cross country to highlight lives and families of officers who died in the line of duty. This year, Cannonball Memorial Run stopped in Fort Worth to honor Garrett Hull's family.

Watch as the procession of officers travel to Garrett Hull's funeral Officers honor fallen Fort Worth officer Garrett Hull at his funeral.

Load-Date: June 3, 2019

End of Document

[Tarrant County sheriff's deputy injured in wreck; other driver charged with DWI](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

April 26, 2019 Friday

Copyright 2019 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: local

Length: 161 words

Byline: Mitch Mitchell

Star-Telegram

Body

A Tarrant County sheriff's deputy was taken to the hospital after a driver slammed into the rear of her patrol vehicle early Friday.

The deputy was working radar in northwest Fort Worth in the 9400 block of Jacksboro Highway when the wreck occurred about 3:35 a.m., according to a news release from the Tarrant County Sheriff's Department.

The suspect, who has not been publicly identified, was taken to the hospital and is facing a driving while intoxicated charge, the release said.

The deputy and the driver of the vehicle that hit her were expected to recover from their injuries, the release said.

"DWI is a very serious crime that can never be overlooked. There were over 1,400 drunk driving deaths last year in Texas," Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** said in an emailed statement. "We are just thankful that this incident did not add to this year's total. Our thoughts and prayers are with our deputy and her family."

Sheriff's deputy injured in wreck location

Load-Date: April 26, 2019



[Bait and smuggle: Mexican cartels divert border cops with migrant surges and ferry drugs where the coast is clear](#)

The Examiner (Washington, DC)

April 10, 2019 Wednesday

Copyright 2019 ProQuest Information and Learning
All Rights Reserved
Copyright 2019 Clarity Media Group, Inc. Apr 10, 2019

Length: 521 words

Byline: Anna Giaritelli

Dateline: Washington, D.C.

Body

FULL TEXT

A northern Texas sheriff says his county has seen a big uptick in methamphetamine and heroin seizures since October, saying Mexican drug smugglers are using large groups of migrants to divert Border Patrol's attention while they run narcotics over the border in nearby areas. Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill E. Waybourn** told the *Washington Examiner* drug seizures have picked up since 2016 and spiked "tremendously" in the past six months just as groups of 100 or more people began showing up at the border. Data from the county, which includes Forth Worth, shows nine pounds of meth was seized in 2016. In 2018, that figure jumped to 22 pounds. In the past six months, 110 pounds of meth have been discovered by the sheriff's department. Heroin busts followed a similar trajectory. Less than one pound of heroin was found by the department in 2016, but last year more than 61 pounds were confiscated. Since October, 20 pounds have been seized. "We're several hundred miles away from the border, however, the border does impact us," he said. In that six-month time frame, the number of people apprehended while illegally crossing the southern border also increased. Last month, 92,000 people were taken into custody. Since then, more than 100 large groups of 100 or more people have been encountered between ports of entry. Only two large groups were documented in fiscal 2017. Waybourn said he learned during a recent visit to McAllen, Texas, that cartels control the Mexico side of the border and migrants who want to illegally enter the U.S. must go through them to do so. "Interesting thing I found: The cartel owns that border on the other side. Part of their strategic plan is they release and let these over to surrender at certain times. They overwhelm our Border Patrol resources. It gives cartels the ability to move drugs [and] other people that we probably would have never let in," said Waybourn. "They're coming in on the flanks." The large groups typically arrive in remote spots on the border where agents are far and few between and can take an hour to get reinforcements to the location. While they are overwhelmed with a group, cartels can run other people or products through a nearby area where agents have just come from. He said drugs are also passing through ports of entry. Once smugglers have gotten narcotics into the country, they use I-35 to get them north to the Dallas-Fort Worth area, Waybourn said. The heroin and methamphetamine seizures indicate the region is seeing more drugs trafficked through the city, while law enforcement also makes more busts, he said. The sheriff said a gram of meth has gone from around \$90 to \$100 in 2016 to \$20 nowadays. "The abundance of dope that is coming across that border is the reason for that, and it's truly supply and demand, and there's a lot of supply

out there," he said. "The Mexican cartel is pushing it over in incredible amounts ... We know the drugs come here, and so are the people," he said. Waybourn said 8% of his jail population are illegally in the country and are in custody for allegedly committing an additional crime beyond illegal entry.

Load-Date: April 15, 2019

End of Document

Tarrant County Sheriff Bill Waybourn discusses border issues

Cleburne Times-Review (Texas)

April 9, 2019 Tuesday

Copyright 2019 Cleburne Times-Review

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

Section: STATE AND REGIONAL NEWS

Length: 699 words

Byline: Jessica Pounds, Cleburne Times-Review, Texas

Body

April 09-- Apr. 9--There's many statewide issues right now, Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** said, that are affecting local communities.

Waybourn served as guest speaker at the Alvarado Chamber of Commerce luncheon on Thursday, and discussed how issues such as human trafficking and narcotics at the border affect Johnson and Tarrant counties.

"I was in McAllen just a few weeks ago with the border patrol and me and several other sheriffs got to get a full briefing and what is happening there," he said. "We visited the facilities, we went to the border and we were able to see exactly what was happening. And I want to tell you it's a mess and we need to do something about it."

He said there are about 1,200 people each day who come in illegally through the border.

"Ninety-three percent of them are from countries other than Mexico," he said. "The week I was down there, [the inmates] represented 44 other nations that were across the border and being held. They are coming from a lot of Central American countries, but they're also coming from the Middle East, they're coming from Europe. A big one right now is China."

Waybourn said there are many minors who cross the border as well through human trafficking.

"When I was there I saw this border patrol agent and she was taking care of a 3-year-old and a 2-year-old that they believed were siblings, but weren't sure where they were from," he said. "They had no idea who they belonged to, but a trafficker placed them there."



He said in many cases, an illegal immigrant will bring a child under 14 with them and when they are caught will be held for 72 hours before being turned over to the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

"ICE will give them a court date five years out from now," he said. "In the meantime, they fly these kids back home and recycle. They are finding these kids are on birth control, so what is happening on that trip up? We have a crisis on the border."

Waybourn said many who cross the border illegally from Mexico are in servitude to the cartel.

"The meaning of life to cartels are very little," he said. "They don't have a problem if a trafficker fouls up; they will line up the people they brought up and shoot them."

As of Thursday, Waybourn said 8 percent of the population at the Tarrant County Jail are illegal immigrants.

"We've got 11 that are murderers," he said. "We have 71 major drug dealers, and we have 86 for aggravated sexual assault of a child. We've got human traffickers, we've got kidnappers. We've got people who have beat children."

Waybourn said 84 percent of human trafficking victims in Texas have been in foster care.

"We've rescued some of those kids, and we had one rescue that Fort Worth did a great job of," he said. "We had one 17-year-old who had been in trafficking since she was 10 and she was a foster care kid; nobody was looking for her. We were working with Unbound, which provides counseling for these kids. For the first hour this 17-year-old was screaming at the counselor. At the end of that screaming, she just looked at her and said, "All I've ever wanted was a family."

Waybourn said residents of Johnson county have the power to make a difference and give hope to those in foster care.

"In the greater Tarrant County area, there are 400 children who are ready for adoption out of CPS and nobody is taking them," he said. "Now how many churches do we have in Johnson County? I've identified over 800 in Tarrant County.

"The churches need to do what they are called to do and defend the fatherless. We've got to bring hope. The best part of crime prevention that you can do today is encourage someone to get those kids out of CPS and give them a home forever. Right now, if they stay in perpetual foster care there is a 70 percent chance they are going to end up seeing someone like me."

Alvarado Chamber President Marty Douglas said Waybourn's presentation was incredible.

"I hope you are all compelled to understand that we all need each other," he said. "And we need to support each other."

___ (c)2019 the Cleburne Times-Review (Cleburne, Texas) Visit the Cleburne Times-Review (Cleburne, Texas) at www.cleburnetimesreview.com Distributed by Tribune Content Agency, LLC.

Load-Date: April 10, 2019

End of Document

[ICE doesn't belong in Tarrant County jails](#)



University Wire

Copyright 2019 UWIRE via U-Wire All Rights Reserved

Section: NEWS; Pg. 1

Length: 754 words

Byline: Hannah Lathen

Body

Tarrant County has a vast history of racism and discrimination, and this is definitely not a thing of the past.

287g, part of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996, carries on this racist tradition by targeting immigrants without benefitting the community or making Tarrant County safer.

The program was voted into Tarrant County in June 2017 by the Tarrant County Commissioner's Court. The program is used in several states and dates to shortly after 9/11.

287g allows Immigration and Customs Enforcement to train police officers to act as immigration law enforcement inside a jail.

The program is voluntary and was brought to Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill E. Waybourn** in 2017.

While the program is supposed to only question those who commit Class B Misdemeanors or higher, it is not written that police officers have to stick to that. A study from the Migration Policy Institute found that only half of the people detained under 287g had committed misdemeanors and traffic offenses.

Last year the Fort Worth Star-Telegram reported a study done by the Center for American Progress, which found that 287g suffers from a lack of transparency.

The program has a powerfully negative effect on the communities that have it.

Police officers working as ICE agents creates an even greater distrust between communities and law enforcement, which leads to people not reporting crimes. California's Los Angeles County voted to end 287g in 2015, according to KABC News in Los Angeles, because immigrants were not reporting crimes in fear of deportation.

The program also takes away time from police officers who could be investigating real crimes instead of making them act as immigration enforcement, which is a federal responsibility.

Even with the short amount of training officers receive to act as ICE agents, they are not properly trained in federal law. There is a lot of room for officers to profile people and there is nothing stopping them from discriminating against people of color.

The program is also infringing on due process of those arrested. Juana Guzman, a community outreach organizer from Raices, a non-profit agency that provides legal services for immigrants in Texas, has seen cases where inmates will be taken into jail and when their families pay the criminal bond, they are sent to



ICE detention. Since they are in detention, they are unable to make their court date and a warrant is made for their arrest.

On top of that, Guzman said, immigrants don't even have to be convicted of a crime to be sent to ICE detention. Even if they are innocent, they don't always get a chance to prove it before they are transferred.

Not only is this program hurting the community, but it is costing the county \$373,382.00 a month as of January 2019, according to the Immigration Detainer Report released by the Texas Commission on Jail Standards.

That money could go a long way in Fort Worth, from fixing streets or paving sidewalks to giving back to the officers who are actually doing their jobs.

Harris County had 287g until it was removed by Sheriff Ed Gonzalez in 2017, according to the Houston Press. The article also mentioned that the program did nothing to help ICE and did not change the monthly number of detainees, but it did take away manpower from the Harris County Sheriff's Office.

Clearly, this program only invokes fear and that is why it was put in place. 287g will be voted on again in June and campaigns to end the program have already begun.

I am calling on the county commissioners in Tarrant County, which include Roy C. Brooks, Devan Allen, B. Gary Fickes and J.D. Johnson and Glen Whitley, the judge of the Tarrant County Commissioner's court, to vote 287g out of Tarrant County in June.

Immigration should be handled on the federal level and not be the responsibility of local police officers.

Citizens of Fort Worth need to be educating others on this program and its harmful effects and find way to get involved with shutting it down. The ICE Out of Tarrant County Campaign, which I am part of, kicked off last month and to join email end287g@iceoutoftarrant.org

Keep Tarrant County safe and end this program.

287g is a program voted into Tarrant County in June 2017 by the Tarrant County Commissioner's Court. The program is used in several states and dates to shortly after 9/11.

Photo by Hannah Lathen

Share this:

- [Click to share on Twitter \(Opens in new window\)](#)
- [Click to share on Facebook \(Opens in new window\)](#)

Tags:287gICEimmigrationpoliceTarrant CountyTarrant County Commissioner's Court

Load-Date: April 5, 2019

End of Document

[LAW NOTES:Moore takes reins at Lockton in Fort Worth](#)

Fort Worth Business Press (TX)

29 March 2019



Section: NEWS

Length: 799 words

Byline: Staff Writer

Body

Michael Moore, an eighth-generation Texan and risk management expert, has joined Lockton as president of the Fort Worth office, the company said in a news release.

Lockton is the world's largest privately held, independent insurance broker, providing global professional services with 7,000 associates who advise clients on protecting their people, property and reputations.

"Fort Worth may be the 15th largest city in the United States, but it still has a small-town feel where a handshake means something," Bob Bobo, chief operating officer of the Lockton Texas property and casualty operation, said in a news release about Moore. "Michael understands that in a global economy, Texas businesses want to play from home, which is why he is bringing Lockton resources to the Fort Worth community."

Moore's Texas roots are deep.

The federal courthouse in downtown is named after his grandfather-in-law, Judge Eldon Mahon.

Moore is a descend of Carl Hilmar Guenther, founder of C.H. Guenther & Son, a San Antonio flour mill that was the oldest continually operating milling company in the United States and one of the oldest family-owned businesses in Texas until its sale last year.

Moore can also trace his family line to Thomas Barnett, one of the original 300 settlers who came to Texas with Stephen F. Austin in 1825 and a signer of the Texas Declaration of Independence.

"I have serious Texas pride when it comes to owning land and running a business and I implement that in my desire to work hard for clients," Moore said.

Moore previously spent nearly nine years at the Gus Bates Co., where he was managing director of the property and casualty division, according to his LinkedIn page.

Moore has been involved with the Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce and helped with fundraising for the Dream Park of Fort Worth, a 57,000-square-foot play space for all children. He is a graduate of the University of Texas at Austin and spends much of his time outdoors with his wife, Shannon, and two daughters.

"Michael has a vast network within the community that will help us as we continue to recruit top talent and grow the Fort Worth office," said Ryan Hyman, vice president and risk management consultant in the Fort Worth office.

Lockton is a \$1.57 billion company.



"The sky is the limit when you have the resources and backing that Lockton brings," Moore said in the news release. "They have built relationships and set themselves up for success in the marketplace."

Lockton's Fort Worth office is located at 777 Main St.

ABBOTT APPOINTS WOMACK

TO SECOND COURT OF APPEALS

Gov. Greg Abbott has appointed Dana Womack of Fort Worth to the Second Court of Appeals for a term set to expire on Dec. 31, 2020, or until a successor is elected. Womack is a senior district judge and served as judge of the 348th Judicial District Court for 20 years. She is board-certified in civil appellate law and civil trial law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization. She is member of the State Bar of Texas, Tarrant County Bar Association and The Federalist Society and is a former member of the Texas District & County Attorneys Association.

Womack also is a former board member of the Humane Society of North Texas, Dispute Resolution Services of North Texas, and Schola Cantorum of Texas. She received a bachelor's degree from Baylor University and a law degree from Baylor University School of Law.

ONLINE RECORDS FEES

WAIVED FOR LAW OFFICERS

Tarrant County Commissioners and District Clerk Tom Wilder have agreed for the first time to waive fees for online access to court records by law enforcement agencies.

Court records are currently available online for those who buy a subscription. This previously included law enforcement agencies.

The chiefs of 42 police agencies in Tarrant County asked last fall that subscription fees be waived for law enforcement using online access to public case files. The Commissioners Court agreed on Dec. 11 to waive those fees.

"On behalf of Tarrant County Police Chiefs, we are grateful to the County leadership for providing online access to public court records to our agencies at no cost," said Steve Dye, Grand Prairie's police chief. "This innovative measure will greatly enhance the investigative work of our officers through more efficiently accessing data and monitoring our criminal cases as they progress through the system. We appreciate Criminal District Attorney [Sharen] Wilson, Sheriff [Bill] Waybourn, and our Tarrant County Commissioners for enabling us all to better serve our citizens."

"This was a great decision by the commissioners and district Clerk," said Wilson. "I know it was very appreciated by law enforcement, and will be of immeasurable assistance to officers and detectives as they continue to track their cases through the court system."

Load-Date: March 31, 2019

End of Document

[***Parker County baby injured in reported child abuse case has died***](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)



March 21, 2019 Thursday

Copyright 2019 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: fort_worth

Length: 293 words

Byline: Domingo Ramirez Jr.

Star-Telegram

Dateline: FORT WORTH

Body

A Parker County infant who suffered head trauma last month while in the care of his mother's boyfriend has died.

Jax Eisenmann, a 3-month-old from Springtown, was pronounced dead at 1:05 p.m. Wednesday at Cook Children's Medical Center, according to the Tarrant County medical examiner. The website did not list the cause of death or manner of death.

The boyfriend was arrested last month.

Kaleb Ray Eisenmann, 21, of Springtown, was babysitting Jax and two older children while their mother was at work, according to the Parker County Sheriff's Office. The sheriff's office has identified Eisenmann as "the boyfriend of the baby's mother."

At some point, Eisenmann called the baby's mother and said the baby had a cold and was having trouble breathing.

"When the mother arrived at the home she found her 8-week-old son lethargic, pale and not acting normally," according to a news release from the sheriff's office.

Sheriff's investigators said that Eisenmann got frustrated when the baby wouldn't stop crying. He told investigators that he didn't slam the baby on the bed, but "put him down really kind of hard."

The baby suffered head trauma and his injuries were consistent with abuse, investigators have said. Staff at the hospital also found bruises on the woman's 2-year-old, according to the sheriff's office.

Eisenmann was being held in the Parker County Jail in Weatherford Thursday on a charge of causing injury to a child. His bond was set at \$50,000.

Sansom Park father charged with capital murder of 2-month-old son Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** gives a press conference concerning the arrest of Joseph Welborn, 26, who was charged with capital murder of his 2-month-old son, Christian Welborn. Christian died due to head injury on Dec. 21, 2018.



Load-Date: March 21, 2019

End of Document

[In Tarrant County, all eyes are focused on 2020. Will red -- or blue -- prevail?](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

February 16, 2019 Saturday

Copyright 2019 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: fort_worth

Length: 844 words

Byline: Anna M. Tinsley

Star-Telegram

Dateline: Fort Worth

Body

The message to Tarrant Republicans was clear Saturday night.

It's time to unite and focus on the 2020 election, putting stinging losses last year -- and an internal fight over whether to oust Shahid Shafi from party leadership because he's Muslim -- in the past.

"We've got to have unity going into 2020," U.S. Rep. Ron Wright, R-Arlington, told the Star-Telegram before talking to a crowd of hundreds gathered at the Omni Hotel for the Tarrant County Republican Party's Lincoln Day Dinner. "We've got to work harder in 2020 than we did in 2018.

"We got surprised in Tarrant County" in the 2018 election, he said. "We got surprised all over the state of Texas."

Wright and fellow Republican U.S. Rep. Michael Burgess of Pilot Point were the keynote speakers for the event that raises money to fund local GOP efforts over the next year.

The crowd at the fundraiser was noticeably smaller than in past years, which some quietly suggested could be a result of the recent party fight over Shafi. Others indicated turnout could be down because this is not an election year.

Either way, officials stressed on Saturday that if Republicans don't want to see a repeat of the 2018 election, they must work together.



In 2018, Democrats made inroads in this red county by ousting officials such as then-state Sen. Konni Burton and then-County Commissioner Andy Nguyen.

U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz won his re-election bid, but he lost in Tarrant County. And Wright won the multi-county race to replace outgoing U.S. Rep. Joe Barton in Congress, but he lost by nearly 10,000 votes in Tarrant County.

"Now is the time for Republicans to be united," Burgess said. "We see what happens in an election cycle" when they are not.

Tarrant GOP

In recent years, protesters have been present outside this high-dollar fundraiser. There were none Saturday night.

The annual GOP fundraiser drew a number of leaders, including Texas Agriculture Commissioner Sid Miller, County Judge Glen Whitley, Sheriff **Bill Waybourn**, District Attorney Sharen Wilson, state Sens. Kelly Hancock and Brian Birdwell, state Reps. Stephanie Klick, Matt Krause, Jonathan Stickland and Bill Zedler and more.

Officials estimated that there were around 450 people at the dinner, compared with about 650 last year.

Shafi was among those present.

Some had feared the recent fight over whether Shafi should be a vice chairman because he is Muslim would impact this event.

After months of debate, Tarrant County Republicans voted 139-49 in January to keep him in the leadership post.

Since then, a Rio Grande Valley man offered a "\$500 cash bounty" to anyone who could give him the names of the 49, and one of the champions of ousting Shafi was named to a GOP precinct chair recruitment committee. Soon after that, the committee was, at least temporarily, disbanded.

Shafi, meanwhile, continues to share a message of hope and unity. "We need to ... move forward," he told fellow Republicans earlier this month.

Republican Party of Texas Chairman James Dickey attended the dinner Saturday night, saying he showed up because of the Shafi vote.

He said the party worked as it should, through a process, while the question of whether Shafi should be removed from his post was considered.

And Dickey gave as shout out to those who attended for showing up to this annual event.

"Thank you for showing up to support your county party because, by God, your party needs it," he told the crowd. "We need you. There is no one else to step into the gap."

2020 election

The Lincoln Day Dinner comes as local and statewide Republicans are focusing on the 2020 election.



"What happened in Tarrant County, what happened in Texas, happened nationwide in the suburbs," Wright said of last year's election. "In the past, Tarrant County has been somewhat impervious to national voting trends. That was not the case (in 2018).

"We were outworked," he said. "Where they hit us hardest was southeast Tarrant County."

The key to regaining some supporters next year is reaching out to supporters in suburbs across Tarrant County and nationwide.

"We need to address the concerns of people in the suburbs," Wright said. "Educated women nationwide went more for Democrats this time. We've got to get them back."

To do that, Republicans must now start organizing at the precinct level and energizing volunteers.

"We are still the majority party in Tarrant County," Wright said.

Recently, Dickey sent out an email to supporters across the state, saying the GOP must get to work right now.

"Texas is on RED ALERT after the 2018 elections," Dickey wrote. "The Democrats have zeroed in on Texas for 2020."

Dickey stressed that Republicans likely would lose the White House if the GOP presidential candidate doesn't win Texas.

"We cannot let the Democrats gain any more ground in Texas."

Tarrant County GOP rejects proposal to remove Muslim as vice chairman
The Tarrant County Republican Party voted on Thursday to keep Dr. Shahid Shafi in his post as vice chairman. More than six months ago then Precinct Chair Dorrie O'Brien asked for Shafi's appointment to be reconsidered because he's Muslim.

Load-Date: February 17, 2019

End of Document

[***Will Rogers display at Heritage Center spotlights rare memorabilia***](#)

Tahlequah Daily Press (Oklahoma)

February 5, 2019 Tuesday

Copyright 2019 Tahlequah Daily Press

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

Section: STATE AND REGIONAL NEWS

Length: 769 words

Byline: Grant D. Crawford, Tahlequah Daily Press, Okla.

Body



Feb. 05--PARK HILL -- Famous tribal members are often highlighted in the Cherokee Heritage Center's display cases. But the museum's current exhibit features the story of a Cherokee man before he gained widespread popularity.

Many people know of Will Rogers, but many may be unaware of his upbringing and days of early adulthood. At the CHC, "The Cherokee Kid: A Will Rogers Exhibit," will run through March 30, offering visitors a chance to learn more about "Oklahoma's Favorite Son."

According to Callie Chunestudy, CHC curator, Rogers was originally searching for something other than fame.

"This exhibit is specifically about his life in Indian Territory, which is actually before he was famous," said Chunestudy. "One of the reasons he left Indian Territory, and what kind of set him on the road to being the big entertainment star that he became, was that he was looking for new ranching territory."

As the federal government began to divide Indian tribal lands into individually owned private property during the allotment process, the open-range way of life to which Rogers was accustomed was starting to disappear. In an effort to regain the ranching lifestyle, Rogers traveled to South America, searching for cattle-grazing land. He was unsuccessful, but his failure led him to another opportunity.

"He got a job minding cattle on a ship to South Africa, which is where he met a man named 'Texas Jack,' who was actually from Texas doing a Wild West show," said Chunestudy. "In his show is where he got named 'The Cherokee Kid.' He was really proud of his Cherokee heritage."

The various items in the Will Rogers exhibit include his own boots, hat, lariat and saddle. Dr. Charles Gourd, executive director of the CHC, said his favorite piece is the saddle, adding that it's even attracted saddle experts to come take a gander at it themselves.

"The things that are on there were a story," Gourd said. "The cowboys tell stories by what they put on their saddles. To have his original saddle that's on loan [from the Will Rogers Memorial Museum] -- it just absolutely blew me away that they would even consider letting it go anywhere."

In a display case next to the saddle at CHC lies an old horse bridle once used by Rogers' friend and fellow Cherokee, Red **Bill Waybourn**. The bridle was beaded by Waybourn's wife and used in the same Wild West shows in which Rogers starred.

"The family actually brought this to us," said Chunestudy. "It had survived several disasters, and one of them was a tornado. They found it in the debris of the house, smushed down in the mud, and they were able to pull it out."

Those who visit the 'Cherokee Kid' exhibit can watch a short film about Rogers' movies and his commentary on American politics. It also had information from his days working as a columnist, as his work was frequently published in newspapers around the country -- including predecessors to the Tahlequah Daily Press.

Gourd said people in positions of powers were not fearful of Rogers' criticism, but actually relished it.

"I always was amazed how he could literally, in a very real way, insult people, and they took it as a compliment," he said. "I always thought that was pretty cool. If they weren't, they felt slighted. If he didn't make fun of them, they were upset."



While he was a humorist, many consider Rogers to be an influential figure because of his beliefs on politics, the economy and human nature. Gourd said his position and commentary on many subjects still ring true today, and people today can learn a lesson from it.

"We need to pay a little more attention to not just what's hitting us in the face at that point in time, but to take a look at and say, 'Other people have faced this and been through this, what can we learn from that to not only survive today?' But I hope at some point in time, we stop all of this man's inhumanity to man and we all figure out a way to work together. I think that's what Will Rogers' main purpose was."

The exhibit is a result of a partnership with the Will Rogers Memorial Museum in Claremore, where many artifacts have been housed.

However, once the exhibit closes in March, Gourd said the display will live on at the Will Rogers Birthplace Ranch.

"All of this is going to be transferred there for a permanent display at the Will Rogers Birthplace," he said. "Usually stuff from an exhibit gets either destroyed or stored somewhere never to be seen again, but this one will continue."

___ (c)2019 the Tahlequah Daily Press (Tahlequah, Okla.) Visit the Tahlequah Daily Press (Tahlequah, Okla.) at www.tahlequahdailypress.com Distributed by Tribune Content Agency, LLC.

Load-Date: February 6, 2019

End of Document

[Surprise: 'ICE isn't doing raids' here. The sheriff tells why](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

January 26, 2019 Saturday

Copyright 2019 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: bud_kennedy

Length: 655 words

Byline: Bud Kennedy

Star-Telegram

Dateline: FORT WORTH

Body



When Tarrant County trained local deputies to do the work of federal immigration officers, it was explained as a way to help Washington find violent criminals.

But the way Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** now explains it, having his deputies hold anyone here illegally actually helps those immigrants' families, too.

In a fascinating twist on immigration enforcement, Waybourn told a grassroots conservative political group last week that U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) officers no longer raid homes or round up families here.

"ICE isn't doing raids in Tarrant County," Waybourn told the Project Fort Worth group, "because they only come to the Tarrant County jail."

Since 2017, when Waybourn agreed to have 12 deputies trained to act as local ICE agents under the federal program known as 287(g), ICE just picks up some of the immigration violators in the jail and doesn't go out looking for them, he said.

"They don't go out into the neighborhoods," Waybourn, a first-term Republican and former Dalworthington Gardens police chief, told the meeting at an Elks Lodge in west Fort Worth.

"Do you see ICE out in any neighborhoods? You're not going to."

Waybourn said in California, where counties leave immigration enforcement to the feds, "ICE comes in -- they go after someone bad from MS-13 ... But they also check the documentation of the people around him -- grandpa, grandma, aunt, uncle, brother, sister. They get all these other people, and they're detained too."

That makes sense. ICE agents seem to focus more on so-called "sanctuary" cities or counties where the local authorities aren't helping out.

But Waybourn almost makes it sound as if Tarrant County deputies are providing a noble public service by screening anyone arrested and referring violators to ICE, regardless how minor the misdemeanor.

As of last week, he said, about 260 immigration violators were among the 4,000 prisoners in the Tarrant County jail. That's about 6 percent of the jail population and a puny 0.3 percent of the county's estimated 100,000 immigrants here illegally.

Tarrant County jail.JPGIn Texas, you can be arrested for anything except speeding, calling or texting while driving, or driving with an unsealed alcohol container in the car.

Waybourn listed some of the criminal charges they're facing: murder, sexual assault of a child, arson, burglary, kidnapping or injury to a child.

But in Texas, anyone can be jailed for any violation, even for a traffic infraction. (Three exceptions: speeding; calling or texting while driving; or driving with an unsealed alcohol container in the car.)

So others of the 260 violators may be facing deportation after being arrested over -- say, public intoxication, possession of marijuana, or driving without a license.

Tarrant County is one of 25 Texas counties where local deputies screen arrestees under 287(g). Rockwall is the only other such county in the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

The 12 deputies get four weeks of training that includes warnings on racial profiling. They accept a two-year assignment.



In Florida, 17 counties recently joined 287(g) only after ICE officials there agreed to accept all liability for related injuries or civil damages.

Ramon RomeroRamon Romero

State Rep. Ramon Romero, D-Fort Worth, said he was hoping Tarrant County deputies would focus only on "people who committed heinous acts."

Look, nobody wants to release violent criminals or drug gangsters. But Romero said he's disappointed to see Waybourn spending county time and money on screening those arrested over minor offenses.

"To only mention the worst crimes, and to not be transparent over how many times it was some lesser crime -- and about how Tarrant County taxpayer dollars are being spent -- I have a problem with that," Romero said.

After watching Waybourn's comments about ICE, Romero congratulated him.

"The sheriff did a really good job of proving why he is a really good politician," he said.

No question about that.

Load-Date: January 29, 2019

End of Document

[Family: Addict made vow before death in custody](#)

THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

January 23, 2019 Wednesday, 1 EDITION

Copyright 2019 THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

DallasNews.com

Section: METRO & STATE; Pg. B08

Length: 484 words

Byline: DANA BRANHAM, dana.branham@dallasnews.com

Body

A Haltom City woman who died in the custody of the Tarrant County Sheriff's Department last week had told her family she was ready to leave addiction behind for good just days before her death, her sister says.

Jennifer Espinoza, 37, died at John Peter Smith Hospital last Wednesday, the day after she was found unresponsive in her jail cell, officials said. The medical examiner's office has not released her cause of



death. Espinoza had been booked into the Tarrant County jail Jan. 10 on a charge of possession of methamphetamine with intent to deliver, according to jail and court records.

On Tuesday evening, the sheriff's department released a timeline of events preceding Espinoza's death. The department said it came from jail video and cell-check records.

At 1:48 p.m. Jan. 15, jail video showed Espinoza leaving her cell to use the phone, then returning 17 minutes later, the department said in a news release.

At 2:22 p.m., jail staff checked on Espinoza and found no issues. Then, at 2:51 p.m., officers doing another observation check called for emergency help, and medical staff arrived three minutes later.

Espinoza's sister, Cheryl Hammett, said the timeline conflicts with what hospital staff told her: that Espinoza had been unresponsive in her cell for 50 minutes before she was resuscitated and taken to the hospital. Hammett said her sister died after going into cardiac arrest.

But David McClelland, chief of staff for the sheriff's department, said cell checks occur every 10 or 30 minutes, depending on which part of the jail a person is being held in, so no inmate would be unsupervised for that long.

A few days after she was booked into jail, Espinoza received medical attention when she fainted after vomiting on herself and her cellmate, her sister said. Hammett said she believed Espinoza was experiencing withdrawal.

McClelland said Espinoza was detoxing in the jail because she arrived with an addiction to methamphetamine. Espinoza was also seen by medical staff and had access to mental health services when she was booked into jail, the sheriff's department said.

The day before she died, Espinoza had called family members from jail to say she was feeling fine, but her blood pressure felt high, her sister said.

"Next thing we know, we're getting a call saying my sister is brain dead," Hammett said.

Espinoza left behind five children ages 5 to 19, Hammett said. They had lived with her parents for about five years, starting around the time Espinoza began struggling with drug addiction, her sister said.

"She had a problem," Hammett said. "She wasn't a bad person. She struggled, but she was trying."

Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** called Espinoza's death a tragedy. "I believe our officers did everything they could to prolong Ms. Espinoza's life," he said in a statement.

The Texas Rangers are investigating Espinoza's death at the request of the sheriff's department.

Twitter: @danabranham

Load-Date: January 23, 2019

End of Document

[***She was found unresponsive in her Tarrant County jail cell and died the next day***](#)



Copyright 2019 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: fort_worth

Length: 238 words

Byline: Deanna Boyd

Star-Telegram

Dateline: FORT WORTH

Body

Authorities are investigating the death this week of a 37-year-old Haltom City woman found unresponsive inside the Tarrant County Jail.

Jennifer Espinoza had been indicted in June on a charge of possessing a controlled substance (methamphetamine) with intent to deliver.

A warrant was later issued for her arrest after she failed to appear in court and her bond was held insufficient, court records show.

Espinoza was booked into the jail on Jan. 10 with a new bond set at \$10,001.

Officials say Espinoza was found unresponsive Tuesday when checked on and taken to John Peter Smith Hospital. She was pronounced dead the next day at 4:02 p.m., according to the Tarrant County medical examiner's website.

espinoza.jpgJennifer Espinoza

A ruling on her cause and manner of death was still pending as of Friday.

The incident is under investigation by the Texas Rangers, said David McClelland, chief of staff for the Tarrant County Sheriff's office.

"The state requires any death in custody be investigated by an outside agency," he said.

Lt. Lonny Haschel, a spokesman for the Texas Rangers, confirmed the agency is investigating the in-custody death.

"The investigation is ongoing and no additional information is currently available," he said.



Sheriff **Bill Waybourn**, Tarrant Co. deputies to ID illegal immigrantsTarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** discusses his plan to have jail deputies identify illegal immigrants when booked into jail.

Load-Date: January 18, 2019

End of Document

[Tarrant Republicans stand 'against bigotry of all kinds' as Muslim keeps party post](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

January 10, 2019 Thursday

Copyright 2019 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: texas

Length: 1543 words

Byline: Anna M. Tinsley

Star-Telegram

Dateline: Richland Hills

Body

Update: 49 Republicans wanted to oust a Muslim from Tarrant leadership. Will we ever know who they are?

Shahid Shafi, a Muslim, remains a vice chairman of the Tarrant County Republican Party.

Tarrant County Republicans voted 139-49 late Thursday night -- after more than 2 1/2 hours of private discussion among precinct chairs -- to keep Shafi, 54, in the leadership post.

Loud cheers were heard from where precinct chairs were gathered behind closed doors at the Faith Creek Church in Richland Hills shortly before party officials announced the vote to the media.

"This vote reaffirms the commitment by a majority of Tarrant County Republicans to our core values and moral compass, a demonstration of our allegiance to the Texas Republican Party Platform and the Constitutions of the United States and Texas, which strictly prohibit religious and racial discrimination of any kind," Tarrant County Republican Party Chair Darl Easton said in a written statement.

"While (Thursday's) vote brings an end to this unfortunate episode, it also demonstrates we are a party that respects the right of those who disagree on an issue to have a seat at the table and their voices heard," according to the statement. "Religious liberty won tonight and while that makes a great day for the



Republican Party of Tarrant County, that victory also serves notice that we have much work to do unifying our party."

Shafi said the vote affirmed his belief in Tarrant County Republicans.

"As we struggled through the last few months, it would have been easy for me to quit. But I stayed on to fight," he said. "We were fighting for religious freedom ... and today we have come out victorious."

He said Thursday's vote took a stand "against bigotry of all kinds."

"Our union is a little more perfect today ... and it's time to put (party) divisions to rest," he added.

At least one precinct chair -- Arlington Republican Dale Attebery, who was involved in the effort to oust Shafi -- reportedly tossed his ID at the lectern after the vote. Easton said he accepted that as Attebery's resignation.

Tarrant meeting

Thursday's meeting was much different than the last Tarrant GOP executive committee meeting in November, where members discussed the proposal to remove Shafi but never took a vote.

This time, paper covered the windows into the sanctuary, where Tarrant Republicans gathered for the meeting, and law enforcers stood guard in front of the doors.

The issue of religious freedom this time drew national attention and about two dozen reporters and TV crews to cover the vote.

This issue arose about six months ago, after Easton appointed Shafi -- a surgeon and Southlake councilman -- to the vice chair post and fellow Republicans approved his proposal.

Opposition from a small group of local Republicans began emerging on social media.

"Dr. Shafi is a practicing, Mosque-attending muslim who claims not to follow sharia law or know what it is," Republican Sara Legvold wrote on the Protect Texas Facebook page in calling for Shafi's removal. "As a practicing muslim that is an overt falsehood. Sharia law is anathema to our Constitution because Islam recognizes no other law but shariah.

"As the most conservative county in the nation, this is a demoralizing blow to the conservative rank and file of the Republican Party across the nation and in Texas."

Then Precinct Chair Dorrie O'Brien, from Grand Prairie, asked for Shafi's appointment to be reconsidered because he's Muslim.

She and others have long said this is not about religion but whether Shafi is loyal to Islam and Islamic law or connected to Islamic terror groups.

O'Brien's motion was delayed until after the Nov. 6 election, which saw Tarrant County turn blue in the U.S. Senate race.

Hours of discussion behind closed doors during a November meeting led to no resolution and pushed the issue to Thursday night's meeting.

Shafi support



Republican Party of Texas Chairman James Dickey said he stands by the Tarrant County vote Thursday night.

"Our platform clearly and unequivocally advocates religious freedom and non discrimination," he said in a statement. "We have always and will continue to stand for religious freedom and for welcoming all who share our values into our party."

A number of people who were not precinct chairs crowded into the church's lobby Thursday night.

Among them, two men carrying signs stating that they are against hate and for American rights.

"It's time for the Republican Party to defeat hate," said Shayan Elahi, a Dallas attorney who carried a sign that said #No Hate in DFW. "Only they can clean their own house."

A man from Bexar County held a sign that read "Dr. Shafi is an American conservative." He declined to give his name but said he traveled to Thursday night's meeting to show support for Shafi.

Others who showed up included a half dozen Muslim-American women who also wanted to support Shafi.

"We stand for justice," Shazia Alhassan, of Murphy, said. "We felt that what was happening was not right."

Not everyone agreed.

Legvold, who showed up to Thursday night's meeting in a black burqa, was among those in the lobby waiting to hear how the vote went. She told some that she dressed up to show how this country has been impacted by Islam.

GOP controversy

The Star-Telegram has been reporting about the effort to remove Shafi from GOP party leadership since August. In recent months, the local party has drawn national attention as media outlets across the country joined in coverage of the issue.

Shafi, born in India and raised in Pakistan, traveled to the United States to study medicine. He became a naturalized citizen in 2009 and, since then, has been involved with the Republican Party.

Internal GOP emails delivered anonymously to the Star-Telegram last year showed that the effort to remove Shafi expanded. Others targeted included Easton; a precinct chair and area leader Kelly Canon; and a precinct chair who is married to a Muslim, Lisa Grimaldi Abdulkareem.

Many have cautioned the party -- at this crucial time, when the local GOP suffered unexpected losses during the midterm election and could see more in 2020 -- about voting to remove Shafi.

Some top Texas Republicans -- including U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz, Land Commissioner George P. Bush and former House Speaker Joe Straus -- condemned efforts to remove Shafi, as have Tarrant County Republicans including County Judge Glen Whitley, Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** and District Clerk Tom Wilder.

The State Republican Executive Committee in Austin passed a resolution stressing that members across the state have the "freedom to practice all faiths." And Texas Gov. Greg Abbott this week noted that "the promise of freedom of religion is guaranteed" by the U.S. Constitution.

Many Republicans weighed in on the issue on social media Thursday, some cheering on O'Brien, saying "Hang in there Dorrie. You are right."



Others cautioned that voting against Shafi could cause a number of precinct chairs to resign, prompt donors to walk away from the party and lead to the SREC denying Tarrant County delegates to the 2020 state convention.

Republican reaction

Many entering the meeting Thursday night squeezed through a lobby crowded with media, shaking their heads and muttering that "this is crazy."

Inside, precinct chairs were given a written statement from Dickey.

"In Tarrant County, a few individuals have sought to remove Dr. Shahid Shafi from his position as vice chair of the county party because of his religion -- because he is a Muslim," the statement read. "That is not our party.

"This is the Republican Party of Texas. We stand behind those who wish to join us in supporting the founding principles of our nation and the right for everyone to pursue their own version of the American Dream," according to the statement. "All are welcome in the Republican Party of Texas -- all, that is, except those who refuse to join in our mission to fight equally for the protection of, and opportunity for, those of all races, religions and creeds."

Also handed out in executive session was a cartoon of a red-faced Elmer Fudd, labeled as Darl Easton.

"How dare you oppose my appointments!!!!!!!!!!!!!!" the cartoon stated. "(you wascal-wie bigots...)"

Republicans online

There has been much talk about the issue on social media this week.

O'Brien encouraged precinct chairs who want Shafi out to attend Thursday night's meeting.

"Our side will run into strong headwinds no matter what happens on Thursday night," she posted on Facebook this week. "You've been beaten over the head ... by fellow PCs, the news, and the RPT about what a lousy person you are for doing your civic duty.

"They're demeaning you by saying you're a bigot. You're a hater. I know you're not. You know you're not," she wrote. "You can't affect an outcome of what the chair started with his ill-advised appointment if you're not there."

Others cautioned that voting against Shafi could cause a number of precinct chairs to resign and donors to walk away from the party.

"We must do the right thing and reject a religious litmus test for a party leader position," Wilder posted on Facebook. "Most of us know the hidden agenda of this dissident group is to discredit the party Chair and Vice Chairman and seize those positions for themselves no matter the cost to the party and its candidates."

Load-Date: January 14, 2019

End of Document

[Public safety briefs](#)



Copyright 2019 THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

DallasNews.com

Section: METRO & STATE; Pg. B02

Length: 709 words

Body

EAST OAK CLIFF

Suspect jailed after fight ends in death of man, 74

A fight at an east Oak Cliff home early Friday ended with a 74-year-old man dead and a 45-year-old man arrested on suspicion of murder.

Marvin Patterson was found dead at his home in the 4700 block of Bonnie View Road about 4 a.m. His body showed signs of homicidal violence, police said.

The suspect, Derrell Davis, was at the front door when officers arrived. He admitted being involved in a fight with the dead man, police said.

Police took Davis and a witness in for questioning. Davis waived his Miranda rights and admitted his actions, officials said.

Sarah Sarder

FAR NORTH DALLAS

Woman dies after crash with pickup in intersection

A woman was killed early Saturday when her vehicle was struck in Far North Dallas, police said.

She had stopped at a flashing red light at Pear Ridge Drive before turning left on Frankford Road shortly before 6 a.m. Police say her Hyundai Elantra “entered the intersection when it was unsafe” and was hit by a Ford Ranger pickup.

The woman was rushed to a hospital, where she died. Her name was not released pending notification of family.

The pickup driver remained at the scene and faces no charges, police said.

Matt Peterson

FRISCO



Police seek man after boy approached in theater restroom

Police seek the public's help identifying a person of interest in an "inappropriate encounter" with a boy at a Frisco mall.

The boy was in a restroom at the AMC theater at Stonebriar Centre, in the 2600 block of Preston Road, around noon Nov. 19 when a man "attempted to initiate an inappropriate encounter," police said.

Police released a photo Friday of a person of interest. No further details were released because of the boy's age and the nature of the incident.

Anyone with information is asked to call Detective Wade Hornsby at 972-292-6209 or text "FRISCO PD" and the tip to 847411.

Tom Steele

NORTHWEST DALLAS

Woman killed as car crashes through guardrail, flips

A woman was killed early Saturday when the vehicle she was in went through a guardrail and flipped on Interstate 35E in northwest Dallas.

The crash happened about 2:45 a.m. when the car rolled at least once on the highway's northbound exit at Royal Lane.

An unidentified 32-year-old woman died and a second woman was in critical condition.

No other vehicles were involved, and the accident cause is under investigation.

Marc Ramirez

OAK CLIFF

Murder charge filed after video casts doubt on accident claim

A man was charged with murder Friday after video evidence cast doubt on his claim that he accidentally shot a woman with a gun she had taken from his car in Oak Cliff, police said.

The shooting happened early last Sunday outside a convenience store at 1207 E. Red Bird Lane. Police arrived shortly before 1 a.m. to find 32-year-old Danielle Shundre Taylor fatally shot.

Detectives interviewed 42-year-old Kevin Henderson, who said Taylor tried to remove a gun from his car after he parked. Henderson initially told police the gun fired by accident as he tried to take the weapon out of Taylor's pocket. He was released after the interview.

The next day, police obtained surveillance video from the store that appeared to disprove Henderson's story, according to an arrest warrant affidavit.

In the video, Henderson appeared to "pat down" Taylor and then push her to the ground, the affidavit states. Henderson then picked up the gun and shot Taylor, according to the affidavit.

An autopsy Tuesday showed Taylor was shot in the shoulder, the warrant states.



LaVendrick Smith

TARRANT COUNTY

Sheriff's son jailed on trespassing, theft charges

The son of Tarrant County's sheriff was arrested Thursday on criminal trespassing and theft charges, jail records show.

Sergei Waybourn, 23, was booked into the Tarrant County jail after being arrested by Arlington police. He was still in the jail on a \$1,000 bond Saturday afternoon.

Waybourn is the adopted son of Sheriff **Bill Waybourn**, KTVT-TV (Channel 11) reported. He is one of the sheriff's nine children, according to the Tarrant County Sheriff's Department's website.

Sergei Waybourn has multiple arrests for trespassing and theft in recent years. In 2018, he was also charged with assault.

Additional details on Waybourn's arrest weren't immediately available.

LaVendrick Smith

Load-Date: January 6, 2019

End of Document

[Tarrant County sheriff's son arrested in Arlington](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

January 4, 2019 Friday

Copyright 2019 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: crime

Length: 209 words

Byline: Kaley Johnson

Star-Telegram

Dateline: ARLINGTON

Body

The son of Tarrant County's sheriff was arrested Thursday on charges of criminal trespassing and theft.



Sergei Waybourn, 23, was arrested by Arlington police and was in custody at the Tarrant County jail on Friday. He was charged with theft under \$2,500.

The circumstances surrounding his arrest weren't immediately available.

Tarrant County Sheriff's Department chief of staff David McClelland released a statement from Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** via email.

"The family and I are deeply saddened by Sergei's choices," Waybourn said in the statement. "It has been many years since he has disassociated from our family. We, along with many family members, have made efforts to help him -- all to no avail."

Sergei Waybourn is one of **Bill Waybourn's** nine children. He is one of seven children the Waybourns adopted, according to the Tarrant County Sheriff's department website.

Not including the latest arrest, Sergei Waybourn has been charged three times with criminal trespassing and twice with theft in the past two years. In June 2018, he was charged with assault.

Sheriff **Bill Waybourn**, Tarrant Co. deputies to ID illegal immigrants Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** discusses his plan to have jail deputies identify illegal immigrants when booked into jail.

Load-Date: October 11, 2019

End of Document

[**Plan to vote Muslim out of Tarrant GOP post is scheduled. But will it happen?**](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

January 3, 2019 Thursday

Copyright 2019 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: state_politics

Length: 1064 words

Byline: Anna M. Tinsley

Star-Telegram

Body



The countdown is on for the Tarrant County Republican Party to weigh in on whether a vice chairman of the party should be removed from his post because he's Muslim.

This effort by a group of Republicans has drawn national attention as many wait to see what the Tarrant GOP will do about Shahid Shafi, a surgeon and Southlake City Council member.

"It's just outrageous that we are doing this," said Darl Easton, the GOP party chairman who appointed Shafi to the post six months ago. "It's disgusting."

A vote on the issue is scheduled for Jan. 10.

But the question now is whether that vote will actually occur.

Talk has bubbled on social media and among Republicans about compromises, a secret versus public vote and even potentially delaying the vote indefinitely.

At issue is Easton's appointment last summer. He remembers one person speaking against the proposal before Republicans at an organizational meeting approved his slate of nominees, including Shafi.

Before long, Dorrie O'Brien -- a precinct chairwoman from Grand Prairie -- asked for the appointment to be reconsidered. She and others say this is not about religion but whether Shafi is loyal to Islam and Islamic law or connected "to Islamic terror groups."

"We don't think he's suitable as a practicing Muslim to be vice chair because he'd be the representative for ALL Republicans in Tarrant County, and not ALL Republicans in Tarrant County think Islam is safe or acceptable in the U.S., in Tarrant County, and in the TCGOP," O'Brien recently posted on Facebook. "There are big questions surrounding exactly where Dr. Shafi's loyalties lie."

Compromise?

Internal GOP emails about the issue delivered anonymously to the Star-Telegram, which has been covering this effort since August, show that the effort to remove Shafi has expanded.

Others now targeted include Easton; a precinct chair and area leader, Kelly Canon; and a precinct chair who is married to a Muslim, Lisa Grimaldi Abdulkareem.

Some top Texas Republicans -- including U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz, Land Commissioner George P. Bush and House Speaker Joe Straus -- have condemned efforts to remove Shafi, as have Tarrant County Republicans including County Judge Glen Whitley, Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** and District Clerk Tom Wilder.

O'Brien recently posted on Facebook that a "compromise" she proposed regarding Shafi has fallen through.

She said she believes her side has enough votes to recall Shafi's appointment as vice chairman. Some fear the vote could prompt a civil war in the party.

That not only would destroy a unified effort to re-elect President Donald Trump but would also likely hurt the Tarrant County Lincoln Day fundraiser, O'Brien's post read.

In her post, she said her proposal calls for former Tarrant County Republican Party Chairman Steve Hollern to resign as the party's chairman of the Education and Training Committee and for Shafi to resign his post as vice chairman of the party. Then Shafi would be appointed chairman of the committee.

She posted that the compromise was rejected and that Easton hadn't countered with another offer.



"Not only did he start this situation with his ill-advised appointment over some really good advice not to, but he continues to bungle and mishandle it after numerous opportunities to bring it to a close," O'Brien wrote. "His ego, pride, hubris, whatever, is blinding him to the reality of how close to the edge of disaster his decisions have led the TCGOP."

dorrie fb

Easton said the "compromise" as originally presented was rejected, but he "wouldn't say a compromise has been totally ruled out."

With a week to go before the scheduled vote, Easton said anything could happen.

"We are very optimistic that we have more votes than they do," he said. "But it's who shows up."

Jan. 10 vote on removal

The agenda for the Jan. 10 meeting notes that the first part of the meeting will be to continue the Nov. 10 behind-closed-doors discussion about whether to remove Shafi.

Among the possibilities:

Those private discussions could continue.

A proposal could be made for an immediate public vote on the issue.

A proposal could be made to indefinitely postpone consideration of the proposal to remove Shafi.

Members could approve a proposed rules change that would eliminate the two vice chairmen positions and replace them with just one vice chairman. And that person would be elected by the executive committee, which is made up of precinct chairmen.

A vote on the proposal could occur.

Sharia

Shafi, an immigrant from Pakistan, has said he became a U.S. citizen in 2009 and soon joined the Republican Party.

He said he's not associated with the Muslim Brotherhood, nor the Council on American-Islamic Relations, "nor any terrorist organization." He also said he supports Second Amendment rights and American Laws for American Courts. And he said he's never promoted Sharia.

Sharia is a set of core principles derived from the teachings of the Quran, according to the Council on Foreign Relations.

"If somebody is wondering if one can be a Muslim and a ... good American, I am a living example of that," Shafi told the Star-Telegram last month. "Sharia Law -- I have no interest in living under Sharia Law."

Shafi said he has been overwhelmed with support since O'Brien and others began talking about removing him from his post.

"It has reaffirmed my faith in the party and reaffirmed my faith in the country," he said. "I'm very proud to be an American and very proud to be a Republican."



Hollern recently sent a letter to precinct chairmen urging them to keep Shafi in his position as a vice chairman.

"The current efforts by a misguided few to remove Dr. Shafi from Party leadership runs contrary to all principles Republicans have stood for," he wrote. "And it is detrimental to the image of the Republican Party."

He said the effort by "a few folks with retrograde paranoia" who hope to remove Shafi from the party post because he is Muslim is wrong.

"Don't be mistaken, I am as concerned as anyone about radical Islam and jihadi terrorists -- as I'm sure Dr. Shafi is," Hollern wrote. "But Dr. Shafi is not one of them."

"Please join me in sustaining Dr. Shafi's appointment at our January 10th EC meeting and redeeming the TCGOP in the eyes of the general public. After all, Dr. Shafi has been endorsed by Sen. Ted Cruz and many of the county elected officials. The TCGOP Executive Committee should not be out of step."

Load-Date: January 3, 2019

End of Document

[Dad Detained in Assaulting his Toddler Child to Death in Tarrant County](#)

Legal Monitor Worldwide
January 2, 2019 Wednesday

Copyright 2019 Legal Monitor Worldwide Provided by Syndigate Media Inc. All Rights Reserved



Length: 406 words

Body

The father of a 2-month-old boy who died last week of skull fractures has been charged with capital murder.

Joseph Matthew Welborn, 26, of Fort Worth, is being held in the Tarrant County Jail in lieu of \$250,000. His son, Christian Welborn, died Dec. 21 shortly after being brought by ambulance to Cook Childrens Medical Center with what was believed to be a depressed skull fracture.



Sansom Park police had responded to a 911 call from the 5200 block of Azle Avenue about a 2-month-old child who was unresponsive after being dropped by a 4-year-old sibling.

Officials say the parents gave varying accounts to investigators and that the father changed his story two times after first telling authorities he was never alone with the child that day.

At first, the babys mother, Rosalinda Lopez, told investigators that she saw the 4-year-old drop the baby about two to three feet onto the floor when she arrived home from the grocery store. She told Detective Michael Weber of Tarrant County Sheriffs Office that her husband was sleeping when the baby was dropped but later changed her story to say he was outside getting groceries, according to an arrest warrant affidavit.

An autopsy revealed that the infant had two skull fractures from possibly up to three impacts injuries that a fall could not have caused, according to the affidavit. Dr. Tasha Greenberg, Tarrant County deputy medical examiner, stated she did not believe a child could generate the force that caused the fractures, Weber wrote.

Coincidentally, a Child Protective Services investigator had been at the familys home about two hours earlier on Dec. 21 conducting follow-up on a neglectful supervision complaint. The CPS investigator told Weber that the baby was fine when she visited about 2:45 p.m. and that Joseph Wellborn had been asleep inside the trailer during her visit.

All was well with the baby, the baby was tracking and up, awake, alert and active, Tarrant Conty Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** said during a press conference on Friday.

The babys maternal grandfather told investigators he was still outside after arriving home from the store when he heard his daughter scream from inside the trailer, He dropped the baby, according to the affidavit.

He said he and Joseph Welborn went into the trailer to find Christian was having trouble breathing. The grandfather said he attempted to blow into the babys mouth while his daughter called 911. 2019 Legal Monitor Worldwide.

Load-Date: January 2, 2019

End of Document

NO COMMENT

Progressive, The
December 2019

Copyright December 2019 ProQuest Information and Learning
All Rights Reserved
Copyright December 2019 Progressive Incorporated Dec 2019/Jan 2020

Section: Pg. 10; Vol. 83; No. 6; ISSN: 00330736

Length: 509 words

Byline: Anonymous



Dateline: Madison

Body

FULL TEXT

Better Safe Than Sensible

American Airlines canceled a flight from Alabama to Texas in September after two Muslim passengers—one a motivational speaker, the other the head of a nonprofit group—waved to each other while boarding. The airline had "an obligation to take safety and security concerns raised by crew members and passengers seriously," a spokesperson explained.

Enemies of the Press

Trump Administration officials knew in advance that Egypt planned to arrest a New York Times reporter over his reporting on that country's dictatorship in 2017, but resolved to say nothing, the paper recently revealed. (The reporter escaped after a lone official defiantly passed on a warning.) A year and a half later, when Egypt detained and deported another Times reporter, a senior official at the U.S. Embassy in Cairo shrugged, "What did you expect would happen to him? His reporting made the government look bad."

No Fortunate Son?

In a Fox News appearance, presidential son Donald Trump Jr. lamented his lack of lucky breaks in life, compared to the son of former Vice President Joe Biden, saying, "I wish my name were Hunter Biden [so] I could ... make millions off my father's presidency"

Oh Happy Day!

A recent report produced by the bipartisan Senate Intelligence Committee revealed that Kremlin-directed clandestine operatives who set out to interfere with the 2016 election popped open a bottle of champagne to celebrate Trump's win over rival Hillary Clinton. One operative said the group "uttered almost in unison: 'We made America great.' "

All the President's Hysterical Overreactors

Matthew Albence, acting director of U.S. Immigration Customs and Enforcement, opined during a White House appearance that a court ruling barring his agency from relying solely on databases that have in the past led to U.S. citizens being wrongfully detained constituted "judicial overreach" and threatened public safety. He was joined by Texas Sheriff **Bill Waybourn**, who said the ruling means that authorities must now release "drunks [who] will run over your children."

Fear of Inspiring

Authorities in Turkey have partially banned the best-selling children's book Good Night Stories for Rebel Girls on the grounds that it might have a "detrimental influence" on young minds. The book, which celebrates the achievements of women from Marie Curie to Rosa Parks to Malala Yousafzai, is now subject to the same access restrictions as pornography.

How 'Bout Sharks with Frickin' Laser Beams?



President Donald Trump has "often" talked about wanting to fortify his long-coveted border wall by electrifying it, topping it with spikes that can pierce human flesh, and adding moats stocked with alligators or snakes, The New York Times reported. At one point, White House staffers were asked to seek cost estimates.

Readers are invited to submit No Comment items. Please send original links or clippings with the name and date of publication to editorial@progressive.org or 30 West Mifflin Street, Suite 703, Madison, WI53703. Submissions cannot be acknowledged or returned.

Load-Date: January 22, 2020

End of Document

TEXAS DIGEST

Austin American-Statesman (Texas)

1 January 2019

Copyright 2019
All Rights Reserved

Section: TX NEWS; Pg. B4

Length: 414 words

Body

DALLAS

Pension fund sells California luxury resort for loss

A luxury resort in California that helped push Dallas' troubled police pension system toward insolvency has been sold for a fraction of the nearly \$111 million the city sank into the property.

The Dallas Morning News reported Sunday that the 3,100-acre Napa County resort was recently sold by the public pension fund for \$22 million.

The property was among many unusual investments that plunged the Dallas Police and Fire Pension System into financial distress before an overhaul last year.

Former pension fund leaders went on lavish "due diligence" trips around the world, visited Napa County regularly and often stayed in luxury hotels.

Dallas City Council Member Lee Kleinman previously served on the pension board. He called the resort the "low-light of the inappropriate purchases" made by the fund.

HARRIS COUNTY

Gunman fires into car full of girls, killing child



Authorities in Houston say a man in a pickup pulled up next to a car full of girls leaving a Walmart parking lot and opened fire, killing a 7-year-old inside.

Maj. Jesse Razo of the Harris County sheriff's office said the mother was also struck in the arm in the Sunday morning shooting. He said three other girls ages 15 and younger were also in the vehicle at the time.

Harris County Sheriff Ed Gonzalez tweeted that the suspect was described as a white male in his 40s with a beard and was driving a red pickup.

Razo said the other girls inside the car were "shaken" and "devastated" at losing a sister.

FORT WORTH

Man charged with capital murder in death of infant son

A 26-year-old man is in custody and charged with capital murder in the death of his 2-month-old son.

Joseph Matthew Welborn of Fort Worth was being held in the Tarrant County Jail in lieu of \$250,000 bail.

His son Christian Welborn died Dec. 21 shortly after being taken to a hospital with a skull fracture.

Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** said during a news conference Friday that Welborn was home alone with the child when Christian suffered blunt force trauma to his head.

An arrest affidavit says that Welborn, who has four other children, initially told investigators that one of Christian's siblings accidentally dropped him but that Welborn then gave conflicting accounts of what transpired.

The other children have been placed in state custody.

Online jail records didn't indicate whether Welborn had an attorney to speak on his behalf.

The Associated Press

Load-Date: February 26, 2019

End of Document

[Texas roundup](#)

San Antonio Express News

December 30, 2018 Sunday, State Edition

Copyright 2018 Hearst Newspapers, a division of Hearst Communications, Inc. All Rights Reserved

Section: METRO; Pg. A006

Length: 435 words

Byline: Staff and wire reports



Highlight: SAN ANTONIO Airborne vehicle slams into wall Early Saturday, a man heading north on the frontage road off Interstate 35 drove through a grassy median, went airborne and slammed into the wall of the southbound lanes of Interstate 410, according to police. Officers said the driver was intoxicated and was taken into custody where he faces a charge of intoxicated assault.

Body

SAN ANTONIO Airborne vehicle slams into wall Early Saturday, a man heading north on the frontage road off Interstate 35 drove through a grassy median, went airborne and slammed into the wall of the southbound lanes of Interstate 410, according to police. Officers said the driver was intoxicated and was taken into custody where he faces a charge of intoxicated assault. The passenger suffered broken bones and was taken to Brooke Army Medical Center in serious condition.

Fort Worth Rail joins DFW and downtown A 27-mile rail system extending from downtown Fort Worth to Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport is scheduled to launch Jan. 5. TEXRail trains, operated by the Trinity Metro transit agency, will make nine stops along the route, including in the suburbs of North Richland Hills and Grapevine. The Dallas Morning News reports that \$336 million in transit-oriented development has occurred so far as part of the project. Trinity Metro, in an effort to jump-start ridership, will not charge fares in January. Come Feb. 1, a one-way ticket will cost \$2.50. The full one-way trip will take 52 minutes, and the line is expected to draw 8,000 daily riders by the end of 2019. PORT ARTHUR Police kill man wielding machete A 35-year-old man wielding a machete has been shot and killed by a police officer. Authorities in Port Arthur say they are investigating the circumstances that led to Friday's shooting but say the officer had repeatedly commanded the man to drop the machete, but he kept moving toward the officer, prompting the shooting. Bystanders told the Beaumont Enterprise that they heard six or seven shots. Police have not released the names of the man or the officer, who was not injured The Jefferson County district attorney's office is investigating the shooting along with Port Arthur police. Fort Worth Father charged in son's death A 26-year-old man is in custody and charged with capital murder in the death of his 2-month-old son. Joseph Matthew Welborn of Fort Worth was being held in the Tarrant County Jail on Saturday on a \$250,000 bail. His son, Christian Welborn, died Dec. 21 shortly after being taken to a hospital with a skull fracture. Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** said during a news conference Friday that Welborn was home alone with the child when Christian suffered blunt force trauma to his head. An arrest affidavit says Welborn, who has four other children, initially told investigators that one of Christian's siblings accidentally dropped him, but Welborn then gave conflicting accounts of what transpired. The other children have been placed in state custody.

Load-Date: April 3, 2019

End of Document

[**Father held in baby's death**](#)

THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

December 29, 2018 Saturday, 1 EDITION



DallasNews.com

Section: METRO & STATE; Pg. B03

Length: 598 words

Byline: DANA BRANHAM, LOYD BRUMFIELD and TOM STEELE, Staff Writers

Body

A Fort Worth man faces a capital murder charge in the beating death of his 2-month-old son at a Tarrant County home.

Joseph Matthew Welborn, 26, was arrested Thursday in the death of Christian Welborn. He remained in the Tarrant County Jail Friday, with bail set at \$250,000.

Authorities were called about 4:45 p.m. Dec. 21 about a child suffering head injuries who'd been rushed to a hospital from a Sansom Park mobile-home park.

Christian's mother rode in the ambulance to Cook Children's Medical Center with the boy, who was pronounced dead from blunt-force head injuries at 6:11 p.m., according to the Tarrant County medical examiner's office.

Meanwhile, a sheriff's detective met with Welborn at the home in the 5200 block of Azle Avenue. According to the arrest-warrant affidavit, Welborn told the detective that he had remained home and slept while his wife and her father went to the store with the baby.

When they got home, he went outside to help bring in the groceries and then heard the baby crying. His wife came outside with Christian "in a panic," the affidavit says, after a 4-year-old boy — Welborn's son with another woman — reportedly had dropped the child on the floor.

The detective said Welborn showed him a spot on the floor, near the family's Christmas tree, where the incident had happened but did not report observing "any obvious impact site." Two other boys at the home, ages 6 and 7, later told an interviewer that they had heard the 4-year-old drop Christian, and one of them reported seeing it, the affidavit says.

Christian's mother also told a detective that she had seen the 4-year-old boy drop Christian feet-first from a height of 2 to 2 1/2 feet. "She immediately grabbed Christian and observed that the back of his head was very swollen, and he was turning purple," the affidavit says.

In a subsequent interview at the Tarrant County Sheriff's Department, Welborn changed his story and said Christian had been at home with him while the others were shopping, according to the affidavit, but he had seen nothing wrong with the boy.

Christian's autopsy showed that the boy had suffered two complex skull fractures and had been struck at least two times, and probably a third, the affidavit says.



The medical examiner who performed the autopsy said the fall Welborn described could not have caused those injuries, and that a 4-, 6- or 7-year-old child would probably not be able to generate enough force to cause them.

An investigator with Child Protective Services later told authorities that she had been at the Sansom Park home about two hours before the incident — following up on a complaint of neglectful supervision, the affidavit says — and that Christian was alert and engaged at the time. Detectives also determined from surveillance video that Christian’s mother and grandfather had taken a 2-year-old boy to the store with them, not the infant.

Welborn was arrested after authorities determined he was the only person at the home who could’ve caused Christian’s fatal injuries, the affidavit says.

Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** said at a news conference Friday that Welborn needs to be held fully accountable for his actions.

“Anytime that full-grown adults hurt our babies, I think we all ought to be appalled and all ought to be disgusted,” Waybourn said.

Three brothers, ages 2, 6 and 7, were removed from the home and placed in state custody, a spokeswoman for Child Protective Services told the Fort Worth Star-Telegram.

dbranham@dallasnews.com; lbrumfield@dallasnews.com; tsteele@dallasnews.com Twitter: @danabranham, @LoydBrumfield, @tomsteele

Load-Date: December 29, 2018

End of Document

[Texas man charged with capital murder in death of infant son](#)

Associated Press State & Local

December 29, 2018 Saturday 4:48 PM GMT

Copyright 2018 Associated Press All Rights Reserved

Section: STATE AND REGIONAL

Length: 143 words

Dateline: FORT WORTH, Texas

Body

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) - A 26-year-old man is in custody and charged with capital murder in the death of his 2-month-old son.

Joseph Matthew Welborn of Fort Worth was being held in the Tarrant County jail Saturday on a \$250,000 bond.



His son, Christian Welborn, died Dec. 21 shortly after being taken to a hospital with a skull fracture.

Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** said during a news conference Friday that Welborn was home alone with the child when Christian suffered blunt force trauma to his head.

An arrest affidavit says Welborn, who has four other children, initially told investigators that one of Christian's siblings accidentally dropped him, but Welborn then gave conflicting accounts of what transpired.

The other children have been placed in state custody.

Online jail records don't indicate if Welborn has an attorney to speak on his behalf.

Load-Date: December 30, 2018

End of Document

[Texas man charged with capital murder in death of infant son](#)

Longview News-Journal (TX)

29 December 2018

Copyright 2018 Longview News-Journal, Longview, TX
Distributed by Newsbank, Inc. All Rights Reserved

Section: NEWS

Length: 134 words

Byline: Staff Writer

Body

A 26-year-old man is in custody and charged with capital murder in the death of his 2-month-old son.

Joseph Matthew Welborn of Fort Worth was being held in the Tarrant County jail Saturday on a \$250,000 bond.

His son, Christian Welborn, died Dec. 21 shortly after being taken to a hospital with a skull fracture.

Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** said Welborn was home alone with the child when Christian suffered blunt force trauma to his head.

An arrest affidavit says Welborn, who has four other children, initially told investigators that one of Christian's siblings accidentally dropped Christian, but Welborn then gave conflicting accounts of what transpired.

The other children have been placed in state custody.

Online jail records don't indicate if Welborn has an attorney to speak on his behalf.



Load-Date: December 31, 2018

End of Document

[Fort Worth father of 5 suspect in youngest son's death, facing capital murder charge](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

December 28, 2018 Friday

Copyright 2018 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: crime

Length: 503 words

Byline: Mitch Mitchell and Deanna Boyd

Star-Telegram

Dateline: FORT WORTH

Body

The father of a 2-month-old boy who died last week of skull fractures has been charged with capital murder.

Joseph Matthew Welborn, 26, of Fort Worth, is being held in the Tarrant County County Jail in lieu of \$250,000. His son, Christian Welborn, died Dec. 21 shortly after being brought by ambulance to Cook Children's Medical Center with what was believed to be a depressed skull fracture.

Sansom Park police had responded to a 911 call from the 5200 block of Azle Avenue about a 2-month-old child who was unresponsive after being dropped by a 4-year-old sibling.

Officials say the parents gave varying accounts to investigators and that the father changed his story two times after first telling authorities he was never alone with the child that day.

At first, the baby's mother, Rosalinda Lopez, told investigators that she saw the 4-year-old drop the baby about two to three feet onto the floor when she arrived home from the grocery store. She told Detective Michael Weber of Tarrant County Sheriff's Office that her husband was sleeping when the baby was dropped but later changed her story to say he was outside getting groceries, according to an arrest warrant affidavit.

An autopsy revealed that the infant had two skull fractures from possibly up to three impacts -- injuries that a fall could not have caused, according to the affidavit. Dr. Tasha Greenberg, Tarrant County deputy



medical examiner, stated she did not believe a child could generate the force that caused the fractures, Weber wrote.

Coincidentally, a Child Protective Services investigator had been at the family's home about two hours earlier on Dec. 21 conducting follow-up on a neglectful supervision complaint. The CPS investigator told Weber that the baby was fine when she visited about 2:45 p.m. and that Joseph Welborn had been asleep inside the trailer during her visit.

"All was well with the baby, the baby was tracking and up, awake, alert and active," Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** said during a press conference on Friday.

The baby's maternal grandfather told investigators he was still outside after arriving home from the store when he heard his daughter scream from inside the trailer, "He dropped the baby," according to the affidavit.

He said he and Joseph Welborn went into the trailer to find Christian was having trouble breathing. The grandfather said he attempted to blow into the baby's mouth while his daughter called 911.

Sansom Park police summoned the crime scene unit with the Tarrant County Sheriff's Department, said David McClelland, chief of staff with the sheriff's department.

Tarrant County detectives took over the investigation because of their access to more resources, McClelland said.

Joseph Welborn fathered five children, Waybourn said. Marissa Gonzales, a CPS spokeswoman, said Friday that three siblings -- boys ages 7, 6 and 2 -- were removed from the home and placed in foster care on Dec. 22. The 4-year-old did not live with Welborn, Waybourn said.

Waybourn said the investigation is continuing.

Load-Date: December 28, 2018

End of Document

[**Fort Worth man arrested in connection with the death of a 2-month-old infant**](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

December 28, 2018 Friday

Copyright 2018 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram
Found on DFW.com

Section: fort_worth

Length: 245 words



Byline: Mitch Mitchell and Deanna Boyd

Star-Telegram

Dateline: FORT WORTH

Body

An arrest has been made in the case of a 2-month-old boy whose death was ruled a homicide.

The child, Christian Welborn, died Dec. 21 from head injuries, according to the Tarrant County Medical Examiner's office.

The child's father, 26-year-old Joseph Matthew Welborn of Fort Worth, was in Tarrant County jail Friday facing a capital murder charge. Bond has been set at \$250,000.

The child was found at a residence in the 5200 block of Azle Avenue in Sansom Park. The child was taken to Cook Children's Medical Center where he was pronounced dead about 6:10 p.m., a news release from the Tarrant County medical examiner's office said.

Sansom Park police summoned the crime scene unit with the Tarrant County Sheriff's Department to help process the scene, said David McClelland, chief of staff with the Tarrant County Sheriff's Department.

Tarrant County detectives took over the investigation because of their access to more resources, McClelland said.

Marissa Gonzales, a CPS spokeswoman, said Friday that three siblings -- boys ages seven, six and two -- were removed from the home and placed in foster care on Dec. 22.

Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** called a press conference scheduled for Friday to provide details concerning the arrest.

Candlelight vigil to celebrate the life of 16-month-old Ashton ReynA candlelight vigil was held to celebrate the life of Ashton Reyn, a 16-month-old toddler who died violently on Sunday. Reyn's father is accused in the capital murder of his son.

Load-Date: December 28, 2018

End of Document

[For a brief moment, they are not inmates, they are carolers, bringing Christmas joy](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

December 21, 2018 Friday

Copyright 2018 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: fort_worth

Length: 477 words

Byline: Mitch Mitchell

Star-Telegram

Dateline: FORT WORTH

Body

A holiday concert for pedestrians passing near the courthouse is becoming an annual Christmas event.

Friday marked the second year that hastily gathered groups of jailhouse singers have performed just prior to Christmas, officials with the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office said.

The event and participation grew this year, said Wesley McDuffie, Tarrant County Sheriff's Office chaplain. Last year, there was an organist and a soloist, McDuffie said. This year, there was a stage and musicians from the Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church in Fort Worth performed opening songs for the inmates.

The small crowd gathered across the street from the Tarrant County Jail could not see the carolers above them.

But people smiled as they recognized the voices falling from the jail's upper floors.

"That's my daughter," one mother said, beaming with pride.

There were about 40 others, men and women segregated on different floors, many burdened with the certainty that they would spend their holiday season behind bars.

But the singers said they took joy in the idea that their voices were free, even if their bodies were not.

"There's a lot of us out here who are in jail, just not behind bars," McDuffie said. "We just don't see the punishment that some people go through. When you allow Jesus in your heart you can rise above it."

Inmate and choir member, Sunetha Peoples, 30, of Beford, has three children between 9 and 11. She will not be able to be with them this holiday season, but she said the concert provided her a way to uplift her spirit by uplifting the spirits of others.

"Being incarcerated makes you feel less than," Peoples said. "The concert lets me know that I can always do something for someone else no matter where I am. It helps me put my focus and faith in God."

When they are singing, the inmates are not focused on their own trials, said Ruth Calzada, executive director for Fort Worth Metro, a group trying to build bridges between the police and the communities they serve.

"For this brief moment they can bring some joy to the people of Fort Worth and not think about being in jail," she said.

Juanita James, the Tarrant County detention officer credited for organizing the concert, said she sings to find new choir members. It's infectious, James said. People always sing along with her and their talents are revealed, James said.

"Often, the inmates feel as though they are outcasts, thrown away." James said. "The concert gives them hope. Just like the people on the ground can't see them, they can't see the people on the ground. They don't know how many people are screaming for them. "

All of us, regardless of their station in life, are in need of redemption and all are in need of hope as we enter this season, said **Bill Waybourn**, Tarrant County sheriff.

"And as optimism steps in, along comes kindness and peace," Waybourn said.

Jailhouse carolers

Load-Date: December 21, 2018

End of Document

[**Tarrant Republican leaders speak out for religious freedom, keeping Muslim in party post**](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

December 5, 2018 Wednesday

Copyright 2018 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: state_politics

Length: 662 words

Byline: Anna M. Tinsley

Star-Telegram

Body

A group of prominent Republican officials in Tarrant County showed support Wednesday for Shahid Shafi, the local Muslim some want to remove from party leadership.



The locally elected Republicans -- including County Judge Glen Whitley, Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** and District Clerk Tom Wilder -- released a statement noting that a person's religious faith should never be a factor when a person is appointed to a post with the Tarrant County Republican Party.

"We would like to take this opportunity to reaffirm our belief in the core values of religious liberty and the freedom to practice our own individual faiths," according to the statement signed by eight local Republicans. "We therefore offer this statement as our continued support of Tarrant County Republican Chair Darl Easton's appointments to party leadership positions."

Earlier this year, Easton appointed Shafi, a surgeon and Southlake City Council member, to serve as one of the party's vice chairmen.

Within months, Republican Dorrie O'Brien, a Republican precinct chairwoman from Grand Prairie, asked for Shafi's appointment to be reconsidered.

She and a small group of others behind the move to oust Shafi say this is not about religion but whether Shafi is loyal to Islam and Islamic law or connected "to Islamic terror groups."

Tarrant precinct chairs discussed the issue behind closed doors during their Nov. 10 meeting but ran out of time to vote.

A vote now is scheduled Jan. 10 for the Tarrant County GOP executive committee, which is made up of precinct chairmen.

Muslim targets

Others also are speaking out, urging the Tarrant County Republican Party to keep Shafi in his vice chairman post.

The Texas Medical Association, Tarrant County Medical Association and TEXPAC Board of Directors recently sent a joint letter stating that to Easton.

"Just as we reject discrimination of all kinds in our profession and in our practices, we urge you and the party's executive committee to reject discrimination against Dr. Shafi because of his faith," according to the letter signed by representatives of all three groups. "Prejudice and discrimination are anti-American and anti-Texan, and contrary to the ethical precepts of medicine.

"We are proud of Dr. Shafi, a naturalized American citizen, for taking this directive to heart with his serve."

These letters come in the wake of recent Star-Telegram reports that the effort to remove Shafi has expanded.

Others targeted include the party chairman, Easton; a precinct chairwoman and area leader, Kelly Canon; and a precinct chairwoman who is married to a Muslim, Lisa Grimaldi Abdulkareem. Printouts of emails detailing the efforts were delivered anonymously to the Star-Telegram, which has been writing about this effort since August.

Shafi, an immigrant from Pakistan, has said he became a U.S. citizen in 2009 and soon joined the Republican Party.

He said he's not associated with the Muslim Brotherhood, nor the Council on American-Islamic Relations, "nor any terrorist organization." He also said he supports Second Amendment rights and American Laws for American Courts. And he said he's never promoted Shariah.



Supporting Shafi

The statement by Tarrant Republicans was signed by Whitley, Waybourn, Wilder, Commissioners Gary Fickes, Andy Nguyen and J.D. Johnson, County Clerk Mary Louise Garcia and Tax Assessor Collector Ron Wright.

Last week, several top statewide Republicans -- including Texas House Speaker Joe Straus and Texas Land Commissioner George P. Bush -- also spoke out against the effort to remove Shafi.

And the State Republican Executive Committee recently passed a resolution stressing that members across the state have the "freedom to practice all faiths."

The resolution in part states that all "Republican county executive committees (are encouraged) to follow the Rules of the Republican Party of Texas related to participation in meetings and conventions; and reaffirm our core values of religious liberty and the freedom to practice all faiths. "

Load-Date: December 5, 2018

End of Document

[Texas day care worker accused of pinning down, hitting child](#)

Dayton Daily News (Ohio)

November 20, 2018 Tuesday

Copyright 2018 Dayton Newspapers, Inc. All Rights Reserved

Section: NEWS

Length: 403 words

Byline: Bob D'Angelo

Body

A Texas day care teacher is accused of assaulting a 4-year-old boy who was being disruptive, the Fort Worth Star-Telegram reported.

Tracy Ludwig, 36, is accused of straddling the child on the floor and slapping him more than 10 times while they were in a playroom, the newspaper reported, citing an arrest warrant. Ludwig, of Lake Worth, is also accused of pinching the boy several times on the neck when he would not stop kicking.

The alleged incident occurred Nov. 6 at Little Country Daycare in Haslet, WFAA reported.

Kindsie Andreason, the victim's mother, said video surveillance showed her son, Hunter, pinned to the ground by a woman. The woman in the video was identified as Ludwig, the television station reported.

"She straddled him, pinned him down to the floor, and she just started hitting him and beating him across the face and chest," Andreason told WFAA.



Brenda Ward, the owner of Little Country, said she was "cooperating fully with the investigation," but declined further comment, the Star-Telegram reported.

The incident allegedly happened after the boy was removed from his room because he was being disruptive at nap time, Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** told KXAS.

Paul Andreason came to the center to pick up his son after receiving a call that Hunter had been disruptive, the Star-Telegram reported.

"When my husband asked about the (boy's) scratches, he was told that he had scratched himself," Andreason told the newspaper in a telephone interview Monday. "Then when I asked about it, I was told that his jacket caused the marks."

After hearing her son had been disruptive, Andreason put the boy in timeout. She told WFAA her son was scared to tell her what happened.

"Just to know that we got onto Hunter and we reprimanded him for kicking whenever he was just trying to defend himself against a 36-year-old woman that was pinning him down and beating him – it just makes you sick," Andreason told the television station.

After Hunter's redness turned into bruises, Andreason went to the day care center. The boy's teacher told her to demand answers from Ward, WFAA reported. Ward showed Andreason a 10-minute surveillance video.

"She (Ward) acted as though she had never seen the video," Andreason told the Star-Telegram. "They all apologized."

Andreason then contacted authorities. She is filing a lawsuit against the day care, its owner, director, two teachers and Ludwig, WFAA reported.

Graphic

Caption FILE PHOTO: A day care worker in Texas is accused of hitting and pinning down a child. Photo: ChiccoDodiFC/Shutterstock

Load-Date: November 21, 2018

End of Document

[Before killing accused child molester, inmate says, he warned guards he needed own cell](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

November 14, 2018 Wednesday

Copyright 2018 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: crime

Length: 473 words

Byline: Kaley Johnson

Star-Telegram

Dateline: FORT WORTH

Body

An inmate at Tarrant County jail charged with killing a notoriously accused child molester said Wednesday he warned guards he should not be placed in a cell with other people.

Jail officials said David Faustino Flores, 42, killed 76-year-old Clinton Don Simpson on Nov. 7 by slamming his head into the floor more than a dozen times.

Flores talked to reporters from jail on Wednesday afternoon, the same day he was formally charged with murder in the case, according to court records.

Flores said he hears voices and does not know right from wrong. He said he was in solitary confinement before being moved to suicide watch for trying to kill himself.

"I told them I was schizophrenic and need my own cell. They didn't know me either. They didn't know better," Flores said. "I can't handle people. I said that when I first got here."

Flores was in jail on a charge of assaulting an elderly man. He said he attacked the elderly man because he was hearing voices and thought he was part of Al-Qaeda.

Senior Chief Mike Simonds said he had not heard anything about Flores telling jail officials he should not be in a cell with other people.

"(Flores) went through the same classification process all prisoners go through," Simonds said. "The classification for him to be placed where he was was appropriate based on those criteria."

Simonds said inmates are classified by My Health My Resources, an agency that provides mental health services, when they arrive at the jail.

Simonds declined to comment on Flores' classification specifically, but said that unless an inmate showed aggression toward other inmates or staff, he would not be considered assaultive for classification purposes.

"If someone was making specific threats or if they demonstrated they were going to be assaultive, they would not be placed with other inmates," he said.

David McClelland, chief of staff for Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn**, said in an interview Monday that it wasn't unusual for more than one inmate on suicide watch to be in a shared jail cell. He noted the cells

on the jail's medical wing, where the inmates were being housed, can hold up to four inmates on suicide watch.

My Health My Resources "recommended to us placing inmates together because it was more beneficial. It's better for them than solitary confinement," McClelland said.

Brandon Flores, David Flores' brother, said he believes his brother's mental condition made him vulnerable in jail and that he probably felt alone, only escalating his schizophrenia.

"It just doesn't make any sense," Brandon Flores said. "I think someone has to be responsible for putting this guy in with my brother. I don't know who gave the OK for that. My brother isn't a killer. I just feel like there was some groundwork laid out to end up with my brother being a killer.

Kaley Johnson: 817-390-7028, @KaleyJohnson6

Load-Date: November 14, 2018

End of Document

[Sheriff catches flak for posts of Ted Cruz rally in Arlington](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

October 25, 2018 Thursday

Copyright 2018 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: election

Length: 222 words

Byline: Mitch Mitchell

Star-Telegram

Dateline: ARLINGTON

Body

Two social media posts that made brief appearances on the Tarrant County Sheriff Office's Facebook and Twitter pages were designed to encourage people to vote, not who to vote for, according to an official with the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office.

One of the posts shows Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn**, Fort Worth Mayor Betsy Price and others gathered near a red, white and blue sign that reads "Ted Cruz Tough as Texas."



Another picture posted says that **Sheriff Waybourn** "stopped by Ted Cruz's event today in Arlington alongside some other familiar Tarrant County faces."

"The posts were removed in less than an hour because people complained," said David McClelland, sheriff's office chief of staff.

The Facebook page that hosted the posts are a subpage of Waybourn's campaign website, McClelland said. The posts appear to come from an official Tarrant County Sheriff's Office Facebook page. Both the Facebook and Twitter pages include verification checkmarks.

"We went to the rally to encourage people to vote," McClelland said.

Cruz, a U.S. senator representing Texas, held the get-out-the-vote rally where the pictures were taken at the Arlington Music Hall Thursday, less than two weeks before his crucial midterm re-election bid against challenger U.S. Rep. Beto O'Rourke, D-El Paso.

Mitch Mitchell: 817-390-7752, @mitchmitchel3

Load-Date: October 26, 2018

End of Document

[Sons sue Tarrant County, say father's jail-related death is part of country-wide epidemic](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

October 19, 2018 Friday

Copyright 2018 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: fort_worth

Length: 935 words

Byline: Kaley Johnson

Star-Telegram

Dateline: FORT WORTH

Body

Billy Larae Freeland was drunk when he was booked into the Tarrant County jail in October of 2017.



Five days later, he was taken to the emergency room with acute respiratory and renal failure caused by substance abuse withdrawal and was essentially unresponsive. He never regained consciousness and, 12 days later, the 61-year-old Bedford man died, according to a wrongful death lawsuit filed by his sons.

Billy Freeland's sons filed the wrongful death lawsuit in district court against Tarrant County and Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** on Oct. 12. In the suit, Taylor and Josh Freeland say their father died due to a lack of basic medical care while in custody at the Tarrant County Jail.

"(The Freelands') main objective is to address problems in local jails and dealing with substance abuse victims," the Freelands' lawyer, Richard Arnold, said. "This is a big problem. A lot of those people end up in county jails. Those places need to be equipped to deal with the obvious consequences that there are going to be."

The Sheriff's Department said it could not comment on ongoing legal matters.

Arnold said that while Freeland was hospitalized in Tarrant County's custody, he was no longer in the county's custody at the time he died.

Staci Turner, the assistant records manager at the Tarrant County's Sheriff's Department, said that from 2013 to 2018, the jail has had no in-custody deaths due to substance abuse withdrawal. Any death in custody records prior to 2013 have been destroyed in accordance with state retention laws.

According to the suit, Billy Freeland had severe alcohol withdrawal symptoms while in jail but was not given the necessary medical care for someone detoxing from alcohol.

"Had Billy Larae Freeland been provided the proper medical care for his detoxification while he was in the Tarrant County Jail, he would not be dead today. Taylor and Josh Freeland would not be without a father," the suit states.

According to the suit, "Billy was by his own admission a sick man -- his disease --alcoholism."

On Oct. 18, 2017, Billy Freeland was booked into the Tarrant County jail after a DUI conviction.

Freeland's sons say members of their family called the jail repeatedly to warn jail personnel that Billy was likely to suffer side effects from alcohol withdrawal.

Still, Freeland's sons say, "Billy received no meaningful medical intervention" for complications from withdrawal.

According to Medical News Today, severe alcohol withdrawal symptoms can include:

severe tremorhallucinations, usually visualextrême disorientationseizuresraised body temperature

These symptoms, Medical News Today states, can be life-threatening.

On Oct. 20, jail records, portions of which are included in the lawsuit, stated Billy Freeland was unwilling to let a nurse take his vital signs or assess him.

"He is naked in his cell and talking to the wall," records included in the lawsuit state. "(He) is agitated, picking at the wall and yelling at this nurse to leave him alone. He is not oriented to place or time."

Freeland was taken to the jail's infirmary floor, where he was monitored. According to the suit, however, "no aggressive intervention" was taken as Freeland's condition worsened.



"They needed to intervene and there are very practical ways to do that in terms of medication," Arnold said. "And when (Freeland) was not responding, he should have been sent to the hospital. He should have been sent to the hospital long before he was."

On Oct. 23, according to the lawsuit, Freeland was found lying on his cell floor. Citing jail records, the lawsuit states he was hallucinating and disoriented, had labored breathing and arm tremors.

Jail records note Freeland was combative and resistant as nurses assessed him.

Freeland was then taken to the emergency room at JPS Hospital, where his situation was assessed as critical, the lawsuit says. He was suffering from acute respiratory and renal failure, was mumbling incoherently and essentially unresponsive.

Freeland was admitted to the ICU on Oct. 23 but never regained consciousness, the suit says. On Nov. 4, he died from complications of detoxification.

Arnold said that while Freeland was in the hospital, the sheriff's department decided it no longer needed to have officers watching him since he was in a coma. The sheriff's department sought and received a court order 24 to 28 hours before Freeland died, meaning he was no longer in their custody at the time of his death.

The Freelands say in the suit that the jail and sheriff had a duty to provide their father with medical care and instead "acted with deliberate indifference to Billy's rights" by not evaluating or addressing his detoxification complications.

"These are increasing problems with local jails as opposed to state institutions. They're just not up to speed as much as they should or can be in dealing with people who have substance abuse issues," Arnold said. "This is a big problem, especially with the opioid crisis."

In the suit, the Freelands say they hope Billy Freeland's death "will at least begin the conversation about how local penal institutions treat victims of substance abuse, an epidemic which has been spreading through the country at alarming rates."

"Billy did not have to die," the suit states. "Had the Defendants afforded Billy his basic constitutional rights, he would not have died."

Kaley Johnson: 817-390-7028, @KaleyJohnson6

Tarrant County's 10 Most Wanted Criminals, October 11Fort Worth Police and the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office are looking for these 10 fugitives. Crime Stoppers will pay up to \$1,000 for information leading to an arrest. Call 817-469-8477.

Load-Date: October 20, 2018

End of Document

[***A 2-year-old girl stopped breathing. Then a Tarrant County sheriff's deputy rode up***](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

October 10, 2018 Wednesday





Section: fort_worth

Length: 827 words

Byline: Deanna Boyd

Star-Telegram

Dateline: FORT WORTH

Body

When Diana Lopez got home from work Oct. 1, she found that her 2-year-old daughter Elena's temperature had spiked.

Elena had suffered febrile seizures twice before, and Lopez was afraid another was coming.

So an alarmed Lopez and her mother, Martha Ramirez, loaded Elena into her car seat and headed to Cook Children's Urgent Care clinic from their home in north Fort Worth.

They made it as far as Henderson Street, in downtown Fort Worth, when Ramirez who was in the backseat with her granddaughter, saw Elena suddenly start to shake. Her brown eyes rolled back into her head.

Ramirez screamed and Lopez stopped the truck.

"That's when I turned, and we pulled her out of the car seat and moved her into the front seat," Lopez said.

IMG_4760.jpgElena Lopez, 2, giving hugs at her grandparent's north Fort Worth home on Tuesday.

Lopez called 911.

"I told them my daughter was having a seizure and that we were in the middle of the road and that I needed help," Lopez said. "And she couldn't understand me. I guess I was screaming so much because she kept telling me I needed to calm down in order for me to tell her where I was."

Lopez's panic only worsened when Elena's seizure lasted longer than the ones before -- about five minutes. And this time, when it ended, Elena didn't move or respond.

"I've never had her turn colors on me. This time she turned purple," Lopez said. "Usually after the seizure ends, she starts to cry and she's kind of lethargic but she's conscious, and this time she wasn't. I knew that there was something different. Her seizure had ended and she wasn't crying or coming back to me or doing anything."



Tarrant County Sheriff's Deputy Robert Gallardo had been riding his bike south on Henderson Street that evening, headed to the nearby Walgreens to check on the business due to recent thefts. He noticed the Chevy pickup parked awkwardly in the 1000 block of West 10th Street.

Gallardo.JPG Tarrant County Sheriff's Deputy Robert Gallardo

Both driver-side doors were open, and he could see two pairs of legs standing just outside the driver's door, facing into the truck.

An accident, he wondered. Maybe a domestic disturbance?

When the light changed, he and another deputy, H. Greenlee, crossed a busy Henderson Street to investigate. As he approached, Ramirez screamed in Spanish, "Ayudar! Ayudar!" which means "Help her!"

Gallardo saw another woman bent over the front seat.

"I thought she was injured so I asked her if she was all right," Gallardo said. "She gets up and says, 'Help me. She stopped breathing!' "

That's when he spotted Elena's lifeless body in the driver's seat, dressed in a diaper and a pink shirt.

"She's not coming back to me!" Lopez told Gallardo.

Gallardo identified himself to the 911 dispatcher still on the line and began chest compressions on Elena.

"Come on, baby. Come on, baby. Wake up, Mama. Wake up," Gallardo encouraged Elena as he pushed on her chest repeatedly.

As Gallardo worked, Lopez said, Greenlee comforted her and gave her updates.

"He was very sweet too, just very calming and he kept talking to (Gallardo) and going back and forth in letting us know everything that was going on," Lopez said.

Gallardo soon heard sirens and looked up to see a fire engine coming down the street.

"I did another maybe 10 more chest compressions when she opened her eyes and stared at me," Gallardo said. "They opened really wide and then they went back down."

Gallardo turned to Lopez with the good news: "She's fine. She opened her eyes."

"I felt so relieved and so thankful that he was there," Lopez said.

As firefighters approached, Gallardo handed Elena to them. He said she never cried.

"She was just kind of freaked out. She had a look of, 'What happened?'" he said.

After Elena was loaded in the ambulance, Gallardo and Greenlee pedaled away.

cpr (2).jpg

For Gallardo, the call was special but not his first encounter with a near life-and-death experience.



While at a conference in South Padre Island in 2014, he saved a young girl from drowning in the ocean. Another time, when still new to the sheriff's department, he found an inmate hanging in a holding cell at the courthouse and brought the man back with CPR.

He said he doesn't feel like a hero but credits Sheriff **Bill Waybourn**, who started the bike unit so that deputies could partner with Fort Worth's officers in keeping downtown safe.

"If it wasn't for him, I wouldn't have been out here. I would have been at the courthouse or something," Gallardo said.

Lopez said doctors at Cooks determined that an infection coupled with a recent flu shot had apparently led to Elena's fever and seizure. She was put on antibiotics.

Tuesday, Elena smiled and gave hugs and kisses freely when visited by a Star-Telegram reporter.

Lopez says she is grateful to Gallardo.

"I don't think she would have come back to me if he wasn't there," she said. "He just showed up at the perfect time in the perfect moment and knew exactly what to do."

Deanna Boyd: 817-390-7655, @deannaboyd

Load-Date: October 12, 2018

End of Document

[**Immigration enforcement program lacks transparency, new study says**](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

October 10, 2018 Wednesday

Copyright 2018 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram
Found on DFW.com

Section: ece_incoming

Length: 584 words

Byline: Hanaa' Tameez

Star-Telegram

Dateline: Fort Worth

Body



The 287(g) program is rapidly expanding in the United States and suffers from a lack of transparency, according to a new study published by the Center for American Progress.

Under section 287(g) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, the program is a partnership between local law enforcement agencies and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). By entering into the agreement, law enforcement agencies receive delegated authority for immigration enforcement within their jurisdictions.

Currently 78 law enforcement agencies across 20 states have entered into the 287(g) program. The Tarrant County Sheriff's Department is one of 25 Texas entities with 287(g) agreements. Texas is the state with the most agreements overall.

287gchart

The Center for American Progress explains that when a law enforcement agency enters into a 287(g) agreement, it dedicates local staff and resources to greater immigration enforcement. The Washington D.C.-based think-tank cites the absence of steering committees and community engagement as contributing factors to problems associated with the program.

"As the growth of 287(g) agreements is likely to continue nationwide, a lack of transparency and poor oversight will only aggravate their negative impacts on local communities," Claudia Flores of the Center for American Progress wrote. "For localities, any attempts to discourage participation from community members, particularly those most affected by the 287(g) program, puts community trust at great risk and fails to provide the crucial oversight needed to prevent these programs from having adverse effects in communities."

An inspection report issued by the Department of Homeland Security Office of the Inspector General (OIG) reveals concerns with how ICE keeps up with staffing a program that's growing so quickly.

"ICE approved the 40 additional applicants without planning for a corresponding increase in program management staffing, determining how to promptly deliver needed information technology (IT) equipment to participants, or ensuring participants are fully trained," the OIG report from September 2018 reads, in part. "Specifically, ICE did not analyze program needs to determine how many additional 287(g) program managers should be hired and was not able to hire enough to keep up with the quick expansion."

David McClelland, chief of staff for Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn**, said that Waybourn campaigned on immigration issues prior to his election. After taking office, Waybourn's team met with local Democrat and Republican officials, the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) and other agencies to answer questions related to the program.

The Tarrant County Sheriff's Office has also set up a steering committee, McClelland said. They plan to have the first meeting in late November.

Local grassroots coalition United Fort Worth has protested Tarrant County's participation in the program over the last year, claiming that it separates families.

However, McClelland explained, the only officers who have been trained under 287(g) work in the Tarrant County Jail. He said patrol officers in the field aren't looking for undocumented immigrants when responding to calls.



"If someone is a victim or a witness to a crime, our deputies are not going to be concerned about their immigration status," McClelland said. "We are going to do our best to help them and protect innocent people from evil people. We only look at a person's immigration status in the brick and mortar of our jails."

Load-Date: October 10, 2018

End of Document

[United States Courts Opinions: United States District Court Northern District of Texas: ROBERT F. HALLMAN, Petitioner, v BILL WAYBOURN, Sheriff, Tarrant County, Texas, Respondent.](#)

US Official News

October 8, 2018 Monday

Copyright 2018 Plus Media Solutions Private Limited All Rights Reserved



Length: 757 words

Body

Washington: United States District Court Northern District of Texas has issued the following order: U.S. DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS FILED IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS OCT - 4 2018 FORT WORTH DIVISION ROBERT F. HALLMAN, § § § § § § § § § § CLERK, u.s. 183;"D"1s"R-1c=T-c~o-'uRT BY--.,,,-,----Deputy Petitioner, v. No. 4:18-CV-720-A **BILL WAYBOURN**, Sheriff, Tarrant County, Texas, Respondent. MEMORANDUM OPINION and ORDER This is a petition for a writ of habeas corpus pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2241 filed by petitioner, Robert F. Hallman, a state prisoner confined in the Tarrant County jail, against **Bill Waybourn**, Sheriff of Tarrant County, respondent. After having considered the pleadings, state court records, and relief sought by petitioner, the court has concluded that the petition should be dismissed as moot. No service has issued upon respondent. I. Factual and Procedural History At the time this petition was filed, petitioner was awaiting trial on pending criminal charges in Tarrant County, Texas, Case Nos.

1451589, 1489585, 1548957, and 1548964. (Pet. 3, doc. 1.) Electronic communication with the Tarrant County District Clerk's Office confirms that petitioner was acquitted on Count One but convicted on Counts Two through Seven and sentenced to concurrent life sentences on September 20, 2018, in Case No. 1548964. The communication further confirms that petitioner's remaining cases Case 4:18-cv-00720-A Document 15 Filed 10/04/18 Page 1 of 3 PageID <pageID> were dismissed on September 21, 2018, and that he has no cases currently pending in Tarrant County. By this habeas petition, petitioner complains of pretrial prosecutorial misconduct; recently obtained exculpatory evidence pointing out "inconsistencies, untruthfulness, unreliability and impeachment material of state[']s witness"; deprivation of the assistance of



counsel in pretrial proceedings; and excessive pretrial bond. (Pet. 5-6, doc. 1.) II. Discussion Title 28 U.S.C. § 2243 authorizes a district court to summarily dismiss a frivolous habeas-corpus petition prior to any answer or other pleading by the government. 1 A state pretrial detainee is entitled to raise constitutional claims in a federal habeas proceeding under § 2241 under certain circumstances. See 28 U.S.C. § 2241(c); Dickerson v. Louisiana, 816 F.2d 220, 224 (5th Cir. 1987). However, petitioner is no longer a pretrial detainee having been found guilty and convicted in case no. 1548964R of two counts of aggravated sexual assault of a child under 14 years of age, one count of sexual assault of a child 1Section 2243, governing applications for writ of habeas corpus, provides: A Court, justice or judge entertaining an application for a writ of habeas corpus shall forthwith award the writ or issue an order directing the respondent to show cause why the writ should not be granted, unless it appears from the application that the applicant or person is not entitled thereto, 28 U.S.C. § 2243 (emphasis added). 2 Case 4:18-cv-00720-A Document 15 Filed 10/04/18 Page 2 of 3 PageID <pageID> under 17 years of age, and three counts of indecency with a child by contact and the dismissal of his remaining cases. The issues presented challenging the lawfulness of his pretrial detention have therefore been rendered moot. See Thorne v. Warden, Brooklyn House of Detention for Men, 479 F.2d 297, 299 (2d Cir. 1973) ("Since [petitioner] is now held as a convicted defendant rather than merely on a criminal charge not yet brought to trial, the issue as to the legality of his continued pretrial detention has been mooted, and it therefore becomes unnecessary to resolve the constitutional issues presented."). See also Fassler v. United States, 858 F.2d 1016, 1018 (5th Cir. 1988) (holding that federal pretrial detainee's habeas corpus application was rendered moot by his conviction) . For the reasons discussed herein, The court ORDERS that the petition of petitioner for a writ of habeas corpus pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2241 be, and is hereby, dismissed as moot and that any pending motions be denied. Petitioner has not made a showing that reasonable jurists would question this court's procedural ruling. Therefore, the court further ORDERS that a certificate of appealability be, and is hereby, denied. SIGNED October _!}__, 2018. 3 Case 4:18-cv-00720-A Document 15 Filed 10/04/18 Page 3 of 3 PageID <pageID> In case of any query regarding this article or other content needs please contact: editorial@plusmediasolutions.com

Load-Date: October 9, 2018

End of Document

[13 men arrested after trying to meet children for sex in Tarrant County, police say](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

September 25, 2018 Tuesday

Copyright 2018 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW [.com](#)

Section: fort_worth

Length: 216 words



Byline: Kaley Johnson

Star-Telegram

Body

The Tarrant County Sheriff's Department arrested 13 men between Sept. 18 and Sept. 20 on charges of online solicitation of a minor.

The operation focused on people who believed they were talking online with children under the age of 17, according to a Tarrant County sheriff's press release.

The men arrested were intending to meet with children for sexual intercourse and talking with them in a sexually explicit way, police said.

All the men arrested were charged with online solicitation of a minor. Warrants were being obtained for an additional seven people, according to the press release.

The arrests were the result of a joint operation between Tarrant County's human trafficking unit, the county's constable's office precinct 3, the Fort Worth Police Department and the Texas Department of Public Safety.

Since the creation of the county's human trafficking unit in March 2017, there have been 121 arrests, the press release said. Of those, 29 were in connection with online solicitation of a minor and 9 arrests were in connection with human trafficking.

"In Tarrant County, we have a zero tolerance for predators coming after our children. We will always be vigorously alert and watching for them," Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** stated in the press release.

Kaley Johnson: 817-390-7028, @KaleyJohnson6

Load-Date: September 27, 2018

End of Document

[United States Courts Opinions: United States District Court Northern District of Texas: RUBEN VASQUEZ, Petitioner, v BILL WAYBOURN, Respondent.](#)

US Official News

September 22, 2018 Saturday

Copyright 2018 Plus Media Solutions Private Limited All Rights Reserved



Length: 699 words

Body

Washington: United States District Court Northern District of Texas has issued the following order: IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS FORT WORTH DIVISION RUBEN VASQUEZ, § Petitioner, § § v. § Civil Action No. 4:18-CV-302-O § **BILL WAYBOURN**, Sheriff, § Tarrant County, Texas, § Respondent. § OPINION AND ORDER Before the Court is a petition for a writ of habeas corpus filed by Petitioner, Ruben Vasquez, a county prisoner at the time the petition was filed, against **Bill Waybourn**, Sheriff of Tarrant County, Texas, Respondent. After considering the petition and relief sought by Petitioner, the Court has concluded that the petition should be dismissed for lack of subject matter jurisdiction. I. BACKGROUND In this petition, Petitioner challenges his February 14, 2012, conviction for theft of property under \$1,500 in Tarrant County, Texas, Case No. 1251929D, for which he was sentenced to six months' confinement in a state jail facility. Pet. 2, ECF No. 1; Resp't's Reply 13, ECF No. 9. At the time the petition was filed, Petitioner was awaiting trial in Tarrant County in Case No. 1528706D for unauthorized use of a vehicle.

Resp't's Reply 9, ECF No. 9. His 2012 theft conviction was one of two prior state-jail convictions used to elevate the felony classification for his current offense. Id. at 20. On May 25, 2018, pursuant to a plea agreement, Petitioner pleaded guilty in Case No. 1528706D to the current offense, the state waived the enhancement paragraph in the indictment, and Petitioner was sentenced to six months' confinement in a state jail facility. Petitioner has since discharged the six-month sentence and is no longer confined. Case 4:18-cv-00302-O Document 10 Filed 09/19/18 Page 1 of 3 PageID <pageID> II. DISCUSSION This Court has the duty to assure that it has jurisdiction over the matters before it. *Burge v. Parish of St. Tammany*, 187 F.3d 452, 465-66 (5th Cir. 1999); *MCG, Inc. v. Great W. Energy Corp.*, 896 F.2d 170, 173 (5th Cir. 1990). Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 12(h)(3) requires that federal courts dismiss an action whenever it appears by suggestion of the parties or otherwise that the court lacks jurisdiction over the subject matter. FED. R. CIV. P. 12(h)(3). Generally, for this Court to have subject matter jurisdiction over a claim under § 2254, the petitioner must be "in custody" pursuant to the underlying conviction the subject of the proceeding. *Lackawanna County Dist. Att'y v. Coss*, 532 U.S. 394, 394 (2001); *Maleng v. Cook*, 490 U.S. 488, 492 (1989). A federal court lacks subject matter jurisdiction to entertain a § 2254 action if, at the time the habeas petition is filed, the prisoner is not "in custody" under the conviction and sentence he seeks to attack. *Maleng*, 490 U.S. at 490-91. This is true even if the prior conviction is used to enhance the sentence imposed for any subsequent crime of which he is convicted. Id. at 492. According to county records, Petitioner's six-month sentence on his 2012 conviction expired years ago on February 17, 2012. Resp't's Reply 8-9, ECF No. 9. Thus, Petitioner is not in custody under the 2012 theft conviction and sentence and he may not now challenge the conviction directly in a § 2254 petition. *Garlotte v. Fordice*, 515 U.S. 39, 45 (1995); *Maleng*, 490 U.S. at 492-93. Accordingly, Petitioner's habeas petition must be dismissed for lack of subject matter jurisdiction. The Court also notes that Petitioner is no longer confined in the Tarrant County jail and he has failed to provide notice of his current address. Thus, his whereabouts are unknown. III. CONCLUSION For the reasons discussed herein, Petitioner's petition for a writ of habeas corpus pursuant 2 Case 4:18-cv-00302-O Document 10 Filed 09/19/18 Page 2 of 3 PageID <pageID> to 28 U.S.C. § 2254 is DISMISSED with prejudice for lack of subject matter jurisdiction. In addition, for the reasons discussed, a certificate of appealability is denied. SO ORDERED on this 19th day of September, 2018. 3 Case 4:18-cv-00302-O Document 10 Filed 09/19/18 Page 3 of 3 PageID <pageID> In case of any query regarding this article or other content needs please contact: editorial@plusmediasolutions.com



Load-Date: September 23, 2018

End of Document

[Tarrant County prostitution sting nets 30. Will it curb demand in sex trafficking?](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

August 27, 2018 Monday

Copyright 2018 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: fort_worth

Length: 452 words

Byline: Prescotte Stokes III

Star-Telegram

Dateline: Fort Worth

Body

Thirty male suspects have been arrested and charged with prostitution as part of a joint operation between the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office and Arlington Police Department Vice Unit.

The sting, which focuses on people soliciting sex, is part of the National Johns Suppression Initiative, according to Tarrant County Sheriff's Office spokesman David McClelland.

The initiative is aimed at curtailing the demand aspect of human sex-trafficking, the Sheriff's Department said in a news release.

"We are, and will continue to pursue predators like this in Tarrant County," Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** said. "We will use all resources available to ensure they are brought to justice."

The 30 subjects who were arrested were charged with prostitution or other criminal offenses, according to the sheriff's office.

Acesa Wallace, 37, Charge: Prostitution
Xavier Sadeke Guinn, 31, Charge: Prostitution
Ryan Osborn Bennett, 32, Charge: Prostitution
Jonathan E. Congious, 39, Charge: Prostitution & Felony warrant.
Is a registered sex offender
Felix Makori Ombati, 35, Charge: Prostitution
Terry Kennington Keen, 41, Charge: Possession of controlled substance- methamphetamine
Travis Santell Curry, 39, Charge: Prostitution
Adeleke Oylade, 53, Charge: Prostitution
Igmer Ivan Mejia, 17, Charge: Prostitution
Joseph Everette Dawson, 33, Charge: Prostitution
Joshua Allen Sowell, 36, Charge: Prostitution
Andre Jeremy



Johnson, 37, Charge: ProstitutionHector Hugo Hernandez, 41, Charge: ProstitutionRandy Joe Nedrow, 59, Charge: ProstitutionRaul Cortez, 45, Charge: Prostitution and possession of a controlled substance - methamphetamineClayton Jerome Sustala, 47, Charge: ProstitutionAntonio Villegas, 42, Charge: ProstitutionKendrick Dreshawn Johnson, 24, Charge: ProstitutionRicardo Eloy Vazquez, 22, Charge: ProstitutionDontevius Jerome Reid, 39, Charge: ProstitutionPrasanna Shantilal Dhamgaye, 25, Charge: ProstitutionEdgardo Oyuela Casco, 49, Charge: ProstitutionAlandrix Leroy Harris, 33, Charge: ProstitutionDevon D. Fifer, 23, Charge: ProstitutionChristopher James Washington, 30, Charge: ProstitutionJavier Joel Lozano, 41, Charge: ProstitutionJesus Manuel Saldivar, 37, Charge: Prostitution and felony drug warrantDamon Eugene Smith, 44, Charge: ProstitutionRuben Antonio Navarro, 18, Charge: ProstitutionPreh Reh, 22, Charge: Prostitution

Tiffany Evans, known by her mugshot as 'zombie prostitute,' tells her storyTiffany Dawn Evans' mugshot went viral when websites across the world proclaimed her as the "zombie prostitute." She told The Sun News in Myrtle Beach, S.C. her story about drug addiction, prostitution and her life on the street. CREDIT: Janet Bla

Prescotte Stokes III: 817-390-7028, @PrescotteStokes

Load-Date: August 28, 2018

End of Document

[Ricky Sluder, Ex-Dallas County Criminal Investigator Encourages Public Attendance At Blue Dragon Conference August 30-31 In Fort Worth Texas On This Episode Of Rise Up Radio And OBBM Radio](#)

FinancialWire

August 23, 2018 Thursday

Copyright 2018 Investrend Communications, Inc. All Rights Reserved



Length: 687 words

Body

Sluder talks from behind the badge straight from the heart, urging community involvement, shares his story from 'behind the badge' experiences to highlight the need for closer community relationships between the front lines and the public they serve.



Ricky Sluder was recently interviewed on Rise Up Radio by Tom Chesser and OffBeat Business Media CEO Susan Hamilton about his story as a Dallas County Criminal Investigator during his 20-year history working investigations.

Sluder, Vice President in the Healthcare Program Integrity Practice at EXL, a worldwide leader in advanced analytics and consulting, has over 20 years of combined experience as a criminal investigator in Dallas County, CMS Program Integrity Manager, and Fraud Detection Expert and Consultant. He's investigated thousands of criminal cases in his career. He's worked with the front lines, and within the legal system - and can tell you first hand, the Blue Dragon International Consultants national kick-off in Fort Worth is one of the most critical events to heal our communities.

Sluder knows how vital first responder training is, not only for officers and firefighters but their spouses and the general public as well.

Sluder says, "This is the most important factor, that we understand with our hearts and minds, the stresses these men and women experience every day to provide protection when they often feel unprotected by the policies in place or the communities they serve. A certain amount of bravado is necessary to deal with the routine depravity and senseless violence they must process internally every day, and don't feel able to share those things with their closest circles - wives, children, family members, friends from church or the community. Most people cannot survive that type of pressure without a vent, and officers are people."

'Developing a Bulletproof Mind and a Bulletproof Heart' is a two-day event held at Birchman Baptist Church, 9100 N. Normandale St. in Fort Worth, Texas, on August 30-31 2018, beginning at 8 AM with opening words from Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill E. Waybourn**.

Conference is held explicitly during school hours to encourage the spouses of first responders and the general public to sit side-by-side with officers, SWAT, firefighters, security, and others who protect them, to discover how to work together during crisis events that have been happening across the world specifically aimed at youth, churches, and public venues.

Find out on August 30-31 'Developing a Bulletproof Mind and a Bulletproof Heart' the Thursday and Friday before Labor Day weekend. Discover how the community can be a safer environment for everyone when we understand the day-to-day activities of our protective forces, and learn how to respond faster to active killers before they become mass casualty events.

Local businesses can support their community by sponsoring officers, firefighters, and veterans with purchased tickets for this two-day event Thursday and Friday before Labor Day Weekend. A limited number of vendor opportunities exist for businesses that offer products and services supporting first responders, and should contact OffBeat Business Media at 214-714-0495 for vendor space information and pricing.

Blue Dragon International Consultants, LLC exists to offer high-level training and recovery resources to local police and fire departments, security details, and Independent School Districts throughout America, in addition to services provided at a federal and international level.

Go to <https://bdic.net/fort-worth/> to register. All vendor inquiries should be directed to OffBeat Business Media at Susan@OffBeatBusiness.com for details.

To hear the full interview and to learn more about Ricky Sluder, please visit:



<https://businessinnovatorradio.com/ricky-sluder-ex-criminal-investigator-speaks-from-behind-the-badge-straight-from-the-heart-urging-community-involvement-on-rise-up-radio/>

Media Contact

Company Name: Offbeat Business Media

Contact Person: Susan Hamilton

Email: Send Email

Phone: 214-714-0495

Country: United States

Website: <https://offbeatbusiness.com/>

(Distributed by M2 Communications (www.m2.com))

Load-Date: August 23, 2018

End of Document

[United States Courts Opinions: United States District Court Northern District of Texas: NORMAN LEE AGNEW, Petitioner, v. BILL WAYBOURN, Sheriff, Respondent.](#)

US Official News

August 13, 2018 Monday

Copyright 2018 Plus Media Solutions Private Limited All Rights Reserved



Length: 759 words



Body

Washington: United States District Court Northern District of Texas has issued the following order: IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS FORT WORTH DIVISION NORMAN LEE AGNEW, § § Petitioner, § § v. § Civil Action No. 4:17-CV-793-Y § **BILL WAYBOURN**, Sheriff, § Tarrant County, Texas, § § Respondent. § OPINION AND ORDER Before the Court is a Petition for a Writ of Habeas Corpus under U.S.C. § 2241 filed by petitioner Norman Lee Agnew, then a pre-trial detainee in the Tarrant County jail. (Pet. (doc. 1).) In response to the petition, respondent **Bill Waybourn** has moved to dismiss.

(Mot. Dismiss (doc. 8).) Agnew has not filed a response. After considering the pleadings and the relief Agnew seeks, the motion to dismiss with exhibits thereto, and the applicable law, the Court grants the motion to dismiss and dismisses the § 2241 petition as moot. I. BACKGROUND At the time the § 2241 petition was filed, Agnew challenged his pre-trial confinement in the Tarrant County jail. (Pet.(doc. 1).) Agnew was then under indictment for four felony charges (injury to a child, theft of a firearm, unlawful possession of a firearm by a felon, and bail jumping) and one misdemeanor charge (assault causing bodily injury to a family member). (Mot. Dismiss, Case 4:17-cv-00793-Y Document 9 Filed 08/09/18 Page 1 of 3 PageID <pageID> (doc. 8) Exs. at 8, 21, 34, 47, 60). On December 11, 2017, Agnew pleaded guilty to these charges and was sentenced to a fifteen-year term of confinement for each felony charge and one hundred and eighty days for the misdemeanor charge. (Mot. Dismiss. (doc. 8) Exs. at 9–11, 22–24, 35–37, 48–50, 61–63). As part of Agnew’s plea agreements, he waived all pretrial motions filed in these cases, waived all rights given him under the law, and entered a judicial confession admitting guilt to each of the offenses. (Mot. Dismiss, (doc. 8) Exs. at 12–19, 25–32, 38–45, 51–58, 64–71). A review of Court records shows that Agnew has filed a petition for writ of habeas corpus under 28 U.S.C. § 2254 in this district, in which he raises challenges to the convictions. See Agnew v. Davis, No.4:18-CV-575-A.1 III. ANALYSIS A state pretrial detainee is entitled, in some circumstances, to raise constitutional claims in a federal habeas proceeding under 28 U.S.C. § 2241. See 28 U.S.C. § 2241(c); see Dickerson v. Louisiana, 816 F.2d 220, 224 (5th Cir. 1987)(“Pre-trial petitions such as Dickerson’s [pre-trial challenges to state charges] are properly brought under 28 U.S.C § 2241, which applies to persons in custody regardless of whether final judgment has been rendered and regardless of the present status of the case pending against him”) (footnote omitted). The records confirm that although Agnew filed the § 2241 petition while state charges were pending, he 1Agnew is now incarcerated in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, Clements Unit, in Amarillo, Texas. 2 Case 4:17-cv-00793-Y Document 9 Filed 08/09/18 Page 2 of 3 PageID <pageID> subsequently pleaded guilty to all charges and was convicted. As Agnew is no longer a pretrial detainee, it is unnecessary to resolve the issues presented in the § 2241 habeas petition. See Wade v. Anderson, No. 4:09-cv-684-Y, 2010 WL 930991, at *1 (N.D. Tex. Mar. 15, 2010)(Means, J.)(dismissing with prejudice as moot pretrial detainee’s § 2241 petition after his conviction); see also Fassler v. United States, 858 F.2d 1016, 1018 (5th Cir. 1988) (recognizing that habeas petitions challenging legality of pretrial detention were rendered moot by conviction); Thorne v. Warden, Brooklyn House of Detention for Men, 479 F.2d 297, 299 (2d Cir. 1973)(“Since [petitioner] is now held as a convicted defendant rather than merely on a criminal charge not yet brought to trial, the issue as to the legality of his continued pretrial detention has been mooted, and it therefore becomes unnecessary to resolve the constitutional issues presented”). Accordingly, respondent Waybourn’s motion to dismiss must be granted, and the instant petition under § 2241 must be dismissed as moot. III. ORDER For the reasons discussed herein, Waybourn’s motion to dismiss (doc. 8) is GRANTED, and Agnew’s petition for relief under 28 U.S.C. § 2241 is DISMISSED with prejudice as moot. SIGNED August 9, 2018. _____ TERRY R. MEANS UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE 3 Case 4:17-cv-00793-Y Document 9 Filed 08/09/18 Page 3 of 3



PageID <pageID> In case of any query regarding this article or other content needs please contact: editorial@plusmediasolutions.com

Load-Date: August 14, 2018

End of Document

[United States Courts Opinions: United States District Court Northern District of Texas: NORMAN LEE AGNEW, Petitioner, v. BILL WAYBOURN, Respondent.](#)

US Official News

August 6, 2018 Monday

Copyright 2018 Plus Media Solutions Private Limited All Rights Reserved



Length: 1327 words

Body

Washington: United States District Court Northern District of Texas has issued the following order: IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS FORT WORTH DIVISION NORMAN LEE AGNEW, § § Petitioner, § § v. § Civil Action No. 4:17-cv-956-O § **BILL WAYBOURN**, Sheriff, § Tarrant County, Texas, § § Respondent. § OPINION AND ORDER Before the Court is a petition for a writ of habeas corpus Petitioner Norman Lee Agnew (“Agnew”) filed pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2241. Am. Pet., ECF No. 6. In response to the petition, Respondent **Bill Waybourn** moves to dismiss. Mot. Dismiss, ECF No. 9. Agnew has not filed a response to the motion. After considering the pleadings and the relief Petitioner seeks, the motion to dismiss with exhibits thereto, and the applicable law, the Court grants the motion to dismiss. I. BACKGROUND At the time he filed his § 2241 petition, Agnew was confined in the Tarrant County Jail and under indictment for four felony charges—injury to a child, theft of a firearm, unlawful possession of a firearm by a felony, and bail jumping—and one misdemeanor charge of assault causing bodily injury to a family member. Mot.

Dismiss, Exhibits pp. 9, 22, 35, 48, and 61 (Indictments—cause numbers 1429034D, 1433452D, 1434386D, 1434387D & 1475324D) ECF No. 9. Agnew pleaded guilty to these charges on December 11, 2017, and was sentenced to 15 years for each felony charge and 180 days for the misdemeanor charge. Mot. Dismiss, Exs. pp. 10–12, 23–25, 36–38, 49–51, 62–64 (Judgments—cause numbers 1429034D, 1433452D, 1434386D, 1434387D & 1475324D) Case 4:17-cv-00956-O Document 10 Filed 08/02/18 Page 1 of 5 PageID <pageID> ECF No. 9. As part of Agnew’s plea agreements, he waived all pretrial motions filed in these cases, waived all rights given him under the law, and entered a judicial confession admitting guilt to each of the offenses. Mot. Dismiss, Exs. pp. 13–20, 26–33, 39–46, 52–59, 65–72 (Written Plea



Admonishments—cause numbers 1429034D, 1433452D, 1434386D, 1434387D & 1475324D) ECF NO. 9. A review of Court records shows that Agnew raises challenges to the convictions in a petition for writ of habeas corpus under 28 U.S.C. § 2254 he filed in this district. See *Agnew v. Davis*, No. 4:18-CV-575-A.1 That § 2254 petition is pending. II. CLAIMS FOR RELIEF In his § 2241 petition, Agnew limits his claims to arguments that (1) his bonds are excessive such that he should have a bond reduction; (2) his rights under the Religious Freedom Restoration Act as a Muslim are being violated during his housing in the Tarrant County Jail; and (3) his attorney is “not working” for him. Am. Pet. 5–6, ECF No. 6. III. ANALYSIS A. Excessive Bond Claim As noted above, Agnew has been convicted and is serving sentences in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. Agnew’s convictions render his excessive bond complaints moot. See *Martinez v. State*, 826 S.W.2d 620 (Tex. Crim. App. 1992) (en banc) (conviction renders moot claim challenging bail because the defendant is no longer subject to pre-trial confinement); see also *Delangel v. State*, 132 S.W.3d 491, 494 (Tex. App. – Houston [1st Dist.] 2004, no pet.) (citing 1Agnew is now incarcerated in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, Clements Unit, in Amarillo, Texas. Pet. 10, No. 4:18-cv-575-A, ECF No. 3. 2 Case 4:17-cv-00956-O Document 10 Filed 08/02/18 Page 2 of 5 PageID <pageID> *Henricksen v. State*, 500 S.W.2d 491, 494 (Tex. Crim. App. 1973) (issues concerning excessive pretrial bail are moot after conviction) (other citation omitted)). Thus, Agnew’s excessive bond claim must be dismissed. B. Interference with Religious Rights Section 2241 is the proper procedural vehicle in which to raise an attack on “the manner in which a sentence is executed.” *Tolliver v. Dobre*, 211 F.3d 876, 877 (5th Cir. 2000). Agnew’s assertion of a claim that his religious rights are being violated, however, is not a challenge to the manner in which his sentence is executed. Such claim is an attack on a condition of confinement and not cognizable in a habeas petition. See *Cook v. Texas Dep’t of Criminal Justice Transitional Planning Dep’t*, 37 F.3d 166, 168 (5th Cir.1994) (“The core issue in determining whether a prisoner must pursue habeas corpus relief rather than a civil rights action is to determine whether the prisoner challenges the ‘fact or duration’ of his confinement or merely the rules, customs, and procedures affecting ‘conditions’ of confinement”); *Pierre v. United States*, 525 F.2d 933, 935 (5th Cir.1976) (“Simply stated, habeas is not available to review questions unrelated to the cause of detention”). Thus, Agnew’s conditions of confinement claim in this suit is outside the proper scope of a § 2241 petition. See *Schipke v. Van Buren*, 239 F. App’x 85, 2007 WL 2491065 at *1 (5th Cir. Aug. 30, 2007) (holding that petitioner’s claims were outside scope of § 2241 motion where none of the claims raised by petitioner challenged the fact or duration of her confinement and none, if prevailed on, would have entitled her to accelerated release). In addition, Agnew’s claim that his rights under the Religious Freedom Restoration Act were violated while he was housed at the Tarrant County Jail, even if true, would not impact the duration of his sentence. The Court therefore lacks jurisdiction to consider this claim as pursued in this § 2241 3 Case 4:17-cv-00956-O Document 10 Filed 08/02/18 Page 3 of 5 PageID <pageID> petition. C. Attorney Not Acting on Agnew’s Behalf A state pretrial detainee is entitled, in some circumstances, to raise constitutional claims in a federal habeas proceeding under 28 U.S.C. § 2241. See 28 U.S.C. § 2241(c); see *Dickerson v. Louisiana*, 816 F.2d 220, 224 (5th Cir. 1987) (“Pre-trial petitions such as Dickerson’s [pre-trial challenges to state charges] are properly brought under 28 U.S.C § 2241, which applies to persons in custody regardless of whether final judgment has been rendered and regardless of the present status of the case pending against him”) (footnote omitted). The records confirm that although Agnew filed the instant § 2241 petition while state charges were pending, he subsequently pleaded guilty to all charges and was convicted. Because Agnew is no longer a pretrial detainee, it is unnecessary to resolve the remaining issue presented in the § 2241 habeas petition. See *Wade v. Anderson*, No.4:09-cv-684-Y, 2010 WL 930991 at *1 (N.D. Tex. Mar. 15, 2010) (dismissing with prejudice as moot pretrial detainee’s § 2241 petition after his conviction); see also *Thorne v. Warden, Brooklyn House of Detention for Men*, 479 F.2d 297, 299 (2d Cir. 1973) (“Since [petitioner] is now held as a convicted defendant rather than merely on a criminal charge not yet brought to trial, the issue as to the legality of his continued pretrial detention has been mooted, and it therefore becomes unnecessary to resolve the constitutional issues presented”) and *Fassler v. United States*, 858 F.2d 1016, 1018 (5th Cir. 1988) (recognizing that habeas petitions challenging legality of pretrial detention



were rendered moot by conviction). Agnew's claim in the § 2241 proceeding that his counsel was not acting on his behalf must be dismissed as moot in this proceeding. IV. ORDER For the reasons discussed herein, it is therefore ORDERED that Respondent's motion to dismiss (ECF No. 9) is GRANTED. 4 Case 4:17-cv-00956-O Document 10 Filed 08/02/18 Page 4 of 5 PageID <pageID> It is further ORDERED that Petitioner Agnew's claims that he was subjected to excessive bond and that his counsel was not acting on his behalf are DISMISSED as moot; and Agnew's remaining claim that his rights under the Religious Freedom Restoration Act were violated is DISMISSED for lack of jurisdiction. SO ORDERED on this 2nd day of August, 2018. 5 Case 4:17-cv-00956-O Document 10 Filed 08/02/18 Page 5 of 5 PageID <pageID> In case of any query regarding this article or other content needs please contact: editorial@plusmediasolutions.com

Load-Date: August 7, 2018

End of Document

["Stop School And Church Massacres Fast" Presented By Blue Dragon International Consultants In Fort Worth Texas On August 30-31, 2018](#)

FinancialWire

August 3, 2018 Friday

Copyright 2018 Investrend Communications, Inc. All Rights Reserved



Length: 706 words

Body

Blue Dragon International Consultants support local officers, fire departments, ex-military and their spouses with high-level training related to ending school and church massacres faster, and recovering stronger post trauma.

In a bold effort to address the continued and accelerating tragic mass casualties in schools and churches, the Blue Dragon International Consultants kick off their six-city tour at 8 AM CST on August 30-31, 9100 N. Normandale Street, Ft. Worth, Texas 76116. The series, titled 'Developing a Bulletproof Mind and a Bulletproof Heart', spotlights officer training and community support to interface our front lines with the neighborhoods they serve for long-term improvement and successful recovery of our officers post trauma.



Keynotes delivered by Lt. Col. Dave Grossman, Ret. Sgt. Richard Morris and Tom Ziglar will detail information for deterring and quickly ending violence, behavior modifications to minimize injuries, and tactical strategies to protect children and others at the highest level.

Additional perspectives delivered from Mark S. Jones, former chief deputy prosecutor and head of Homicide Unit Major Crime Division in Jackson County, Missouri, Sheriff **Bill E. Waybourn** from Tarrant County, and Garland Police Officer Greg Stevens, recipient of the 2016 Presidential Medal of Valor for stopping two ISIS-inspired terrorists before they could commit mass murder. ISIS survivor, Col. James Frawley, will draw attention to the greatest threats of concern today and how to prepare for them. Closing words will be delivered by BDIC co-founder and retired FBI Special Agent, Paul Vick.

Topics include Tactical and Emotional Survival, Stopping an ISIS-Inspired Attack, Ziglar Blue and A Bulletproof Heart, and Civil Rights Liability Arising Out of Fatal Incidents - and more. Meet local Dallas mother, Shetamia Taylor, peacefully marching to protest police brutality with her children when the Dallas Police Department came under fire, and five officers were fatally shot.

Blue Dragon International Consultants, LLC headquartered in Wichita, Kansas, offers high-level training and recovery resources to local police and fire departments, security details, and Independent School Districts throughout America, in addition to services offered at a federal and international level.

Blue Dragon International Consultants, Keynote speakers, are (Picture from left to right) Mark S. Jones, Paul Vick, Sheriff **Bill E. Waybourn**, Ret. Sgt. Richard Morris, Dale Vick. Legends of local, national, and international defense bring their lifetimes of black ops, Army Ranger, FBI, and SEAL team training to police officers, firefighters, and security guards, and have invited the public, to include school boards, city councils, and pastors.

Local businesses can support their community by sponsoring officers, firefighters, and veterans with purchased tickets for this two-day event. A limited number of vendor opportunities exist for businesses that offer products and services supporting first responders and should contact OffBeat Business Media at 214-714-0495 for vendor space information and pricing.

Although not appropriate for children, the general public is encouraged to attend and promised a healthy dose of reality and compassion. BDIC wants officers highly trained to address potential mass casualty events successfully - to protect the public and minimize trauma in the line of duty.

Pre-event pricing is available for the general public, and all officers, firefighters, and military veterans can get in for discounted rates. First responders are encouraged to attend with their spouses who can get in free with their paid registration. TCOLE and POST credit is available, go to BDIC.net to register today. Go to BDIC.net for dates and registration to attend upcoming events near you. All vendor inquiries should be directed to OffBeat Business Media at Susan@OffBeatBusiness.com or 214-714-0495 for details.

Location Info:

Offbeat Business Media

14203 Proton Rd, Dallas, Texas 75244



214-714-0495

Media Contact

Company Name: Offbeat Business Media

Contact Person: Susan Hamilton

Email: Send Email

Phone: 214-714-0495

Country: United States

Website: <https://offbeatbusiness.com/>

(Distributed by M2 Communications (www.m2.com))

Load-Date: August 3, 2018

End of Document

'Stop School And Church Massacres Fast' Presented By Blue Dragon International Consultants In Fort Worth Texas On August 30-31, 2018

MENA English (Middle East and North Africa Financial Network)

August 2, 2018 Thursday

Copyright 2018 MENAFN.COM All Rights Reserved



Length: 704 words

Body

[Link to Story](#)



Blue Dragon International Consultants support local officers, fire departments, ex-military and their spouses with high-level training related to ending school and church massacres faster, and recovering stronger post trauma. In a bold effort to address the continued and accelerating tragic mass casualties in schools and churches, the Blue Dragon International Consultants kick off their six-city tour at 8 AM CST on August 30-31, 9100 N. Normandale Street, Ft. Worth, Texas 76116. The series, titled 'Developing a Bulletproof Mind and a Bulletproof Heart', spotlights officer training and community support to interface our front lines with the neighborhoods they serve for long-term improvement and successful recovery of our officers post trauma. Keynotes delivered by Lt.

Col. Dave Grossman, Ret. Sgt. Richard Morris and Tom Ziglar will detail information for deterring and quickly ending violence, behavior modifications to minimize injuries, and tactical strategies to protect children and others at the highest level. Additional perspectives delivered from Mark S. Jones, former chief deputy prosecutor and head of Homicide Unit Major Crime Division in Jackson County, Missouri, Sheriff **Bill E. Waybourn** from Tarrant County, and Garland Police Officer Greg Stevens, recipient of the 2016 Presidential Medal of Valor for stopping two ISIS-inspired terrorists before they could commit mass murder. ISIS survivor, Col. James Frawley, will draw attention to the greatest threats of concern today and how to prepare for them. Closing words will be delivered by BDIC co-founder and retired FBI Special Agent, Paul Vick. Topics include Tactical and Emotional Survival, Stopping an ISIS-Inspired Attack, Ziglar Blue and A Bulletproof Heart, and Civil Rights Liability Arising Out of Fatal Incidents and more. Meet local Dallas mother, Shetamia Taylor, peacefully marching to protest police brutality with her children when the Dallas Police Department came under fire, and five officers were fatally shot. Blue Dragon International Consultants, LLC headquartered in Wichita, Kansas, offers high-level training and recovery resources to local police and fire departments, security details, and Independent School Districts throughout America, in addition to services offered at a federal and international level. Blue Dragon International Consultants, Keynote speakers, are (Picture from left to right) Mark S. Jones, Paul Vick, Sheriff **Bill E. Waybourn**, Ret. Sgt. Richard Morris, Dale Vick. Legends of local, national, and international defense bring their lifetimes of black ops, Army Ranger, FBI, and SEAL team training to police officers, firefighters, and security guards, and have invited the public, to include school boards, city councils, and pastors. Local businesses can support their community by sponsoring officers, firefighters, and veterans with purchased tickets for this two-day event. A limited number of vendor opportunities exist for businesses that offer products and services supporting first responders and should contact OffBeat Business Media at 214-714-0495 for vendor space information and pricing. Although not appropriate for children, the general public is encouraged to attend and promised a healthy dose of reality and compassion. BDIC wants officers highly trained to address potential mass casualty events successfully to protect the public and minimize trauma in the line of duty. Pre-event pricing is available for the general public, and all officers, firefighters, and military veterans can get in for discounted rates. First responders are encouraged to attend with their spouses who can get in free with their paid registration. TCOLE and POST credit is available, go to BDIC.net to register today. Go to BDIC.net for dates and registration to attend upcoming events near you. All vendor inquiries should be directed to OffBeat Business Media at or 214-714-0495 for details. Location Info:

Offbeat Business Media

14203 Proton Rd, Dallas, Texas 75244

214-714-0495 Media Contact

Company Name: Offbeat Business Media

Contact Person: Susan Hamilton

Email: [Send Email](#)

Phone: 214-714-0495

Country: United States

Website: <https://offbeatbusiness.com/> MENAFN0208201800703268ID1097239717



Load-Date: August 8, 2018

End of Document

[Inmate accused of killing alleged child molester said mom and God 'told me to do it'](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

November 14, 2018 Wednesday

Copyright 2018 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: crime

Length: 767 words

Byline: Kaley Johnson and Nichole Manna

Star-Telegram

Dateline: FORT WORTH

Body

An inmate at Tarrant County jail charged with killing a notoriously accused child molester said Wednesday that "God and his mother" told him to kill the other man.

Jail officials said David Faustino Flores, 42, killed 76-year-old Clinton Don Simpson on Nov. 7 by slamming his head into the floor more than a dozen times.

Flores talked to reporters from jail on Wednesday afternoon, the same day he was formally charged with murder in the case, according to court records.

Flores told reporters he hears voices and when he first arrived in jail, he told jail officials he needed his own cell because he has schizophrenia.

"I told them I was schizophrenic and need my own cell because I can't handle other people," he said.

Flores said in the interview he was placed in solitary confinement, but was moved to suicide watch after he tried to kill himself. He showed reporters stitches on his head from where he hit it against a wall.

Flores was taken to the medical unit of the jail on suicidal prevention watch and put into a cell with Simpson, jail officials said.

Simpson, Flores said, would whisper things to him and gave him "the heebie-jeebies."



"At that time I was already paranoid everyone wants to kill me," he said. "I thought this whole place was ISIS."

Flores said he hears the voices of his mother and God in his head and they told him to kill Simpson. His mother is dead.

"My mom said, 'That's Bin Laden, so you ought to go get him.' So I went to wale on him . . . And God said, 'Go ahead,'" he said.

According to the Sheriff's Department, Flores hit Simpson on the left side of his head about 20 times and walked back to his bunk. When Simpson showed slight movement, Flores walked back over and hit him another six times with a closed fist, and then 28 more times with a double fist as Simpson began to fall out of his wheelchair.

As Simpson fell out of the chair, Flores hit him five more times and grabbed his head to slam it into the floor 14 times, the affidavit says.

"I just kept hitting him," he said.

During the interview, Flores asked if Simpson had died.

When told he had, Flores looked at the ground and was quiet for a moment.

"I didn't mean to do it," he said. "I shouldn't have done it."

He added that he didn't know what Simpson had been accused of or why he was in jail.

Simpson was accused in 2007 of molesting 12 children -- 11 girls and one boy -- at "Mr. Don's Whistle Stop," a miniature train station and track, which, at that time, was operated and owned by Simpson in his back yard.

Flores' brother, Brandon Flores, told the Star-Telegram that his brother has schizophrenia and hallucinations but had never been violent until October, when he was accused of hitting an elderly employee at a store.

Brandon Flores said he doesn't believe his brother attacked Simpson because Simpson was an accused pedophile or because Simpson was elderly. He said he believes his brother's mental condition made him vulnerable in jail and that he probably felt alone, only escalating his schizophrenia.

"I think it's like putting a snake in with a spider, and you just want to see what happens," Brandon Flores said in a previous interview. "I believe there's some cruelty behind what happened to my brother."

David Flores was in jail for the October assault. In the interview, he said he attacked the elderly employee because he was hearing voices and thought he was part of Al-Qaeda.

David McClelland, chief of staff for Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn**, said in a telephone interview Monday that it wasn't unusual for more than one inmate on suicide watch to be in a shared jail cell. He noted the cells on the jail's medical wing, where the inmates were being housed, can hold up to four inmates on suicide watch.

Brandon Flores said he's looking for a defense attorney who specializes in mental illness and will help defend his brother.



Simpson was in the Tarrant County jail after being found competent to stand trial on the molestation charges. For years, he'd been in state hospitals after being found incompetent. He was returned to Tarrant County in July.

A relative of Simpson's who asked not to be identified said Thursday that the family had many questions and grave concerns about Simpson's death. That same relative did not respond Monday to an email from the Star-Telegram seeking further comment.

Inmate accused of killing cellmate talks from Tarrant County jail David Faustino Flores, 42, who is accused of fatally beating Clinton Don Simpson, 76, on Nov. 7, spoke to reporters from jail on Wednesday.

Kaley Johnson: 817-390-7028, @KaleyJohnson6

Nichole Manna: 817-390-7684, @NicholeManna

Load-Date: November 14, 2018

End of Document

[More than 50 'semi-identified' victims of sex trafficking found in Fort Worth this year](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

September 13, 2018 Thursday

Copyright 2018 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: crime

Length: 1211 words

Byline: Nichole Manna

Star-Telegram

Dateline: Fort Worth

Body

In a quiet neighborhood filled with five-bedroom homes, manicured lawns and the occasional driveway basketball net, one house in particular stands out.

The front door of 12405 Yellow Wood Dr. is covered in plywood.

The cops apparently had to bust through it.



The green grass in front is ruined by deep tire grooves from the armored Dallas police SWAT vehicle. Some Halloween decorations now litter the front yard. One fake pumpkin sits on the porch.

Residents of the Villages of Woodland Springs neighborhood have heard rumors about the house and who lives there for a while. They've heard about people having sex on the tiny upstairs balcony. They've seen expensive cars go in and out of the garage. Most of the time, upwards of five cars were parked outside at once.

"We just thought there were roommates living there," one neighbor said. "We didn't think it was sex trafficking."

But when they woke up at around 7 a.m. Tuesday to police yelling for the residents to come outside -- the neighborhood knew something was wrong.

The Dallas Police Department said the leader of a "large-scale" sex trafficking ring was arrested at the house. Two other women they say were involved in the trafficking ring were arrested there. Eleven women who police say were sold for sex by Tremont Blakemore, 39, were recovered. Two boys -- ages 2 and 9 months -- were also taken from the home and placed into foster care, according to Marissa Gonzales of the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services.

The only rental in the neighborhood

A couple of residents close to the home spoke with the Star-Telegram on Thursday on the condition that their names and locations not be used. They were afraid for the safety of their children.

One woman said she watched as the Dallas and Fort Worth police departments, along with federal authorities, arrived at the home Tuesday.

"The SWAT vehicle drove into the front yard," she said. "We heard police yelling for them to come outside and there was one person who wouldn't come out."

At that point, she said officers drew their guns on the house and a robot went inside.

"I don't know what happened after but things were cleared out around 8:30," she said.

12405 Yellow Wood Dr. is the only house on the block that's a rental, multiple neighbors said.

According to the Tarrant Appraisal District, the home -- valued at \$411,391 -- is owned by 2012 Properties LLC. The company has a P.O. Box in Dallas, but no contact information is available online.

According to Realtor.com, the house was last sold in 2015. The home has five bedrooms and four bathrooms. According to Trulia, the home was off the market as of November 2017. A description says: "Beautiful home in a very desirable subdivision. Pets are a case by case basis, Contact Mario for all details."

There is no longer any contact information for Mario on the website.

Because of the size of the home and the fact that the residents were renters, one neighbor said she never thought twice about the amount of traffic and cars. She thought several people were sharing the home.

Sex trafficking in Fort Worth



The Fort Worth Police Department has worked 38 human trafficking cases this year, with "53 at least semi-identified victims," according to Felicia Grantham, human trafficking coordinator for the Fort Worth Police Department.

"The media's idea of 'rescued victims' is inaccurate," Grantham said. "Most victims don't even identify as such and because of this they rarely cooperate with our process."

But the numbers aren't totally accurate. Police might get a case that originally looks like trafficking, but it ends up being a sexual assault case, she said.

"We still count those victims in our numbers because it started as a trafficking case," Grantham said.

Overall, cases of human trafficking in the U.S. reported to the National Human Trafficking Hotline jumped by 13 percent in 2017.

According to a report by the hotline, Texas was the second highest state for calls -- behind California.

Texas received 792 calls in 2017 -- up from 667 a year earlier. Of the 2017 tips, 551 were for sex trafficking. Since 2007, the hotline has tracked at least 5,388 victims.

Advocates have said that traffickers groom their victims, and many don't immediately see themselves as victims.

"Traffickers use threats and physical violence to control their victims, so the person being trafficked may stay in the situation out of fear of physical pain or a loved one being hurt by the trafficker," said Sandy Storm, a human trafficking survivor and author. "Victims have often suffered sexual abuse as a child or teen, may be addicted to alcohol and/or drugs, have criminal records or other vulnerabilities the trafficker will use against them to keep them from leaving or asking for help. Trauma bonds are often formed and the manipulation and mind control tactics used by traffickers can cause their victims to believe the situation they are in is actually their own choice."

Many victims, she said, experience shame and think they'll be rejected by society if they reach out for help. If they have a negative encounter with someone who should help them -- such as a police officer, pastor or other community leader -- it can lead them to feel like there's no help.

The women who were recovered from the Fort Worth home were provided opportunities for counseling and other services targeted at helping victims of human trafficking, Dallas police said.

At around 5 p.m. Tuesday, one neighbor said she saw a group of women go into the house and leave with some items.

Officers also executed search warrants at 4529 Marcell Dr. in Dallas and 1786 Overlook Dr. in Lancaster.

Four women were found at the Overlook Drive house, police said.

The three people who were arrested in the Fort Worth home are Tremont Blakemore, 39, Donna Gonzales, 38, and Peaches Hurtado, 26. All are charged with aggravated promotion of prostitution and engaging in organized criminal activity.

Dallas police said that Blakemore was the leader of a "large-scale" trafficking ring. They're also searching for a fourth co-conspirator.



Blakemore routinely kept a group of about 20 woman whom he sold for profit, police said. However, Dallas police suspect he has controlled and manipulated more than a hundred women -- including trafficking women in Maine, Wyoming and Montana.

Blakemore was jailed on a \$500,000 bond Thursday afternoon.

The investigation is ongoing. Anyone with information is asked to contact the Dallas Police High-Risk Victims Unit Detective Paulson at 214 671-4217.

Authorities in Tarrant County recently arrested 30 men in a sting called the National Johns Suppression Initiative, which focuses on people soliciting sex, according to the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office.

The initiative is aimed at curtailing the demand aspect of human sex-trafficking, the Sheriff's Department said in a news release.

"We are, and will continue to pursue predators like this in Tarrant County," Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** said. "We will use all resources available to ensure they are brought to justice."

The men who were arrested range in ages from 17 to 59.

A Grapevine victim of sex trafficking tells her story Julia Walsh was rescued from sex traffickers, and her road to recovery continues.

Nichole Manna, 817-390-7684, @NicholeManna

Load-Date: September 24, 2018

End of Document

[**Susan Hamilton, CEO OffBeat Business Media, Talks About Fort Worth Event, August 30-31, For First Responders And Community On Rise Up Radio With Tom Chesser**](#)

FinancialWire

August 24, 2018 Friday

Copyright 2018 Investrend Communications, Inc. All Rights Reserved



Length: 930 words

Body



Susan Hamilton was Tom Chesser's featured guest on Rise Up Radio talking about faster response training, recovery training, and community support for first responders event on August 30-31 at the Birchman Baptist Church in Fort Worth, Texas.

Susan Hamilton founder and CEO of OffBeat Business Media is the community liaison for local business support and media coverage as Blue Dragon International Consultants lead the charge for faster response to massacres at schools and churches, offering high-level training for police and firefighters in tactical approaches, and better recovery post trauma.

Their call letters, OBBM, are new on the scene but expected to infiltrate localities across the nation over the next two years. "Expect to see OBBM in the dashboard of your car next to iHeart Radio and SiriusXM soon," Hamilton smiles as she predicts the future of OffBeat Business Media. To Susan and the team at OBBM are meeting the needs of the local family business through talk media directed at their cause and education is the best way to train this market to find resources they can use immediately to improve their cash flow and profitability.

Susan contends, "It's all a matter of making this vital connection between our families, businesses, and communities. It's easier through the internet TV, radio, podcast, and magazine media they enjoy."

This perspective makes OBBM a perfect match for BDIC, who want to improve the recently negative views many communities have of their police departments over the last few years. Escalated violence in our communities coupled with increased scrutiny over officer behavior makes this a particularly vulnerable time for our schools, churches, and public venues. If we don't support our officers with the right training and comprehensive post-trauma recovery methods, we are adding to the storm.

"The OBBM team are passionate about the mission," according to BDIC co-founder, Paul Vick. "They're professional; focused on the client's end objective, enthusiastic, with a dedicated staff and first-rate studio." "OBBM is a very professional source for the truth! Getting the word out there on relevant issues and how to combat adversity in these days is critical. Susan Hamilton and her team do a great job of that every day," chimes in brother and BDIC co-founder, Dale Vick.

"I've been a neighbor and friend to officers and firefighters many times in my life," recalls Susan. "I remember sitting with a firefighter's wife while she drank wine and prayed, knowing her husband was on a close call because she listened to the scanner. I've known first-hand how officers return home after a night of threatening calls. They act like it's nothing at all, but I know their wives. BDIC speaks candidly about things I've seen - but their experience of events goes well beyond anything I could imagine dealing with. Still, they are rock solid and devoted to their families and communities, and I believe it has everything to do with their recognition that they not go through these traumas in isolation, but with support and faith.

"With my own eyes, I've seen officers respond to violent drug calls, and need to subdue and control situations that I or others could not. It's a horrifying thing not to be sure an officer will treat someone behaving violently with caution. In our nation, people of color are concerned that skin color alone can escalate their vulnerability. We have language barriers and mental health issues; people who look like they are on drugs when they may only have a disability. In the words of the Captain in Cool Hand Luke, 'What we have here is a failure to communicate.'"



BDIC understand this well and speak to quick, effective resolution coupled with restorative family and community measures for our front lines - in whatever capacity they serve. Working together ensures the best possible outcome. Video Link: <https://www.youtube.com/embed/zQhkQI-R-ok>

High-level training and insight through the Blue Dragon Presents Series begin on August 30-31 at 9100 N. Normandale St. in Fort Worth, Texas at 8 AM. First responders are encouraged to attend with their spouses who can get in free with their paid registration. Also, local and national businesses can support officers, firefighters or entire units when they purchase their tickets at BDIC.net. While independent school districts, city councils, pastors, security details, and the general public are invited to attend, children are discouraged from participating due to the nature of the topics covered in this 2-day event.

Speakers include Lt. Col. Dave Grossman, Tom Ziglar, Ret. Sgt. Richard Morris, Sheriff **Bill. E. Waybourn**, Garland Police Officer Greg Stevens (stopped two armed ISIS-inspired terrorists from committing mass murder), Col. James Frawley, Attorney Mark S. Jones, and former FBI Special Agent Paul Vick. Susan Hamilton will emcee the event, and OffBeat Business Media is covering the presentations and interviews. TCOLE and POST credit is available.

Go to BDIC.net to registration to attend this event. All vendor and media inquiries should be directed to OffBeat Business Media at Susan@OffBeatBusiness.com for details.

To hear the full interview, please visit:

<https://businessinnovatorsradio.com/susan-hamilton-ceo-offbeat-business-media-talks-about-fort-worth-event-august-30-31-for-first-responders-and-community-on-rise-up-radio/>

Media Contact

Company Name: Offbeat Business Media

Contact Person: Susan Hamilton

Email: Send Email

Phone: 214-714-0495

Country: United States

Website: <https://offbeatbusiness.com/>

(Distributed by M2 Communications (www.m2.com))



Load-Date: August 24, 2018

End of Document

United States Courts Opinions: United States District Court Northern District of Texas: JONATHAN BLOUNT, Plaintiff, vs. CITY OF DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS, ET AL., Defendants.

US Official News

June 12, 2018 Tuesday

Copyright 2018 Plus Media Solutions Private Limited All Rights Reserved



Length: 3741 words

Body

Washington: United States District Court Northern District of Texas has issued the following order: U.S. DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS FILED IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS FORT WORTH DIVISION JUN 7 2018 CLBEyR_K, _U.S. ., ,D,..I STR_ ICT_ CO_ URT JONATHAN BLOUNT, § § Plaintiff, § § vs. § § CITY OF DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS, § ET AL., § § Defendants. § NO. 4:17-CV-1014-A MEMORANDUM OPINION AND ORDER Deputy Came on for consideration the second motion of defendant City of Dalworthington Gardens ("City") to dismiss.

The court, having considered the motion, the response of plaintiff, Jonathan Blount, the record, and applicable authorities, finds that the motion should be granted. I. Plaintiff's Claims On September 1, 2017, plaintiff filed his complaint in the Dallas Division of this court. Doc. 1. By order signed December 20, 2017, the action was transferred to the docket of the undersigned for possible consolidation with No. 4:17-CV-720-A. Doc. 7. The court ordered plaintiff to file proof of proper service of the complaint on the individual defendants named in the complaint, cautioning that failure to comply with the order 'The "Doc. #" reference is to the number of the item on the docket in this action. Case 4:17-cv-01014-A Document 42 Filed 06/07/18 Page 1 of 16 PageID <pageID> .ght result in the dismissal of plaintiff's claims against the individual defendants without further notice. Doc. 10. Plaintiff failed to do so. By order signed January 2, 2018, the court ordered that the claims against the individual defendants be dismissed, Doc. 13, and by final judgment as to certain parties also signed that date, made the judgment of dismissal final. Doc. 14. After the court denied City's motion to dismiss for lack of proper service, Doc. 32, City filed a Rule 12 (b) (6) motion to dismiss. Doc. 33. After considering the motion, the response, Doc. 36, and the reply, Doc. 37, the court ordered plaintiff to file an amended complaint to state specifically his claims against City. Doc. 38. As reflected in the order, plaintiff had failed to state any plausible claims against City. The order did not



authorize plaintiff to add any other parties when he filed his amended complaint. Nor did plaintiff seek leave to do so. On May 4, 2018, plaintiff filed his amended complaint, referring to the individual defendants who had previously been dismissed as well as **Bill Waybourn** ("Waybourn"), and purporting to add "Officer Does 1-10" and possibly Waybourn as defendants. 2 Doc. 39. Plaintiff alleged: On September 1, 2015, plaintiff was at his home in the City of Arlington when an alarm was activated at 3715 Dustin Trail in the City of Dalworthington Gardens (the "property"). Doc. 39 , 12. Officers from City appeared at the front gate of the property with wire cutters and opened the gate. Id. , 13. Plaintiff went to the property, "making every attempt to understand why" ten to fifteen officers "were at his home." 3 Id. , 14. The officers did not present any documentation giving them legal authority to remove plaintiff from the property; plaintiff produced a deed showing that he was the rightful owner and had possession of the property. Id. , 18. Plaintiff was "handcuffed dragged from his home leaving all his possession [sic] behind, except for one vehicle and his animals, told to leave his property and that he was criminally trespassing and threaten [sic] not to return or he would be rearrested for Criminal Trespassing." Id. , 19. 'The amended complaint purp01is to amend the caption to include "Officer Does 1-10" and Waybourn as defendants. However, Waybourn is not named as a party in the "Parties" section. Doc. 39 at 2. As best the comt can tell, the only reference to Waybourn is made under the heading "State Action" where plaintiff avers that the unidentified officers were acting at the direction of Waybourn. Id. 119. 'Plaintiff does not explain why he has or had two homes. 3 Case 4:17-cv-01014-A Document 42 Filed 06/07/18 Page 3 of 16 PageID <pageID> Further: 20. Despite the officer's actions, [plaintiff] did not become aggressive or hostile, but he simply continued to ask the officers why they were roughing him up, placing him in handcuffs and removing him from the comfort of his home. They became rough with [plaintiff] and begin [sic] to grab and twist his arm and ultimately forcing him to the ground placing handcuffs on [plaintiff]. Additionally, his legs were shackled before he was removed from the property. 21. Defendant Officers eventually threw [plaintiff] with handcuffs into the back of a police car and drove him away with just the clothes on his back. 22. [Plaintiff] was never charged with a crime and was never allowed to return to his property. 23. No eviction notice was provided. No eviction proceeding was conducted. No writ of possession was issued. 24. [Plaintiff] suffered a black eye and numerous bruises and abrasions as a result of the Defendant Officers' assault. 25. [Plaintiff] lost his home and all of his belongings as a result of Defendants' unlawful actions. Id. , 20-25. Plaintiff purports to assert claims for excessive force (Count One), City's failure to train, supervise and discipline (Count Two), unlawful detention/false arrest (Count Three), denial of due process (Count Four), negligence (Count Five), gross negligence (Count six), assault and battery (Count Seven), and intentional infliction of emotional distress (Count Eight) . II. Grounds of the Motion City says that plaintiff has failed to allege facts sufficient to establish any underlying constitutional violation 4 Case 4:17-cv-01014-A Document 42 Filed 06/07/18 Page 4 of 16 PageID <pageID> and that he has not alleged facts to establish that a policy, custom, or practice of City caused any constitutional violation. Further, City is immune from any state law claims. And, City cannot be held liable for exemplary damages. III. Applicable Legal Standards A. Pleading Rule 8 (a) (2) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure provides, in a general way, the applicable standard of pleading. It requires that a complaint contain "a short and plain statement of the claim showing that the pleader is entitled to relief," Fed. R. Civ. P. 8(a) (2), "in order to give the defendant fair notice of what the claim is and the grounds upon which it rests," *Bell Atl. Corp. v. Twombly*, 550 U.S. 544, 555 (2007) (internal quotation marks and ellipsis omitted) . Although a complaint need not contain detailed factual allegations, the "showing" contemplated by Rule 8 requires the plaintiff to do more than simply allege legal conclusions or recite the elements of a cause of action. *Twombly*, 550 U.S. at 555 & n.3. Thus, while a court must accept all of the factual allegations in the complaint as true, it need not credit bare legal conclusions that are unsupported by any factual underpinnings. See *Ashcroft v. Iqbal*, 556 U.S. 662, 679 (2009) ("While legal conclusions can provide 5 Case 4:17-cv-01014-A Document 42 Filed 06/07/18 Page 5 of 16 PageID <pageID> the framework of a complaint, they must be supported by factual allegations.") Moreover, to survive a motion to dismiss for failure to state a claim, the facts pleaded must allow the court to infer that the plaintiff's right to relief is plausible. *Iqbal*, 556 U.S. at 678. To



allege a plausible right to relief, the facts pleaded must suggest liability; allegations that are merely consistent with unlawful conduct are insufficient. *Id.* In other words, where the facts pleaded do no more than permit the court to infer the possibility of misconduct, the complaint has not shown that the pleader is entitled to relief. *Id.* at 679. "Determining whether a complaint states a plausible claim for relief . . . [is] a context-specific task that requires the reviewing court to draw on its judicial experience and common sense. . . . *Id.* As the Fifth Circuit has explained: "Where the complaint is devoid of facts that would put the defendant on notice as to what conduct supports the claims, the complaint fails to satisfy the requirement of notice pleading." *Anderson v. U.S. Dep't of Housing & Urban Dev.*, 554 F.3d 525, 528 (5th Cir. 2008). In sum, "a complaint must do more than name laws that may have been violated by the defendant; it must also allege facts regarding what conduct violated those laws. In other words, a complaint must put the defendant on notice as to what conduct is being called for defense in a court of law." *Id.* at 528-29. Further, the complaint must specify the acts of the defendants individually, not collectively, to meet the pleading standards of Rule 8(a). See *Griggs v. State Farm Lloyds*, 181 F.3d 694, 699 (5th Cir. 1999); see also *Searcy v. Knight (In re Am. Int'l Refinery)*, 402 B.R. 728, 738 (Bankr. W.D. La. 2008).

B. Municipal Liability Under § 1983 The law is clearly established that the doctrine of respondent superior does not apply to § 1983 actions. *Monell v. New York City Dep't of Soc. Servs.*, 436 U.S. 658, 691 (1978); *Williams v. Luna*, 909 F.2d 121, 123 (5th Cir. 1990). Liability may be imposed against a municipality only if the governmental body itself subjects a person to a deprivation of rights or causes a person to be subjected to such deprivation. *Connick v. Thompson*, 563 U.S. 51, 60 (2011). Local governments are responsible only for their own illegal acts. *Id.* (quoting *Pembaur v. Cincinnati*, 475 U.S. 469, 479 (1986)). Thus, plaintiffs who seek to impose liability on local governments under § 1983 must prove that action pursuant to official municipal policy caused their injury. *Monell*, 436 U.S. at 691. Specifically, there must be an affirmative link between the policy and the particular constitutional violation alleged. *City of Oklahoma City v. Tuttle*, 471 U.S. 808, 823 (1985). Proof of a single incident of unconstitutional activity is not sufficient to impose liability, unless proof of the incident includes proof that it was caused by an existing, unconstitutional policy, which policy can be attributed to a municipal policymaker. *Tuttle*, 471 U.S. at 823-24. (If the policy itself is not unconstitutional, considerably more proof than a single incident will be necessary to establish both the requisite fault and the causal connection between the policy and the constitutional deprivation. *Id.* at 824.) Thus, to establish municipal liability requires proof of three elements: a policymaker, an official policy, and a violation of constitutional rights whose moving force is the policy or custom. *Piotrowski v. City of Houston*, 237 F.3d 567, 578 (5th Cir. 2001). The Fifth Circuit has been explicit in its definition of an "official policy" that can lead to liability on the part of a governmental entity, giving the following explanation in an opinion issued en banc in response to a motion for rehearing in *Bennett v. City of Slidell*: 1. A policy statement, ordinance, regulation, or decision that is officially adopted and promulgated by the municipality's lawmaking officers or by an official to whom the lawmakers have delegated policy-making authority; or 2. A persistent, widespread practice of city officials or employees, which, although not authorized by officially adopted and promulgated policy, is so common and well settled as to constitute a custom that fairly represents municipal policy. Actual or constructive knowledge of such custom must be attributable to the governing body of the municipality or to an official to whom that body had delegated policy-making authority. Actions of officers or employees of a municipality do not render the municipality liable under § 1983 unless they execute official policy as above defined. 735 F.2d 861, 862 (5th Cir. 1984) (per curiam). The general rule is that allegations of isolated incidents are insufficient to establish a custom or policy. *Fraire v. City of Arlington*, 957 F.2d 1268, 1278 (5th Cir. 1992); *McConney v. City of Houston*, 863 F.2d 1180, 1184 (5th Cir. 1989); *Languirand v. Hayden*, 717 F.2d 220, 227-28 (5th Cir. 1983).

C. Excessive Force The elements of an excessive force claim are (1) an injury, (2) that resulted directly and only from a use of force that was clearly excessive, and (3) the excessiveness was clearly unreasonable. *Freeman v. Gore*, 483 F.3d 404, 416 (5th Cir. 2007). The reasonableness of use of force is to be determined from the



perspective of the officer on the scene and not with "the 20- 20 vision of hindsight." Mace, 333 F.3d at 625 (quoting Graham v. Connor, 490 U.S. 386, 396 (1989)). That the officer himself may have created the situation does not change the analysis. In other words, that the officer could have handled the situation better 9 Case 4:17-cv-01014-A Document 42 Filed 06/07/18 Page 9 of 16 PageID <pageID> is not a factor in the constitutional analysis. Young v. City of Killeen, 775 F.2d 1349, 1352-53 (5th Cir. 1985). See also City & Cty. Of San Francisco v. Sheehan, 135 S. Ct. 1765, 1777 (2015) (failure to follow training does not itself negate entitlement to qualified immunity). And, if there is no underlying constitutional violation by the officer, i.e., no excessive force, then his employer cannot be held liable. City of Los Angeles v. Heller, 475 U.S. 796, 799 (1986). D. Texas Tort Claims Act Under the Texas doctrine of sovereign immunity, a governmental entity cannot be held liable for the actions of its employees unless a constitutional or statutory provision waives its sovereign immunity in clear and unambiguous language. See Univ. of Tex. Med. Branch v. York, 871 S.W.2d 175, 177 (Tex.1994); Duhart v. State, 610 S.W.2d 740, 742 (Tex.1980). The Texas Tort Claims Act provides such a waiver in certain circumstances. Tex. Civ. Prac. & Rem. Code § 101.025; York, 871 S.W.2d at 177. However, the Act does not waive immunity with respect to claims "arising out of assault, battery, false imprisonment, or any other intentional tort." Tex. Civ. Prac. & Rem. Code § 101.057(2); see Goodman v. Harris County, 571 F.3d 388, 394 (5th Cir. 2009). Use of excessive force is an intentional tort and an alternative negligence pleading cannot 10 Case 4:17-cv-01014-A Document 42 Filed 06/07/18 Page 10 of 16 PageID <pageID> save the claim where the claim is based on the same conduct as the intentional tort claim. Saenz v. City of El Paso, 637 F. App'x 828, 830-31 (5th Cir. 2016); Cox v. City of Fort Worth, 762 F. Supp. 2d 926, 935 (N.D. Tex. 2010). IV. Analysis One of the first matters addressed by the motion to dismiss is plaintiff's purported attempt to name additional defendants in his amended complaint. Doc. 40 at 8 & n.l. Plaintiff makes no response, apparently recognizing that the court did not grant leave to add additional defendants and that they have not been properly joined. Plaintiff has not stated a claim against Waybourn or the unidentified Does in any event. Moreover, the federal rules do not provide for the naming of fictitious parties and the court lacks jurisdiction over them. Taylor v. Federal Home Loan Bank Bd., 661 F. Supp. 1341, 1350 (N.D. Tex. 1986). And, even assuming plaintiff could state plausible claims against Waybourn or the Does, the time for doing so has long expired. Owens v. Okure, 488 U.S. 235, 249-50 (1989); Flores v. Cameron Cnty., 92 F.3d 258, 271 (5th Cir. 1996). Accordingly, these claims are being dismissed. City's argument as to the constitutional claims is two-fold. First, plaintiff has failed to adequately plead his underlying 11 Case 4:17-cv-01014-A Document 42 Filed 06/07/18 Page 11 of 16 PageID <pageID> claims for violation of the Fourth, Fifth, and Fourteenth Amendments.' And second, even if he has pleaded a constitutional violation, plaintiff has failed to adequately plead that a City policy was the moving force behind any such violation. The court need not take up the first argument⁵ as it is obvious that plaintiff has not sufficiently alleged facts to show that a City policy caused any constitutional harm to him. A good part of plaintiff's response is devoted to a "summary of facts" including facts not alleged in the amended complaint. See, e.g., Doc. 41 at 5, , 3. 6 And, although plaintiff recites the test for asserting a claim against a municipality, Doc. 41 at 14, he glosses over the specificity required to meet the test. In essence, he argues that his conclusory allegations are sufficient. As stated, supra, the requisite elements of a claim of municipal liability are a policymaker, an official policy, and a 4The court notes that plaintiff concedes he has not pleaded any Fifth Amendment claims. Doc. 41 at 21. 5With regard to the sufficiency of the underlying claims, the court notes that the few facts pleaded by plaintiff are internally inconsistent and it is not clear whether plaintiff was actually arrested or temporarily detained. Further, it appears that plaintiff suffered only a de minimis injury insufficient to support an excessive force claim. See Freeman v. Gore, 483 F.3d 404, 416-17 (5th Cir. 2007). And, plaintiff has pleaded nothing more than conclusory allegations with regard to the alleged due process violation. 'The court notes that the response also contains arguments based on other facts not pleaded that would have been material to plaintiff's claims. See, e.g., Doc. 41 at 17 (apparently admitting that plaintiff was a trespasser at the time of the events giving rise to his claims). 12 Case 4:17-cv-01014-A Document 42 Filed 06/07/18 Page 12 of 16 PageID <pageID> violation of constitutional rights whose moving force is the policy. Piotrowski, 237 F.3d at 578. Although plaintiff has



arguably identified a policymaker, he has not pleaded facts to establish the existence of any policy, custom, or practice. That is, plaintiff has not identified a policy statement, ordinance, regulation, or decision officially adopted and promulgated by City. Bennett, 735 F.2d at 862. Nor has he shown a persistent, widespread practice so common and well-settled as to constitute a custom that fairly represents City's policy. Id. See Zarnow v. City of Wichita Falls, 614 F.3d 161, 169 (5th Cir. 2010) (a custom "consists of actions that have occurred for so long and with such frequency that the course of conduct demonstrates the governing body's knowledge and acceptance of the conduct"). To show a custom or practice, plaintiff must demonstrate a "pattern of abuses that transcends the error made in a single case." Piotrowski, 237 F.3d at 582. A pattern requires similarity and specificity; prior incidents cannot simply include bad or unwise acts, but must point to the specific violation in question. Peterson v. City of Fort Worth, 588 F.3d 838, 851 (5th Cir. 2009) . Here, plaintiff alternately argues that there was a policy or that there was a failure to adopt a policy, but he never identifies a specific policy; nor does he cite to any similar instances to demonstrate a pattern that would support the finding of a custom or practice.' For example, plaintiff recognizes that to state a failure to train theory of liability against City, he must demonstrate that City's training policy was inadequate; City was deliberately indifferent in adopting its training policy; and, the inadequate training policy directly caused the violations in question. Doc. 41 at 16. He says that he specifically alleged that City "developed and maintained a policy of deficient training of its police force in the use of force and due process." Id. at 16-17 (citing Doc. 1, p. 6, 12) . 8 He does not identify, and the court cannot find, in the amended complaint any allegations regarding what the policy was or how or why the policy was deficient or a pattern of similar constitutional violations from which deliberate indifference could be discerned. See Connick, 563 U.S. at 62. Even though plaintiff does allege, on information and belief, that City officers are trained based upon Texas Commission on Law Enforcement requirements and that such training does not include training on evictions, Doc. 39, 37, this is not the type of case where the inadequacy of the training is obvious and obviously likely to result in a constitutional violation. See Goodman v. Harris Cnty., 571 F.3d 388, 395 (5th Cir. 2009) (noting that only in extreme circumstances--such as shooting anything that moves and killing an innocent bystander--can a single violation be sufficient to show a custom or policy). Plaintiff's amended complaint does not state a claim against City based on alleged constitutional violations. Plaintiff fails to respond to the contention that City is immune from his state law tort claims. Nor does he argue that City is not immune from exemplary damages. He apparently concedes that dismissal of those claims is appropriate. Finally, plaintiff mentions at the end of his response that if the court finds his pleading to be deficient in any way, the court grant him leave to amend. As he states, "the court should generally give the plaintiff at least one chance to amend." Doc. 41 at 24. Of course, in this case, plaintiff has already had that chance and his amended pleading fares no better than the original. v. Order The court ORDERS that City's motion to dismiss be, and is hereby, granted, and that plaintiff's claims in this action be, and is hereby, dismissed. SIGNED June 7, 2018. Judg 16 Case 4:17-cv-01014-A Document 42 Filed 06/07/18 Page 16 of 16 PageID <pageID> In case of any query regarding this article or other content needs please contact: editorial@plusmediasolutions.com

Load-Date: June 13, 2018

End of Document



[Immigration program 'separates families,' creates mental anguish, protesters claim](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

June 7, 2018 Thursday

Copyright 2018 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: arlington

Length: 415 words

Byline: Charlene Santiago

Star-Telegram

Dateline: Arlington

Body

Several advocacy groups Wednesday night urged local officials to reconsider Tarrant County Sheriff's Office's partnership with federal immigration authorities.

At a town hall hosted by Tarrant County Commissioner Andy Nguyen to discuss solutions to behavioral health in the community, several attendees raised concerns about the impact the program 287(g) has on the mental health of immigrant families.

"There are mothers and fathers who have conversations with their kids before they go to school about a program called 287(g)," said Giovanni Torres of United Fort Worth, a grassroots coalition.

He claimed conversations regarding immigration status among families create mental and emotional anguish.

The immigration program 287(g) allows local law enforcement agencies to partner with federal officials to enforce immigration laws.

Torres questioned Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** about immigrant families' mental stability when it comes to local law enforcement partnering with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

Shortly after Torres talked about his concerns, a group of protesters raised their voices in the room, chanting "287(g) separates families." Migrants United, Raices and North Texas Dream Team were among the advocacy groups that attended the meeting.

The groups were eventually escorted out of the building.



"I do want to open the invitation to this group," said **Sheriff Waybourn** after the forum. Waybourn clarified that 287(g) is enforced only in the county's correctional facility and detainees "have to do their time with Texas before they're ever considered for deportation."

According to the sheriff, there are currently 12 participating officers in the program. Tarrant County partnered with ICE in 2017 to participate in this immigration initiative.

United Fort Worth submitted a public records request in April to the Sheriff's Office and the Tarrant County District Attorney's office concerning 287(g) in Tarrant County Jail.

Mindia Whittier led the group in the request, but was referred to the Texas Attorney General for a ruling.

"We consider this town hall another opportunity to press **Sheriff Waybourn** to stop hiding behind the AG as an excuse to avoid transparency regarding how 287(g) is being administered in Tarrant County," said Whittier in a written statement.

The meeting planned to address behavioral health in different public sectors and narrow down how local government entities can work closely with the community to solve this issue.

Load-Date: June 9, 2018

End of Document

[Knitting the Stress Away](#)

American Jails

May 1, 2018 Tuesday

Copyright 2018 ProQuest Information and Learning

All Rights Reserved

Copyright 2018 American Jail Association May/June 2018

Section: Pg. 64; Vol 32; No. 2; ISSN: 10560319

Length: 521 words

Byline: Henry Reyes

Dateline: Hagerstown

Body

FULL TEXT

Since taking office on January 1, 2016, Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill E. Waybourn** has been pushing his jail's leadership team to introduce new and innovative jail programs that are educational, therapeutic, and will help to make Texas's third-largest jail become one of the safest in the Nation. Under the command of newly promoted Inmate Services Captain Lonnie Dunham, the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office Reentry Program has partnered with the THRIVE Association, a Dallasbased nonprofit organization.



THRIVE stands for The Handmade Resources for Inner City Veteran Empowerment. Their mission is to demonstrate appreciation of military veterans and the sacrifices they have made serving our country. THRIVE accomplishes this by donating their handmade crafts as a way to empower homeless military veterans and support them on their road to recovery. In 2015, the U.S. Department of Housing estimated that there were almost 50,000 homeless veterans on any given night.

The New York Times reported that a third of women between the ages of 25 and 35 have participated in some knitting or crocheting activity, as reported by the Craft Yarn Council in 2016 (<https://well.blogs.nytimes.com/2016/01/25/the-health-benefits-of-knitting/>). With the average age of incarcerated women between 25 and 35 years old, introducing a knitting program felt like a natural fit.

Together, THRIVE and the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office have developed and implemented a program for incarcerated women that embraces THRIVE's mission and the health benefits of knitting. In the program, women are learning how to knit and crochet hats, scarves, and gloves for homeless veterans.

The knitting program is intended to give the inmates a skill and to teach them responsibility. Princeton's Dr. Barry Jacobs has attributed the repetitive actions of activities like knitting to lowering stress levels and increasing feelings of relaxation, much like that achieved through meditation.

The program, despite being in its infancy, has already yielded noticeable results in the impact it is having on inmate behavior and jail climate. Officers and volunteers are reporting higher levels of patience, organization, focus, and attention to detail. These skills will prove invaluable in the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office's effort to successfully reintegrate each inmate back into society.

The women work on the project four hours a week under the direction and supervision of a THRIVE volunteer. Participation has been great, and the inmates have fallen in love with the program! The rewards that come along with knitting do not end at the health benefits. Unlike yoga and meditation, knitting is a form of relaxation that yields a result you can touch or-in the case of the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office and THRIVE's initiative-a donation to another great cause. All items created as part of the project are donated to homeless veterans who are in need of scarves, hats, vests, and other items to help keep them warm during the winter months.

CHIEF DEPUTY HENRY REYES

Tarrant County Sheriff's Office

Detention Bureau

Fort Worth, Texas

hreyes@tarrantcounty.com

Load-Date: May 16, 2018

End of Document

[MEET THE FACILITY](#)

American Jails

May 1, 2018 Tuesday



Copyright 2018 ProQuest Information and Learning
All Rights Reserved
Copyright 2018 American Jail Association May/June 2018

Section: Pg. 60; Vol 32; No. 2; ISSN: 10560319

Length: 793 words

Byline: Charles Eckert

Dateline: Hagerstown

Body

FULL TEXT

Facility Name: Tarrant County Sheriff's Office Detention Bureau

Website: www.tarrantcounty.com

Location: Fort Worth, Texas

Year Built/Opened: First of five facilities (Belknap) built in 1963; second facility (Cold Springs) opened in 1986; third facility (Green Bay) opened in early 1990s; fourth facility (Tarrant County Corrections Center) opened in 1991; fifth facility (Lon Evans) built in 2012.

Average Daily

Population: 3,216 males/583 females

Warden/Director: Executive Chief Deputy Raul S. Banasco

Chief Deputies: Henry Reyes & Randy A. Cundiff

Operating Budget: \$84 million

Number of Staff: 883 uniformed/74 civilian

Number of Volunteers: 224

Contact E-mail: hreyes@tarrantcounty.com

Style of Inmate

Supervision: Direct supervision, indirect supervision

The Tarrant County Sheriff's Office is led by Sheriff **Bill E. Waybourn**, and the Detention Bureau is led by Executive Chief Deputy Raul Banasco with the assistance of two chief deputies and six captains. Divided into Housing and Support Services, each division is overseen by a chief deputy.

The Support Services Division, led by Chief Deputy Randy Cundiff, includes Intake & Booking, Property, Inmate Release, Classification, Inmate Bank, Bond Desk, Commissary, Warehouse, Laundry, and Jail Industries. In 2016, Booking processed 36,306 individuals into Tarrant County Jails, and Release



processed out 35,933 individuals. The Bond Desk processed 39,386 bonds, and Classification made 93,068 jail cell transfers.

The Bureau's jail industries is a sewing operation that provides female inmates with a skill set that can lead to employment upon release. They are taught to sew, repair and make inmate mattresses, repair torn or ripped uniforms, embroider property bags, and produce leather radio holders and other items. As well as teaching new skills to inmates, the repair and production of these items reduces the cost of jail operations.

The Housing Division is led by Chief Deputy Henry Reyes, who has oversight over the three open detention housing units. Currently, three facilities are populated and two facilities are de-populated, but still certified and inspected by the Texas Commission on Jail Standards (TCJS). Facilities are inspected annually, and Tarrant County has passed inspection and met TCJS requirements every year since 1992.

Each of the three populated facilities is unique in its design and function. The Tarrant County Corrections Facility is a 13-story direct inmate supervision design with a maximum capacity of 2,114 beds. The facility has a hospital floor with a dentist office, X-ray machine, exam rooms, and hospital rooms that include negative air-flow capabilities. The inmate education operation that provides inmates the opportunity to study and earn their GED is conducted from this facility.

The Green Bay Detention Facility is a medium-risk facility that is also unique in its design. Converted from a cardboard box production facility, it is a single-story, 1,596-bed facility that covers 5 acres under one roof. The construction design of the facility allowed for add-on space as needed, along with updates to modern smoke evacuation systems.

The Lon Evans Detention Facility is the newest addition and was completed in 2012. This is a maximum security facility. With only single cells and remote video visitation, this facility has a maximum capacity of 444 beds. Lon Evans also has its own hospital floor that connects by an elevated walkway to the hospital floor of the Corrections Center. The hospital floor houses the medical staff offices, dialysis room, inmate clinic offices, and special suicide watch cells. Food preparation for all facilities occurs in the modern kitchen that was built inside this facility.

In addition to its functions, the Detention Bureau's mission could not be completed without the support of solid partners. Tarrant County Facilities staff is on duty 24 hours a day and helps to keep facilities inspection-ready. The county hospital provides 24 hour in-house care for inmates, and MHMR (My Health My Resources) of Tarrant County has its own offices, doctors, and staff inside the facilities to provide much-needed care. They all have a team mission attitude and meet weekly to discuss issues and the prevention of others that might occur.

The most important ingredient in Tarrant County's success is its mid-level supervisors and line officers. They boast some of the best trained and educated employees in the business, who are highly motivated, great communicators, eventempered, and willing to provide ideas and suggestions to improving operations. Tarrant County hires the best people possible, then empowers them to make decisions. Without them, the Detention Bureau would not be a successful agency.

Written by Captain Charles Eckert

Load-Date: May 16, 2018

End of Document



[United Fort Worth seeks immigration policy transparency from county officials](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

April 18, 2018 Wednesday

Copyright 2018 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: fort_worth

Length: 451 words

Byline: Hanaa' Tameez

Star-Telegram

Dateline: Fort Worth

Body

To 31-year-old Jessica Ramirez, the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office's agreement to participate in 287(g) last June felt personal.

Ramirez, a DACA recipient, was born in Mexico City. She and her family came to the United States in 2001 as undocumented immigrants. But after a traffic stop in 2014, her father was deported. Two years later, her mother followed him, leaving Ramirez alone in the U.S.

"The last time I saw my mother, she told me that if anything ever happens to her and I can't go, to not worry, that she understands," Ramirez recalled. "Every day I pray to God that never happens."

The program 287(g) refers to a section of the Immigration and Nationality Act that allows state or local law enforcement agencies to partner with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. It gives designated local officers the power to "perform immigration law enforcement functions, provided that the local law enforcement officers receive appropriate training and function under the supervision of ICE officers."

According to an open records request filed by the Star-Telegram, in January 2018 there were 260 inmates in the Tarrant County Jail with immigration detainees.

Because 287(g) was signed into agreement with little public input, according to Mindia Whittier, a member of United Fort Worth, the group decided to hand-deliver open records requests for documents related to 287(g) from the Sheriff's Office and the Tarrant County District Attorney's Office.

Hand-delivering the requests about immigration enforcement activity was the group's way of asking for more transparency about the issue.



Seven members of United Fort Worth waited for about 10 minutes in the waiting room of Sheriff **Bill Waybourn's** office before Chief Randy Cundiff greeted the group. Cundiff said Waybourn was happy to meet with them in his office, but Whittier declined, saying that they first wanted to be more informed about the agreement. She added that the group would be happy to meet with Waybourn once they received the documents they were requesting. At the DA's office, Whittier submitted the request to a staff member.

One of United Fort Worth's main concerns about 287(g) is that it's partially funded by taxpayer dollars. While ICE covers the training program for officers, the state and local governments pay most of the costs necessary for the program to work.

This includes travel, housing and per diem for officers during training, along with salaries, overtime, other personnel costs and administrative supplies, according to the American Immigration Council.

Waybourn told the Race and Culture Task Force on Monday that there are currently 12 officers who have received training and now work in the Tarrant County Jail.

Load-Date: August 24, 2018

End of Document

[Race and Culture Task Force tackles 'systemic, structural, and institutional racism' in Fort Worth](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

April 16, 2018 Monday

Copyright 2018 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: fort_worth

Length: 810 words

Byline: Hanaa' Tameez

Star-Telegram

Dateline: Fort Worth

Body

An interim report by the City of Fort Worth Race and Culture Task Force showed that frequent conversations with community residents revealed the problem "is systemic, structural, and institutional racism, not simply personal or individual behavior."



According to the report, residents are concerned that "city leaders have failed to acknowledge this problem, causing victims of racism to feel unheard and causing perpetrators of racism to feel empowered."

Assistant city manager Fernando Costa presented the report Monday night. Costa compiled all of the information and data the six subcommittees had collected since August.

The criminal justice subcommittee analyzed FWPd personnel reports and found that there are no African-American officers in the following specialized units: SWAT (total of 26 officers), K-9 (11), Criminal Intelligence (11), Homicide (11), Major Case (11), and Robbery (16).

The housing subcommittee found that residential segregation had decreased from 53 percent to 45 between 1990 and 2010 but rose to 49 percent since 2010. The transportation subcommittee determined that while non-whites make up 58 percent of Fort Worth's population, they make up 71 percent of local transit ridership.

Even the first sentence of the presentation "Fort Worth takes pride in its racial and cultural diversity," was questioned by a task force member.

"I just don't think that's an accurate statement," housing subcommittee chair Katie Sherrod said. She went on to say that if that were true, the task force wouldn't exist. The sentence was eventually amended to say "Fort Worth desires to take pride in its racial and cultural diversity."

The task force then voted unanimously to approve the report.

'How is this law really going to affect us?' Isabel Aguilar worries that she might be pulled over because of how she looks.

The interim report will be presented to the City Council at City Hall on May 1. The final report was originally set to be due in August 2018 but Costa said they would request an extension until the end of the year.

The task force also heard from Sheriff **Bill E. Waybourn** and Police Chief Joel Fitzgerald prior to the approval of the report.

Waybourn told the task force his office is "extremely diverse" with women in leadership roles. He highlighted that his office recently promoted three female African-American officers who are "making strides to become leaders of the department."

Waybourn said there were 4,000 people in prison in Tarrant County as of Monday morning. However, because of outdated technology, he's unable to determine the racial breakdown of the inmates. The system only allows for someone to be identified as white or black. Waybourn said his office is trying to obtain a new system to keep more accurate and precise records.

On the topic of Senate Bill 4, the so-called anti-sanctuary cities law, the sheriff said that police officers cannot ask about immigration status at routine traffic stops. However, he said the issue comes up when an individual is stopped and cannot produce a driver's license, so the officer starts asking more questions.

On the program 287(g), which allows local law enforcement agencies to partner with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), the sheriff felt it was necessary for his department to participate because ICE officers working in the county jails could only work from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Fort Worth activists say bill targeting immigrants would make Texas less safe Texas' SB4, a law signed by Gov. Greg Abbott last month, allows police to inquire about a person's immigration status during traffic stops.



Members of the local grassroots organization United Fort Worth were present as well. When Waybourn began to speak about SB4 and 287(g), a group of women silently stood in the back of the room holding a banner that read "**Sheriff Waybourn** separates families."

"We can't deport 12 million people," Waybourn said, when asked by a task force member what his idea of immigration reform would be for the 12 million undocumented immigrants living in the United States. "We need to secure our border from narco trade and for border security. If we figured out a way to compromise on visas and get them out of the shadows to let them work on their citizenship ... they ought to get in line, wherever that line is, on the path to citizenship."

Following the Sheriff's presentation, Fort Worth Chief of Police Joel Fitzgerald answered questions about the indictment of officer John P. Romer Jr., who was charged with aggravated perjury, official oppression and making a false statement to law enforcement personnel after he used excessive force on a young black man in November 2016.

A special prosecutor was appointed to the case in January 2018.

Texas police scrambling as SB4 looms Training is underway throughout Texas as officers get ready for Senate Bill 4.

Load-Date: April 17, 2018

End of Document

[No Headline In Original](#)

McClatchy-Tribune Photo Service

April 4, 2018 Wednesday

Copyright 2018 Tribune Content Agency All Rights Reserved

Length: 58 words

Byline: Max Faulkner, Fort Worth Star-Telegram, TNS

Body

Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** takes off his hat during the singing of the national anthem before a re-election campaign event for Sen. Ted Cruz (R-Texas) on Wednesday, April 4, 2018. (Max Faulkner/Fort Worth Star-Telegram/TNS)

IMAGE ID: KRTPHOTOSLIVE2240992

[Subject to copyright. Click here for information regarding redistribution of this image.](#)

Load-Date: April 5, 2018



End of Document

[Affluenza teen Ethan Couch Couch killed four people in a drunk driving crash, injuring several others is a free man as of twenty-four hours ago](#)

NBC News TODAY SHOW 7:00 AM EST

April 3, 2018 Tuesday

Copyright 2018 ASC Services II Media, LLC
All Rights Reserved

Copyright 2018 National Broadcasting Co. Inc.

Section: NEWS; Domestic

Length: 1653 words

Byline: MEGYN KELLY, GABE GUTIERREZ, CHAPLAIN TIM WILLIAMS

Highlight: And we begin today with the so-called affluenza teen. Do you remember this guy? Remember that term? Ethan Couch killed four people in a drunk driving crash, injuring several others. His attorneys argue that his wealth and privilege excused him from his own choices, saying he was never taught right from wrong. That seemed to be enough to convince a judge because Couch managed to avoid any jail time for the deaths and was instead sentenced to ten years` probation. But that was not the end of his story. You see Couch went on to violate his probation and fled to Mexico with the help of his mother. Eventually, he was caught. And he was sentenced to two years in jail for violating the probation.

Body

MEGYN KELLY (09:00:04): Good morning, everybody. And welcome to the show. I`m Megyn Kelly. And we begin today with the so-called affluenza teen. Do you remember this guy? Remember that term? Ethan Couch killed four people in a drunk driving crash, injuring several others. His attorneys argue that his wealth and privilege excused him from his own choices, saying he was never taught right from wrong. That seemed to be enough to convince a judge because Couch managed to avoid any jail time for the deaths and was instead sentenced to ten years` probation. But that was not the end of his story. You see Couch went on to violate his probation and fled to Mexico with the help of his mother. Eventually, he was caught. And he was sentenced to two years in jail for violating the probation. That`s what he went to jail for. As of twenty-four hours ago, Couch is a free man. More now from NBC`s Gabe Gutierrez.

(Begin VT)

GABE GUTIERREZ (09:00:59): Ethan Couch, once known worldwide as the affluenza teen, walked out of jail Monday. Chaplain Tim Williams, who lost his best friend in Couch`s drunk driving crash, says the now twenty-year- old is a changed man.



CHAPLAIN TIM WILLIAMS (Friend Killed by Ethan Couch) (09:01:12): Ethan has made clear to me that he wants to walk that straight and narrow path.

GABE GUTIERREZ (09:01:16): Couch served just under two years for violating his probation after killing four people and injuring nine others in a horrific drunk driving crash in 2013 when he was a juvenile. From the start, the case generated one shocking headline after another, starting with the affluenza defense, not a recognized medical condition, suggesting Couch's affluent upbringing left him unable to know right from wrong and he deserved leniency. Couch was sentenced to ten years' probation and therapy.

MAN #1 (09:01:45): Tell us your name, please, sir.

ETHAN COUCH (09:01:47): Ethan Couch.

GABE GUTIERREZ (09:01:48): Two years later, Couch was questioned as part of a civil suit by the family of one of the victims. Shortly after that, the story took another bizarre turn, after this video surfaced, appearing to show Couch violating his probation by being at a party with alcohol. He and his mother, Tonya, fled. The two were tracked down to Mexico and returned to Texas. Then, nineteen, that's when the stiffer two-year sentence was imposed on Ethan. His mother was charged with two felonies but freed on bail. Then just last week, she was re-arrested for violating her terms of bail after failing a urine test and was sent to the same jail as her son. His critics say one hundred eighty days behind bars for each person he killed is a travesty.

SHERIFF **BILL WAYBOURN** (Tarrant County, TX) (09:02:30): I'm horribly offended and I'm horribly angry that our legal system has let down these victims.

GABE GUTIERREZ (09:02:37): Gabe Gutierrez, NBC News, Fort Worth, Texas.

(End VT)

MEGYN KELLY (09:02:41): Joining me now with more, Chaplain Tim Williams. His friend, Brian Jennings, was killed that night that Ethan Couch chose to get behind the wheel. Thank you so much for being here, Tim.

CHAPLAIN TIM WILLIAMS (Friend Killed by Ethan Couch) (09:02:52): Yes. Thank you.

MEGYN KELLY (09:02:52): You and Brian grew up together. Ultimately, Ethan Couch served one hundred and eighty-- eighty days in prison for killing your friend, Brian. What's your-- what-- what is your reaction, first of all, to that-- that fact, a hundred and eighty days in jail, per victim?

CHAPLAIN TIM WILLIAMS (09:03:09): Right. My opinion has been, it's-- it's never been enough. But it is what the-- the judge ruled. It's the best that they could do. And so, we've had to accept it. But it-- it didn't feel right.

MEGYN KELLY (09:03:21): Tell us a little bit about Brian.

CHAPLAIN TIM WILLIAMS (09:03:23): Sure. Brian and I grew up together in high school and in church. And Brian committed his life to ministry after his senior year in high school. So he-- he really devoted to help kids, oddly enough, like Ethan.

MEGYN KELLY (09:03:38): He was a family man himself?

CHAPLAIN TIM WILLIAMS (09:03:40): Yes. Yeah. Three kids. Married to Shaunna.



MEGYN KELLY (09:03:43): Mm-hm. And that night, there was a woman parked on the side of the road, with car trouble. Brian pulled over to help her--

CHAPLIN TIM WILLIAMS (09:03:49): He did. He sure did.

MEGYN KELLY (09:03:50): --and told the boys to stay in the truck.

CHAPLIN TIM WILLIAMS (09:03:53): Yes.

MEGYN KELLY (09:03:53): And Ethan came by with several kids in his car and ran them down. Ran them down because his blood alcohol limit was three- times the legal limit, which was shocking and horrifying. And yet, what really made news was his defense of his own actions. When you heard that he was looking to escape responsibility by saying his wealth and privilege led him to not understand that it was wrong to get behind the wheel after consuming that much alcohol, what was your reaction?

CHAPLIN TIM WILLIAMS (09:04:21): That was very upsetting to hear this new word, this made-up word, that I'm too wealthy to have been taught right and wrong. I think that all of us know that even, as little kids, we're taught that, you know, in kindergarten, onward.

MEGYN KELLY (09:04:34): Mm-hm.

CHAPLIN TIM WILLIAMS (09:04:35): So it just didn't really fly with me.

MEGYN KELLY (09:04:36): Because it was his choice to consume the alcohol and get behind the wheel at age sixteen.

CHAPLIN TIM WILLIAMS (09:04:41): Pretty much.

MEGYN KELLY (09:04:41): It was his choice. And that's why mothers against drunk driving is so angry about this verdict and what's happened with this young man, because they don't feel that adequate punishment or an adequate message has been sent to society. You're an extraordinary man, because not only did you lose your friend in this circumstance, but is it true you went to visit Ethan Couch in prison?

CHAPLIN TIM WILLIAMS (09:05:00): That is true. After he went to Mexico, the thought came to mind, that maybe I should visit with him just to see if there's any hope, or to see where he's at. It was that simple.

MEGYN KELLY (09:05:10): What happened?

CHAPLIN TIM WILLIAMS (09:05:11): Well, in the transfer trials when he got captured and he was brought back to Tarrant County, he went through the juvenile system and then was transferred to the adult system. And in those hearings, I just bumped into the sheriff at the time a couple of times. And I asked him, maybe, is it possible to-- to meet with Ethan, certainly with- - you know, with the glass in between us?

MEGYN KELLY (09:05:30): Mm-hm. And so when you did that, what was he like?

CHAPLIN TIM WILLIAMS (09:05:34): Well, Ethan was in solitary at the time. So, it was a video conference for many months, which, as you might imagine, is not very personal to-- to meet this kind of guy right through video conferencing. And so, he was, of course, shocked with the connection. He didn't understand why would you be here because basically, you know, I feel hated by everybody. And I said, well, yes. But, you know, as a Christian, I'm here to see if there's hope for you. I'm here to see if forgiveness is something you can receive.

MEGYN KELLY (09:06:04): Did he want forgiveness?



CHAPLIN TIM WILLIAMS (09:06:06): He felt he didn't deserve it. So he didn't have the mindset to seek it.

MEGYN KELLY (09:06:12): Because when we see him playing the beer pong after four people are dead and a fifth is paralyzed and can no longer speak, and he hurt so many people and went in there and argued that his wealth excused it, he doesn't have that much empathy from people. We haven't heard the call for forgiveness or the request on his part?

CHAPLIN TIM WILLIAMS (09:06:29): No, we haven't. And-- well, the public hasn't. Ethan and I have gone through this. But I would say that, you know, obviously when you look at what he did, and then he did again, I think it's easy to conclude, I don't think you're getting it, Ethan.

MEGYN KELLY (09:06:42): Mm-hm. And do you think that now?

CHAPLIN TIM WILLIAMS (09:06:44): I do. I think that it-- it took a lot of-- of time just really helping to discuss, like, things that some parents teach kids, right? And just try to fill in some gaps and deal with some character development beyond the pain and the suffering he caused and all this loss. I mean that-- that was later.

MEGYN KELLY (09:07:01): So-- but now that he's out, do you think he's prepared to act as a responsible citizen?

CHAPLIN TIM WILLIAMS (09:07:08): Well, I've said before that I think he has the tools. I think-- we've spent a lot of time together, discussing good character, who you hang out with, influential issues, making wise decisions, not just some impulsive decisions. So I think he has the tools. The-- of course, the ball is in his court, as they say, right? Like, he has the ability to make another bad choice.

MEGYN KELLY (09:07:30): How are-- how is Brian's family? How are his kids?

CHAPLIN TIM WILLIAMS (09:07:33): It's really tough. Every time this comes up, you know what, it even makes me, you know, get emotional. It's very tough to see the news. It's tough to hear that he got out. It's-- it's just very hard.

MEGYN KELLY (09:07:44): Wow. Thank you for coming on--

CHAPLIN TIM WILLIAMS (09:07:47): You're welcome.

MEGYN KELLY (09:07:47): --and telling us your story. We want to let you know that we got a statement from Ethan Couch's attorneys that reads in part, ".Ethan has admitted his conduct, accepted responsibility for his actions, and felt true remorse for the terrible consequences of those actions. He does not wish to draw attention to himself and requests privacy.." All the best to you, sir.

CHAPLIN TIM WILLIAMS (09:08:06): Thank you.

MEGYN KELLY (09:08:06): We'll be right back.

(09:08:09): Up next, on the outside, a picture-perfect family. But what was going on behind closed doors? A mysterious and deadly crash that has killed at least three children and their parents. Was it intentional?

(ANNOUNCEMENTS)

Load-Date: April 4, 2018



End of Document

[After spending two years behind bars, the so-called Affluenza Teen, Ethan Couch, is set to be released from a Texas jail today](#)

NBC News TODAY SHOW 7:00 AM EST

April 2, 2018 Monday

Copyright 2018 ASC Services II Media, LLC
All Rights Reserved

Copyright 2018 National Broadcasting Co. Inc.

Section: NEWS

Length: 1904 words

Byline: HODA KOTB, SAVANNAH GUTHRIE, GABE GUTIERREZ, CARSON DALY

Highlight: After spending two years behind bars, the so-called Affluenza Teen, Ethan Couch, is set to be released from a Texas jail today. There is some controversy surrounding that.

Body

HODA KOTB (07:12:29): After spending two years behind bars, the so-called Affluenza Teen, Ethan Couch, is set to be released from a Texas jail today. There is some controversy surrounding that. NBC's Gabe Gutierrez is in Fort Worth for us this morning. Hey, Gabe, good morning.

GABE GUTIERREZ (07:12:44): Hoda, good morning. This drunk driving case drew worldwide attention for the defense's unusual legal strategy claiming wealth and privilege as an excuse for not knowing right from wrong. Now, the best friend of one of the victims who visited Ethan Couch in jail says that Couch is remorseful. He just doesn't know how to express it.

(Begin VT)

GABE GUTIERREZ (07:13:03): This morning, Ethan Couch, once known worldwide as the Affluenza Teen, is set to walk out of jail. A chaplain who lost his best friend in Couch's drunk driving crash says the now twenty-year-old is a changed man.

CHAPLAIN TIMOTHY WILLIAMS (Victim's Friend) (07:13:15): He wants to walk that straight and narrow path.

GABE GUTIERREZ (07:13:19): Couch served just under two years for violating his probation after killing four people and injuring nine others in a horrific drunk driving crash in 2013 when he was a juvenile.

ETHAN COUCH (07:13:29): We need some ambulances, it's bad. We flipped.



GABE GUTIERREZ (07:13:32): From the start, the case generated one shocking headline after another, starting with the affluenza defense, not a recognized medical condition, suggesting Couch's affluent upbringing left him unable to not know right from wrong.

MAN (07:13:46): Tell us your name, please, sir.

ETHAN COUCH (07:13:47): Ethan Couch.

GABE GUTIERREZ (07:13:49): Two years later, Couch was questioned as part of a civil suit by the family of one of the victims. Shortly after that, the story took another bizarre turn. After this video surfaced, appearing to show Couch violating his probation by being at a party with alcohol, he and his mother, Tonya, fled. The two were tracked down in Mexico. Then nineteen, that's when the stiffer two-year sentence was imposed on Ethan. His mother was charged with two felonies but freed on bail. Then just last week, she was re-arrested, charged with failing a urine test and was sent to the same jail as her son. His critics say one hundred eighty days in jail for each person he killed is a travesty.

SHERIFF **BILL WAYBOURN** (Tarrant County) (07:14:29): I'm horribly angry that our legal system has let down these victims.

(End VT)

GABE GUTIERREZ (07:14:36): The family of Sergio Molina, who was killed in the crash, expressed their frustration in a written statement writing in part, "It's a constant struggle. Nothing, no amount of money can make this right." After he's released, Couch is expected to live with his father. The sheriff says he'll have to wear an ankle monitor. Hoda and Savannah.

HODA KOTB (07:14:54): All right, Gabe Gutierrez. Gabe, thank you.

SAVANNAH GUTHRIE (07:14:55): Also on a busy Monday morning, after weeks of drama and Cinderella stories, the men's college basketball national championship will be decided tonight. And they're going to have to put on quite a show if they want to beat last second drama from last night's women's final. Carson is here with this. It's incredible.

HODA KOTB (07:15:12): It was a wowzer.

CARSON DALY (07:15:12): How exciting was that.

SAVANNAH GUTHRIE (07:15:13): Yeah.

HODA KOTB (07:15:13): Yeah, so cool.

CARSON DALY (07:15:14): Unbelievable. It was a heart-pounding weekend at the women's final four in Columbus, Ohio. Notre Dame taking home the coveted trophy, thanks to amazing back-to-back buzzer beaters.

(Begin VT)

MAN (ESPN) (07:15:25): Ogunbowale for the win. Good. Arike Ogunbowale leads the national championship for Notre Dame.

CARSON DALY (07:15:36): The pressure was on and the Fighting Irish delivered. Junior guard Arike Ogunbowale hitting a three-pointer with less than one second left in the game against Mississippi State, lifting Notre Dame to its second national championship.



ARIKE OGUNBOWALE (Notre Dame Women`s Basketball Guard/ESPN) (07:15:50): We had a rough second quarter and we`ve been down before. So we knew we`ll be able to come back and everybody stepped up at the right time.

CARSON DALY (07:15:56): This buzzer beater moment was all too familiar.

MAN (ESPN) (07:15:59): Ogunbowale, good.

CARSON DALY (07:16:04): The star player made a similar miracle shot in the semifinal game this weekend upsetting number one seed UConn and saving her team`s season.

MUFFET MCGRAW (Notre Dame Women`s Basketball Coach/ESPN) (07:16:13): I was thinking two nights in a row, I don`t know if this is going to happen again, the miracle.

CARSON DALY (07:16:17): NBA legend Kobe Bryant taking notice congratulating Ogunbowale on her first buzzer beater shot. The Wisconsin native responding, "Wow, my life is complete." But Bryant reminding Ogunbowale there was still work to be done. That final shot proving to be the perfect reply and Bryant agreed #LifeComplete.

(End VT)

HODA KOTB (07:16:37): Yes. That was crazy.

CARSON DALY (07:16:38): I`ll tell you what. Don`t call it the luck of the Irish. They asked her after the game, "Were you surprised that it went in?"

HODA KOTB (07:16:42): Yeah.

CARSON DALY (07:16:43): And she said no, I practiced that shot.

HODA KOTB (07:16:44): What?

SAVANNAH GUTHRIE (07:16:45): Yeah, good for her.

CARSON DALY (07:16:45): That`s a shot we practiced, the buzzer beater.

SAVANNAH GUTHRIE (07:16:47): Well, she did it twice, back-to-back games.

HODA KOTB (07:16:49): Yes, she sure did. And can we say that Arike is going to join us in our eight o`clock hour. How about that? How about that?

CARSON DALY (07:16:54): It`s a big get this morning.

HODA KOTB (07:16:56): Pretty cool.

SAVANNAH GUTHRIE (07:16:56): And now, tonight.

CARSON DALY (07:16:56): Let`s get to it tonight. We`re going to talk about the men now. Villanova taking on Michigan tonight for the national championship. Wildcats, the number one seed, they beat Kansas easily on Saturday night to punch their ticket to the title game. Of course, Villanova, no stranger to the national stage winning the championship just two years ago, they are a six and a half-point favorite, according to our friends in Las Vegas who keep track of that kind of thing. Villanova is going to face the Michigan team that is red hot right now. The Wolverines riding a fourteen-game winning streak. Basically, they`re saying this is the best team in Villanova taking on the hottest team in Michigan. Offense versus a great defense.



HODA KOTB (07:17:31): Who do you think, Carson?

CARSON DALY (07:17:31): At this rate and what we've seen so far in March Madness--

HODA KOTB (07:17:34): Yeah.

SAVANNAH GUTHRIE (07:17:34): Yeah.

CARSON DALY (07:17:34): --it's a toss.

DYLAN DREYER (07:17:35): You never know.

HODA KOTB (07:17:35): Okay. All right.

SAVANNAH GUTHRIE (07:17:36): Thank you, Carson.

HODA KOTB (07:17:37): Thanks, Carson.

SAVANNAH GUTHRIE (07:17:37): Dylan's in for AI this morning. I cannot believe it.

DYLAN DREYER (07:17:39): I mean--

SAVANNAH GUTHRIE (07:17:40): I can't believe it is snowing.

HODA KOTB (07:17:40): Look at it. It's getting harder.

DYLAN DREYER (07:17:41): And it's accumulating. I mean, it's just a heavy--

CARSON DALY (07:17:43): Happy Easter.

DYLAN DREYER (07:17:44): --wet snow.

SAVANNAH GUTHRIE (07:17:44): Happy spring.

DYLAN DREYER (07:17:45): And it's going to keep coming down for another few hours and then the sun is going to come out this afternoon. We have more snow that's likely to fall across the Northern Plains and the Upper Midwest. And we have a chance of stronger storms through the Midwest today. The real warm spot down South. Temperatures will be in the eighties from South Carolina stretching down into Florida.

(07:18:01): That's a look at the weather across the country. Your local forecast is coming up in the next thirty seconds.

(ANNOUNCEMENTS)

(Weather follows)

DYLAN DREYER (07:19:09): (AUDIO CUT) forecast.

SAVANNAH GUTHRIE (07:19:09): All right. Dylan, thank you.

HODA KOTB (07:19:10): Thanks, Dylan.

DYLAN DREYER (07:19:11): Don't give me that look.

SAVANNAH GUTHRIE (07:19:12): No, no, no. We love snow--



HODA KOTB (07:19:13): Can't help it, snide eye.

SAVANNAH GUTHRIE (07:19:14): --in the winter time.

(07:19:15): Coming up, guys, Natalie's going to be with us. She's going to tell us about this breaking information on such a strange story, the investigation of a family whose SUV plunged off a California cliff. Now, police are saying this may have actually been intentional.

HODA KOTB (07:19:30): And is your smart speaker about to get even smarter? The new technology from Amazon and Google raising some new questions about digital spying. But first, this is TODAY on NBC.

(ANNOUNCEMENTS)

HODA KOTB (07:21:48): (AUDIO CUT) highlights from Jesus Christ Superstar including the show within the show, Chrissy Teigen's live tweets.

SAVANNAH GUTHRIE (07:21:53): And Carson?

CARSON DALY (07:21:54): Good. Also, the moment that out of control space station plunged back to earth overnight. We'll tell you about it after your local news.

(ANNOUNCEMENTS)

HODA KOTB (07:30:03): We are back at seven thirty on a Monday morning. It's April 2, 2018. Yeah, it's snowing in New York.

CARSON DALY (07:30:10): Wow. Take a look at that. That's Yankee Stadium. They're supposed to play their home opener today against Tampa Bay. That's going to be a tough outfield catch for Aaron Boone--

SAVANNAH GUTHRIE (07:30:20): Take me out to the ball game? I don't know. That post-Easter winter storm is topping our check of the morning's headlines.

HODA KOTB (07:30:28): Here We Go Again: The Northeast hit by yet another snowstorm. This time, set to bring snow, ice and cold temperatures from the Midwest to the East Coast.

MAN #1 (07:30:37): I know, enough, right?

MAN #2 (07:30:38): Right.

MAN #1 (07:30:38): Easter, it's April Fools'--

MAN #2 (07:30:39): Come on.

MAN #1 (07:30:40): --forecast. During the morning commute, it will be the hardest around Philadelphia and New York City.

SAVANNAH GUTHRIE (07:30:44): Massive Hack: Saks Fifth Avenue and Lord & Taylor reveal a new personal data breach at their popular department store chains, potentially affecting up to five million customers.

WOMAN #1 (07:30:55): I've already been through several breaches with different stores. We've got to find a way to keep this information safe.



HODA KOTB (07:31:03): China Hits Back: In response to United States tariffs, the country slaps new charges on more than one hundred products, ranging from fruit to pork to steel pipes.

(07:31:14): (Excerpt from NYPD Blue)

SAVANNAH GUTHRIE (07:31:21): Remembering A Legend: Tributes pour in for Emmy winning producer Steven Bochco, who created several TV hits, including NYPD Blue and Hill Street Blues. Bochco passing away at age seventy-four.

HODA KOTB (07:31:35): And Not A Yolk: Dozens of divers hunt for Easter eggs under the sea in the Florida Keys in a watery twist to an Easter tradition. Today, Monday, April 2, 2018.

(07:31:49): That may be the coolest Easter egg hunt--

SAVANNAH GUTHRIE (07:31:51): I know.

HODA KOTB (07:31:51): --I've ever seen--

SAVANNAH GUTHRIE (07:31:52): Exactly.

HODA KOTB (07:31:52): --right there.

SAVANNAH GUTHRIE (07:31:52): The Easter egg hunt.

HODA KOTB (07:31:53): Look at that.

SAVANNAH GUTHRIE (07:31:53): My living room does not compare.

HODA KOTB (07:31:55): Wow.

CARSON DALY (07:31:55): Wow.

SAVANNAH GUTHRIE (07:31:55): That's--

HODA KOTB (07:31:56): Pretty cool.

SAVANNAH GUTHRIE (07:31:56): --really cool.

HODA KOTB (07:31:57): Mm-hm.

Load-Date: April 3, 2018

End of Document

[The arrest of Denton County Sheriff's Office veteran patrol Sgt. Weston Jordan as a result of a mult](#)

Denton Record-Chronicle (Texas)

March 16, 2018 Friday, 1 Edition

Copyright 2018 Denton Record-Chronicle



Section: NEWS; Pg. EDIT01

Length: 372 words

Body

The arrest of Denton County Sheriff's Office veteran patrol Sgt. Weston Jordan as a result of a multi-agency investigation marks an embarrassing moment for Sheriff Tracy Murphree.

Jordan, 46, was arrested Tuesday night in Tarrant County and charged with online solicitation of a minor, a second-degree felony.

He placed a personal ad on Craigslist saying he was looking for a young sex partner, according to an arrest affidavit.

A sex crimes investigator saw the ad, went online posing as a 16-year-old juvenile and busted Jordan when he attempted to meet "the boy" in Hurst, the affidavit states.

"I am shocked and ashamed by the arrest of one of our own for such a horrible crime," Murphree said in a sheriff's office news release. "I am thankful that Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** and his office and the Texas Department of Public Safety conducted this investigation and was able to get a predator off the street."

Murphree, now three months into his second year as sheriff, is a cop's cop. He breathes, sleeps and eats law enforcement. If Murphree is your Facebook friend, you also know he wears his heart on his sleeve. He does not hesitate to say what he thinks.

On the one hand, Murphree's candor and transparency are refreshing. Most elected officials take cues from their lawyers about what they should or should not say publicly when something like the Jordan arrest blindsides them. Murphree, a former Texas Ranger, does not do that.

But we ask this question: Did the sheriff go too far when he referred to Jordan as "a predator?"

It may be an open-and-shut case. We do not know. Still, under the American system of justice, he is innocent until proven guilty. And we need regular reminders of that reality.

Murphree's gung-ho, no-nonsense style is attractive to many people, especially to the conservative Republicans who dominate county politics. When he says he was elected to protect and serve the public, we believe him and trust that he strives to do that every day.

If his last name was Jackson, his first name would be Action. And he is a vast improvement over his predecessor, Will Travis.

With all of that said, he might consider whether his characterization of Jordan as "a predator" was a bit premature.

Load-Date: July 30, 2018



[Denton County sergeant arrested, charged with online solicitation of a minor](#)

The Colony Courier-Leader (Texas)

March 14, 2018

Copyright 2018 Star Local News
Distributed by Newsbank, Inc. All Rights Reserved

Section: THELEADER

Length: 509 words

Byline: Chris Roark

Body

A member of the Denton County Sheriff's Department was arrested and charged with online solicitation of a minor, a second-degree felony, Tuesday.

This was the result of a joint operation between the Tarrant County Sheriff's Department, the Texas Department of Public Safety, the Fort Worth Police Department and the FBI.

Patrol Sgt. Weston Jordan was attempting to meet who he believed to be a 16-year-old boy he met off Craigslist, according to a probable cause affidavit.

The affidavit states investigators set up a profile on Craigslist purporting to belong to a 16-year-old. It stated investigators responded to an ad Tuesday that read "I'm looking for a needy twink" and that the ad belonged to Jordan.

The ad also stated, "I'm near UNT. I will host and you must be able to come to me. Race is no issue, just be slim and smooth, I just prefer just one for regular."

The affidavit states Jordan and the investigator pretending to be a 16-year-old began emailing. The investigator responded, "I'm 16 and white, I live in Hurst" but that he had no car. It stated Jordan said he would pick him up but he would have to spend the night with him.

The two continued to exchange messages, according to the affidavit, and began asking each other what they liked. Jordan asked for a picture of the "16-year-old," who emailed him one. Jordan said he liked the picture, the affidavit stated.

Jordan then asked for an address to where he could pick up the "16-year-old," the affidavit stated. He provided an address on Glenview Drive in Hurst, and Jordan said he would let him know when he was leaving.

The affidavit stated Jordan then asked the "16-year-old" for another photo with the boy holding up a piece of paper that read "Legit 03/13/2018." The investigator sent Jordan that picture, the affidavit stated.



Jordan sent the investigator an email Tuesday night saying he was close. Soon after, DPS officers located Jordan's vehicle and made contact with him. The affidavit stated Jordan told officers he was there to meet an 18-year-old male he met online. It stated officers discovered a piece of paper in Jordan's pocket with the address given to him by the investigator.

Jordan was arrested and later consented to an interview, where he told investigators he met the boy online, he believed he was 18 years old and that the two had conversations about sexual encounters, the affidavit stated.

According to a press release from the Denton County Sheriff's Department, Jordan has been terminated. As of Thursday morning, Jordan was being held in the Tarrant County Jail.

"I am shocked and ashamed by the arrest of one of our own for such a horrible crime," said Denton County Sheriff Tracy Murphree. "Criminal actions by those sworn to serve and protect will not be tolerated. He has brought dishonor to his profession and to his office. He has been terminated, and we are cooperating fully with the investigation. I am thankful that Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** and his office conducted this investigation and was able to get a predator off the street."

Load-Date: March 17, 2018

End of Document

[**These North Texas teachers added Pistol 101 to their training**](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

March 12, 2018 Monday

Copyright 2018 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: state_politics

Length: 542 words

Byline: Diane Smith

Star-Telegram

Dateline: Fort Worth

Body

While a national debate unfolds about whether arming teachers will prevent mass shootings at schools, one North Texas weapons training academy is letting educators test their mettle behind a pistol for free.



"We want to help," said Tim Bulot, owner of Strategic Weapons Academy of Texas in Ennis. The academy recently offered 16 North Texas teachers pistol training during a free session that included how to deal with gunshot trauma.

Bulot said he and his wife came up with the idea during a conversation about arming teachers after the mass shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Florida.

The class was called, "Defensive Pistol Training for Teachers." Information about the class spread via social media and word of mouth.

The issue of arming teachers as a way to make schools safer has been at the forefront since the Feb. 14 shootings in Parkland, Florida. President Donald Trump's latest plans for school safety call for providing "rigorous firearms training" for qualified school employees.

While Trump has touted arming teachers as a viable solution, many in the public are skeptical. For example, a recent NPR poll found that 59 percent of Americans oppose training teachers to carry guns.

Bulot, a tactical sergeant with the Ellis County Sheriff's Office, said for the class everyone left politics at the door and focused on acclimating teachers to handling handguns. They also discussed how the teachers might react in high-stress situation, since many people -- even police officers -- can react in a way they wouldn't expect.

"We taught them as much as we could," Bulot said. "They learned a lot, but there is a lot more to learn."

Kim Raney, a teacher who attended the class, told CBS 11 that the overall issue of school safety is scary.

"We do our best to have security at our schools, but you never know what's going to happen. And it's better to be prepared than not prepared."

Recent media reports about the class, which was held on Saturday, spurred more interest, said Bulot, who wants to add an intermediate session for teachers who participated in the first one, as well as add another introductory class.

"It just exploded," he said, adding that teachers are calling him for more information. "My inbox is jam-packed with emails from all over the place. They just want to learn."

A key part of the lesson was to let teachers find out whether carrying a weapon is a responsibility they want, Bulot said

Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** said arming teachers is just a starting point into a complicated issue.

"While I am not against arming teachers, I am against overburdening that teacher with a heavier responsibility. Our teachers work hard, whether in private or public school," Waybourn said.

In 2013, after the Sandy Hook mass shooting and before he became **sheriff, Waybourn** taught a gun course at Kennedale High School. He said about 700 teachers showed up. But not all of them ended up wanting to be armed in their classrooms, he said.

"There were a lot of teachers after that class that told me, 'I don't need to be carrying the gun. I just realized that.' And that's part of that training. And I call that success," Waybourn said.

Staff writer Jeff Caplan contributed to this report.



Diane Smith, 817-390-7675, @dianeasmith1

Load-Date: March 13, 2018

End of Document

[Group denounces Tarrant County sheriff's participation in immigration program](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

March 8, 2018 Thursday

Copyright 2018 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: fort_worth

Length: 640 words

Byline: Hanaa' Tameez

Star-Telegram

Dateline: Fort Worth

Body

A Fort Worth activist group took aim Thursday at the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office's participation in a voluntary program in which it partners with federal immigration authorities.

About 20 protesters with United Fort Worth gathered downtown in opposition to the sheriff's decision in June 2017 to participate in the program called 287(g). The name refers to a section of the Immigration and Nationality Act that allows state or local law enforcement agencies to partner with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

The protesters were at the Fort Worth Club, where Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** was participating in a panel discussion with Fort Worth Police Chief Joel Fitzgerald and Tristeza Ordez-Ramirez, field representative for U.S. Rep. Marc Veasey, as part of a Hispanic Chamber of Commerce lecture series. Chamber President John Hernandez said at the beginning of the event that it was important to have these conversations in the community.

The immigration program 287(g) gives designated local officers the power to "perform immigration law enforcement functions, provided that the local law enforcement officers receive appropriate training and function under the supervision of ICE officers."



"The Tarrant County's Sheriff's Department is not enforcing immigration laws on the street," Waybourn said. "We're going after the child molester, we're going after the murder suspect. We need a comprehensive immigration reform. Until Congress makes an immigration policy that is truly comprehensive, we're going to have division."

To participate in 287(g), officers must complete a four-week training program and a one-week refresher program every two years at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center ICE Academy in South Carolina.

According to ICE, Tarrant County is one of 75 counties or cities in 20 states that participate in this program. Of the 75, 24 are in Texas.

Mindia Whittier, co-founder of United Fort Worth, said that one of the group's concerns is that 287(g) was agreed upon without public input.

"We're just really disappointed that the county commissioner voted in favor of signing an ICE agreement without having any public discourse about it," Whittier said. "We feel like that alone merits bringing it back to the table for a revote so concerned citizens can hear what the memorandum entails, what the expenses are, and as a community make informed decisions."

Daniel García Rodríguez of United Fort Worth said programs like 287(g) "dehumanize our families."

"This is a lack of leadership from individuals like Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** and the county commissioners court who did not look for community input," García said.

Another concern is that 287(g) is partially funded by taxpayer dollars. While ICE covers the training program, the state and local governments pay most of the costs necessary for the program to work. This includes travel, housing and per diem for officers during training, along with salaries, overtime, other personnel costs and administrative supplies, according to the American Immigration Council.

Whittier said that protesting 287(g) is a way to hold the sheriff's office accountable to the program.

"The thing about 287(g) is that it creates an environment where law enforcement can basically do things behind closed doors and we need to get validation and proof that they are in fact focusing on serious offenders," she said.

During the chamber event, Waybourn and Fitzgerald both emphasized that the point of the program is to respond to concerns about safety and continue providing the same level of security in Fort Worth and Tarrant County.

"We look at community as just that, the entirety of the community," Fitzgerald said. "We need your help. We want to put the message out there that cooperation with us doesn't mean deportation for those who have status outside of citizenship."

Load-Date: March 8, 2018

End of Document

[***Texas doesn't want a 'bad guy' with a gun. But do we do anything about it?***](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)



March 3, 2018 Saturday

Copyright 2018 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: bud_kennedy

Length: 780 words

Byline: Bud Kennedy

Star-Telegram

Dateline: FORT WORTH

Body

We talk about how Texas wants "good guys" to have guns.

But when a good guy turns bad -- what happens then?

Somebody who beats his or her spouse or family members can't legally keep a gun. That's both federal and state law. Same goes for anyone under protective orders.

But that often goes unenforced.

This is important because ever since Charles Whitman killed his wife and mother and went up the University of Texas tower to his sniper's perch in 1966, more than half the mass killings in America have involved a history of family violence.

Fort Worth, Arlington and Tarrant County "lack systems in place for offenders to surrender their firearms," said Kathryn Jacob, president of the local SafeHaven domestic violence shelter.

Sure, there's a piece of paper they might have to sign saying they don't have a gun.

That doesn't mean they won't lie. Or buy a new one.

"Our first mistake is relying on inherently dishonest people -- people who have clear issues with power and control -- to be honest," Jacob said.

"I believe most of us would call these folks a 'bad guy with a gun.'"

Dallas County at least tries to do something.

A "gun surrender program" funded in part by county commissioners and Gov. Greg Abbott's office pays for storing offenders and suspects' guns at the county gun range while that case and any sentence are adjudicated.



Digitizing anger: UTA research could help stop domestic abusers A team at the college in Arlington is working on pinpointing brain signals associated with anger, which could lead to creating a tool that would help domestic violence offenders control their anger.

But because that isn't pushed much in the justice system, only about 100 guns have been stored in three years.

At a press conference Feb, 23, Dallas Mayor Mike Rawlings rallied for more effort to keep guns away from anyone who beats a spouse or family member.

He talked about the how the killer in the November shootings at a Sutherland Springs, Texas, church had a record of assaulting a wife and stepson. The killer in last year's Dallas police shooting had stalked and harassed women in the military.

Some reports describe the man facing charges in the Feb. 14 Parkland, Fla., school shooting as abusive to an ex-girlfriend.

"I do not want another mass shooting in my city," Rawlings said: " ... I do not want one of these domestic violence criminals to walk into a Dallas school, or a Dallas church, and commit a mass murder because we didn't do our job. And they could do that, because they still have guns."

Rawlings wasn't talking about gun control. He was talking about crime control.

"We all agree that the bad guys should not have guns," he said: " ... Everybody I've talked to, everybody agrees to this, so let's make it happen. People who beat their wives, or husbands, or girlfriends, or boyfriends, should not have guns."

Dallas County District Attorney Faith Johnson said for anyone with a domestic violence conviction or case pending, "We're saying to you, we want under the law, we want these guns taken up."

Tarrant County District Attorney Sharen Wilson of Fort Worth has made it a mission to prosecute and punish family or partner violence. (It's worse here than nationally. At one point last year, half of the local murder cases involved a spouse, partner or family member.)

Wilson said through a spokesperson that prosecutors do ask judges for the paperwork showing that an offender or suspect does not have a gun, "but there's not really an enforcement mechanism."

Some states have follow-up checks. Texas doesn't.

County Criminal Court Judge Jamie Cummings' court warns those convicted to no longer keep guns or ammunition, Cummings wrote in an informal email. But because there is no arrangement to accept or store guns, they're not actually turned in anywhere.

Cummings mentioned the possibility of working with Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** toward some sort of program tailored to Tarrant County.

It's not that easy to call for stronger gun enforcement here. I heard one current candidate for judge tell a campaign forum, "I will never take away your guns or your Second Amendment rights."

That's not upholding the law, but the audience cheered.

In Dallas, Rawlings said: "I would suggest that anybody running for judge ... should post tonight on their website that they vow to make sure they get the guns away from these folks."



Ken Shetter of the One Safe Place crime prevention agency said the system relies too much on "the honor and integrity of offenders," then doesn't make compliance easy.

"I don't think we're doing a decent job of making it clear to an offender what they should do, " he said.

Basically, the system just prays every bad guy will turn back into a good guy.

Load-Date: March 4, 2018

End of Document

[Letter to the editor: State lawmakers trampling on local decisions](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

March 2, 2018 Friday

Copyright 2018 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: letters_to_the_editor

Length: 548 words

Byline: Glen Whitley

Star-Telegram

Body

I ran for Tarrant County judge in 2006 on a platform of traditional conservative principles: local control, public safety and more personal freedom.

For the past 10 years, I have watched Austin undermine these conservative values. State leaders rail about local property taxes and blame local elected officials while they reduce the state's share of public education funding and force cities, counties and school districts to pay for unfunded mandates. In an effort to center more control in the capital, state lawmakers are restricting local elected officials' ability to make local quality-of-life decisions.

When it comes to property taxes, public education receives the largest amount. Since 2008, according to the Legislative Budget Board, the state has continually reduced its percentage share of funding public education. Those reductions contribute directly to increases in the tax burden on Texas property owners. Last year, the Legislature passed a budget that balanced only by assuming local school taxes will go up 7.04 percent this tax year and another 6.77 percent next year.



At the same time, local tax dollars have to pay for unfunded state mandates. In 2001, the Legislature passed a law requiring counties to provide lawyers for people charged with crimes who couldn't afford one. The state said it would reimburse the costs, which counties paid out of reserves. At year's end, instead of reimbursing counties dollar for dollar, the state paid pennies on the dollar. The next year counties across Texas had to increase local property taxes to pay for the program. In 2016, property owners statewide paid almost \$200 million of these costs.

As conservatives, we don't like it when Washington passes unfunded mandates on the states. As conservatives, we shouldn't like it when Austin does the same to local government.

Tarrant County remains fiscally conservative. Our tax rate has been below the effective tax rate for five of the last 10 years. This year we plan to collect about 4.3 percent more in property taxes. We put those resources to use for our residents. District Attorney Sharen Wilson has created an Intimate Partner Violence unit to reduce spousal abuse and a unit focused on crimes against the elderly and children. Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** continues a courtesy patrol to help stranded drivers. Many of our justices of the peace work with schools to reduce truancy. We are not required to do these things but choose to do them to improve the quality of life for our residents.

Yes, these local decisions can increase the tax burden on property owners. We accept responsibility for that. But don't blame us for decisions the Legislature makes that increase the tax burden on property owners by billions in the case of public education and hundreds of millions in unfunded mandates.

To reduce the tax burden on property owners, encourage your state elected officials to:

- Recommit state funding of public education to historic levels.
- Reimburse local governments for existing unfunded mandates and prohibit passing new ones.

Local elected officials welcome the opportunity to talk with state leaders to find common ground on these issues and the principle of local control. That's a principle I've never stopped believing in, nor will I stop fighting for it.

Glen Whitley

Load-Date: March 2, 2018

End of Document

[**Teachers packing heat: It's one thing to carry a gun. It's another to pull the trigger**](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

February 23, 2018 Friday

Copyright 2018 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram
Found on DFW.com



Section: politics_government

Length: 1547 words

Byline: Jeff Caplan

Star-Telegram

Body

Antonio Orozco, an ordained minister of 30 years, is at peace preparing Texas teachers to carry out violence to stop violence.

"I have no qualms about using firearms to defend a life of a child or another person," the 67-year-old grandfather from Houston said. "It goes contradictory to what I'm doing, but the facts on the ground dictate to take action."

Debate over arming teachers is raging anew in Texas and across America following the murder of 17 students at a Parkland, Fla., high school, bringing the total to at least 21 killed in school shootings in the first 56 days of 2018.

President Donald Trump continued Friday to hard-sell the necessity for "gun-adept teachers and coaches" to carry concealed firearms on their campuses and in their classrooms.

Rightly so, Orazco said, then pausing for a moment when asked the one question that remains unanswerable: Will a teacher confronted by a killer carrying an AR-15 -- maybe a former student or current one, someone they know, someone young -- shoot "the hell out of him" with a handgun, as Trump suggests, in that cold-blooded split-second awash in adrenaline?

"The question is: Can you do that?" Orazco said. "But you can't ask that first because you'll scare them away."

Orazco is one of about a dozen recent graduates of the School Safety Officer Training program provided by the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement since 2014, in response to the massacre at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn.

Graduates of the program solicit school districts to train teachers and administrators right down to custodial workers in a 16-hour course on how to take charge of protecting students, including the use of a firearm, in the nightmare scenario of an active shooter.

In school districts where it's approved, those who volunteer to carry on campuses pack their firearm along with their lunch before leaving the house. And not a day goes by on the drive to school when they don't contemplate facing their moment of truth.

"I do, and I think all of us who carry have that discussion," said a Texas educator, who spoke about the responsibility of carrying a gun on condition that their name, school and position not be revealed. "I think we all have to be pretty firm that if we believe that someone is trying to hurt students or staff, we are committed to do what it takes to stop that person -- up to shooting them.

"Not all people are cut out for that. You never know until you have to."



At Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Fla., where American's latest nightmare played out, even the armed deputy stationed at the school, proved incapable of rising to the occasion and confronting the accused gunman, a 19-year-old former student.

Teachers return to school.JPG Margarita Lasalle, left, a bookkeeper and Joellen Berman, a guidance data specialist, look at a memorial Friday as teachers and school administrators returned to Stoneman Douglas High School for the first time since 17 victims were killed in a mass shooting at the school, in Parkland, Fla.

"You can train somebody, get them ready, run drills, but when it comes to the moment of pulling the trigger, it's something we don't know until we confront it personally," said Johnny Nhan, associate professor of criminal justice at TCU. "Your body naturally goes into Adrenaline mode, fight or flight mode, and it takes a lot of training to control that."

'Searching your heart'

The Argyle school district, about 30 miles north of Fort Worth, is one of 172 districts in Texas whose school boards voted to allow teachers, administration and other staff to carry concealed weapons, according to the Texas Association of School Boards, with two school boards voting to do so after the Florida shootings.

All must have concealed-carry licenses and go through extensive and ongoing training.

About 150 districts have their own police departments, such as Mansfield, and another 250 districts have school resource officers, such as Fort Worth. The Fort Worth Police Department stations one officer at each of the Fort Worth school district's 21 high schools. Smaller school districts in more rural areas seem to outnumber larger ones in terms of concealed-carry policies because of greater concern for response time.

"All of our teachers that carry have [a gun] on them all the time," Argyle ISD Police Chief Paul Cairney said. "So as soon as something happens, they can immediately respond."

Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** isn't against arming teachers, as Broward County Sheriff Scott Israel said he is during CNN's town hall Wednesday night.

Waybourn said he is an advocate for creating multifaceted plans to better secure schools through restricting access points, improved camera systems and well-trained, armed security officers. However, he said he also realizes it is more cost-effective to arm teachers than to hire professional security or police officers.

Orazco's 16-hour course, he said, costs \$10 an hour per trainee if held at the school, and less if a district opts to train more staff. Waybourn teaching class.JPG When he was police chief in Dalworthington Gardens in 2013, **Bill Waybourn** taught a course about concealed handgun permits to educators. Waybourn is now the sheriff in Tarrant County.

Waybourn said he is concerned that arming teachers only increases their already heavy workloads with the distraction of keeping track of a firearm, and more so, the full-time weight of knowing that one day they might have to brandish it.

"When I teach handgun training or deadly force force training there is a moment in time of searching your heart and searching your mind, can you use deadly force? Can you do it?" Waybourn said. "And by the way, I've had police officers wake up in my career and resign because they realized they couldn't do it. I think that's very commendable."

In 2013, after the Sandy Hook tragedy, Waybourn taught a concealed handgun class for teachers and administrators. Nearly 700 attended.



"I've taught tons of people how to carry weapons and I think there are a larger majority than people know that made a decision, 'I'm glad I took the training, but I can't shoot somebody so I'm not going to carry a gun.'

"It's a spiritual search. If you can't get there, let's not carry a gun."

Meet the AR-15, the weapon of choice in many recent U.S. mass shootings. What is an AR-15? The controversial assault rifle, and other similar firearms, have become the go-to weapon in many of the recent United States mass shootings. Here's how it works and why it concerns some Americans.

'We're not SWAT people'

Schools that allow teachers and staff to carry do not disclose who those are or how many carry on any particular campus.

But signs posted around Argyle schools inform that staff is armed and will take whatever steps necessary to protect students.

"People know the the days of doing nothing, as Chief Cairney said, is past," Argyle Superintendent Telena Wright said. "We believe it is a deterrent, and it does cut down on the response time."

Schools contacted by the Star-Telegram declined interviews with staff that carry, even when assured anonymity for the person and the school.

The Texas educator who did offer a glimpse into the monumental responsibility of carrying and serving as the first line of defense, expressed confidence in being able to pull the trigger.

"Absolutely. I think you have to be of the mindset that you would or else you don't do any good," the person said. "We're not SWAT people, we're not technically trained and ultimately it's the decision of the person if they're comfortable going after someone. I think everyone we have would try to sacrifice themselves to stop someone, but that's not the expectation."

'Can you do that?'

National Education Association president Lily Eskelsen Garcia issued a statement against arming teachers. Steven Poole, the executive director of the United Educators Association, which represents teachers and public school employees in Dallas-Fort Worth, also expressed skepticism.

"You can see from the incident that occurred in Florida -- a trained deputy didn't enter the building -- and we expect teachers to react in a stressful situation," Poole said.

With Trump encouraging qualified teachers to carry, and suggesting those who do should receive bonuses, momentum is building for more school districts everywhere to come to difficult decisions. The debate about arming teachers is likely only to grow more intense on both sides.

Trump shootings 2.JPG President Donald Trump met with high school students, teachers and parents affected by mass shootings at schools in Parkland, Fla., Newton, Conn., and Columbine, Colo., to discuss possible solutions to keep America's school safe. One of Trump's initiatives is to arm teachers.

As school boards continue to consider allowing their administrations, teachers and staff to carry guns, Orazco will welcome them to his training course. And he promises it will encompass the full reality of packing heat at school.



"It's definitely something that they're going to have to come face to face with," he said. "We get them to focus on that and come to the understanding that possibly if there's an intruder, you might have to shoot that person, and, number two, that person might be a student in the school.

"The question is: Can you do that?"

Load-Date: February 27, 2018

End of Document

[Fort Worth has spent millions for jail services through the years. Was it necessary?](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

February 16, 2018 Friday

Copyright 2018 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: ece_incoming

Length: 2109 words

Byline: Deanna Boyd and Sandra Baker

Star-Telegram

Dateline: Fort Worth

Body

A year after being sworn in, Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** has ended a more than 40-year custom of housing prisoners that has cost Fort Worth more than \$80 million and untold dollars for other cities.

Fort Worth and other Tarrant County cities have long footed the bill or paid others to house inmates prior to their charges being accepted by the Tarrant County district attorney's office, despite a 53-year-old law that tasks all Texas counties with that responsibility.

So on Jan. 29, the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office joined Texas' 253 other counties and opened its cell doors to hold everyone accused of Class B misdemeanors or higher after probable cause for the arrest is determined.

Here's the kicker: There's no charge to Fort Worth or other Tarrant County cities.



"There's no additional cost that we're charging the cities to take these prisoners because we're following the law," said David McClelland, Waybourn's chief of staff. "I can't speak to why previous sheriffs haven't followed this law."

The law, on the books since 1965, is Article 2.18 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, which states, "when a prisoner is committed to jail by warrant from a magistrate or court, he shall be placed in jail by the sheriff."

For many years Fort Worth had housed its inmates at the county jail at no charge. But in the mid-1980s, the county started charging the city. When that annual cost was going to balloon to nearly \$9 million in 2001, the city took its jail business to Mansfield.

McClelland said Waybourn, as Dalworthington Gardens' police chief before becoming sheriff in January 2017, had dealt first-hand with the hassles of Tarrant County not following Article 2.18.

"It was something that he wanted to change when he came into office," McClelland said. "It took a little time to figure out the logistics and to get a go-date. And that's what we've been doing."

A 'local legal custom'

So if it's the law, why wasn't Tarrant County doing it before?

Historically, some say for more than 40 years, Tarrant County had been interpreting the law differently, choosing to follow a "local legal custom" rather than the law, county officials said.

"Historically Tarrant County and its municipalities have worked in partnership when dealing with persons arrested by municipal police agencies," G.K. Maenius, Tarrant County administrator, said in a statement Friday. "Former district attorneys and sheriffs had created a system whereby city prisoners would be transported to County jail facilities after charges had been filed by the DA's Office."

Maenius said "the full financial impact of this new approach has not yet been determined."

Said McClelland, "Keep in mind, we were the only country that was not doing this in the state of Texas."

Tarrant County District Attorney Sharen Wilson praised Waybourn for the change.

"Many years ago, a decision was made by County officials, the then-DA, and then-sheriff not to accept prisoners in the county jail until after cases were already filed," Wilson said in a statement released Friday.

"I commend **Sheriff Waybourn** for discontinuing this local legal custom and following the legal statute on this matter of custody," she said, adding, "Our office also fulfills our legal obligation by filing criminal cases without regard to custody status of the person charged."

But don't think for a moment that Fort Worth wasn't aware of the law.

Over the years, Fort Worth has considered suing the county over the issue, but never followed through, said Gerald Pruitt, a deputy city attorney. He also gives Waybourn credit for making the change.

"We certainly looked at that issue," Pruitt said. "I can't tell you there was ever a 'should we.' We certainly told the district attorney and the sheriff we could (sue), but it never happened. Cities in Tarrant County tend to not be horribly litigious with each other. This is more of a get-along kind of place."



Got a few unpaid tickets? Fort Worth is letting a few slide...The Fort Worth Police Department is offering warrant forgiveness for Class C misdemeanors, rather than arresting people with unpaid tickets. Class C misdemeanors include traffic tickets, barking dogs and other minor offenses.

A new magistrate system

Under the change, persons arrested in a Tarrant County city are first brought before a city magistrate, who will determine if there was probable cause for their arrest. Once that's been determined, the law enforcement agency can then immediately bring the inmate to the Tarrant County jail or have the sheriff's office pick up the inmate.

Once in the Tarrant County jail, inmates will go through a screening process and appear before a county magistrate, who will then set bond.

"That has led to a majority of prisoners now being given their warnings and having their bond set by the county magistrates and not municipal magistrates," McClelland said.

The centralized magistrate system was implemented by the county in recent months largely due to recent federal lawsuits filed in Harris and Dallas counties. In the lawsuits, poor inmates claim that the bail system discriminates against them, keeping them stuck in jail while others charged with similar crimes are released simply because they have money to post bond.

On Wednesday, the Fifth Circuit Appeals Court in New Orleans ruled in the Harris County case that the way bonds were being set there are unconstitutional. That ruling will likely set precedent in North Texas.

Under the new centralized system in Tarrant County, county magistrates now determine a person's bond based on risk, financial assessments and a person's history of appearing in court -- not based on recommended guidelines.

"There's this basic confusion out in the public that bond is some type of punishment for a crime," said Gregory Shugart, Tarrant County Court administrator. "All it really is is, Are you going to show up to court or not?"

'Better control of jail population'

So far, McClelland said there has not been a large increase in the jail population because the new process for appearing before magistrates is quickening the time that inmates are being released on bond. On a recent day, the jail booked in 162 people and let 179 people out, he said.

"We had a little spike when we first started two weeks ago, but it's started to level out at this point," McClelland said. "You've got to think there was an extra 100 and something prisoners sitting in city jails all across Tarrant County that were eligible to come over immediately. Originally, when we started, there was backlog because of the influx of people but the process streamlined and got smoother. We have minimized any type of backlog drastically."

Tarrant County jails can hold up to 5,002 people. Daily populations, McClelland said, are now hovering around 3,800 to 3,900 inmates. Average cost per inmate is about \$113 a day, he said.

County officials also tout that by bringing in inmates in earlier, they get quicker access to pre-trial and MHMR services.

"We're going to have better control of our jail population and actually we'll have a bigger and better opportunity to divert people from jail rather than keeping them in jail," Waybourn told the Commissioner's



Court in November in outlining the change. "That's the bottom line, because we have the services and the abilities that municipalities don't have."

The sheriff's office hasn't asked for additional funding to pay for the recent change, but there has been some associated costs incurred by Tarrant County.

In January, Tarrant County hired two full-time magistrates and two screening officers at an annual cost of more than \$500,000. The county already had four full-time and one part-time magistrate.

"We were doing about 724 hours of magistrations a year," Shugart said. "We have now dedicated over 5,000 hours of magistrations time."

Shugart said about 80 percent of Tarrant County's cities are now using the county's centralized magistrate system.

Some cities, like North Richland Hills, are still using their city magistrates to set bonds. Shugart said the county plans to meet with municipal judges in hopes of bringing more cities on board.

Hitler's in, national parks are out. Strangest banned and allowed books in Texas prisons
The Texas prison system has an inconsistent method of deciding which books are allowed in the state prisons. The books are scanned by mail room attendants for violent or otherwise inappropriate content. Several banned books have similar permitted versions and some of the outlawed literature just doesn't make sense. Take a look at the ten most surprising books you can have in Texas prisons and the ten most surprising banned titles.

'Anticipate a much smaller contract'

Between 1985 and late 2001, Fort Worth paid Tarrant County to house arrestees before charges were filed.

But when Tarrant County wanted to move to a per-prisoner pricing, Fort Worth officials decided they could save money signing a deal to instead incarcerate their detainees in Mansfield. They signed a 5-year, \$16 million contract with Mansfield.

Though Fort Worth and Tarrant County have talked throughout the years about a possible new jail deal, the talks always failed. Instead, Fort Worth continued to contract with Mansfield. In 2006, the city signed a contract with Mansfield for annual jail services for 10 years. In the end, the contract cost the city about \$50 million.

In 2016, Fort Worth signed a one-year contract for just under \$7 million. And in September, the council approved paying Mansfield more than \$7.4 million for one year of detention and related services. The money is paid out of the Crime Control and Prevention District budget.

Under the recent change made by the Sheriff's Office, Mansfield is still processing detainees for Fort Worth at the city's holding facility at 350 W. Belknap Street, but only houses offenders accused of Class C misdemeanors at the Mansfield jail.

Pruitt said Fort Worth is still obligated to pay Mansfield, but plans to review the contract under the changes.

He said Fort Worth is now looking at the savings it will gain from the change, not only in what it could pay Mansfield but also in not being required to have as many magistrates. Pruitt said the city doesn't yet have its hands around the impact.

"This is going to have a significant effect on a number of aspects of our holding facility," Pruitt said. "We anticipate a much smaller contract. We'll see how this evolves."



City Manager David Cooke told the City Council at its recent retreat that the budget savings won't happen until 2019.

"With this new magistration with the county ... we are expecting the jail contract to go down," Cooke said.

'We haven't lost anything'

Sgt. Michael Midkiff, a spokesman for Mansfield police, said while the agency is housing fewer arrestees from Fort Worth, the Mansfield jail is still in contracts to house arrestees from Burleson and Kennedale, as well as some federal inmates.

"We haven't lost anything. We still have the contracts with Burleson, Kennedale, still have federal contracts," he said.

He said the agency could explore housing additional inmates from other federal sources to offset any loss of Fort Worth inmates.

Some of the smaller cities don't think the change will help or hurt them.

Hillary Wreay, Colleyville's interim assistant police chief, said Colleyville will continue to pay Keller for jail services. Keller expanded its jail in 2014 to house inmates from Colleyville, Keller, Southlake and Westlake.

"We're still doing the same thing we've always done," Wreay said. "We're still using them the same way we are. We don't have the manpower to drive to Tarrant County to drop prisoners off."

In 2011, North Richland Hills consolidated jail services with Watauga, Haltom City and Richland Hills.

Richland Hills Police Chief Barbara Childress said her officers will continue to transport prisoners to North Richland Hills. She said Tarrant County had been picking up prisoners about three times a week, but that will likely change to every day now.

"It's not going to be different for us," Childress said. "It's not going to impact us at all."

Carissa Katekaru, a spokesman for North Richland Hills, acknowledged that the number of prisoner pickups from the county has increased, which has affected their overall jail population.

"The protocol with the county is very new and it is too early to make any decisions or judgments as to how this will affect our jail services or any financial impact we may see," Katekaru said. "Our plan is to evaluate this over a period of time and study any impacts before making any changes to our jail operations."

Deanna Boyd: 817-390-7655, @deannaboyd

Sandra Baker: 817-390-7727, @SandraBakerFWST

Load-Date: February 19, 2018

End of Document

[***Why do the Republicans who want to replace Joe Barton in Congress keep talking about him?***](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)



February 16, 2018 Friday

Copyright 2018 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: texas

Length: 2159 words

Byline: Anna M. Tinsley

Star-Telegram

Body

For the first time in three decades, voters in the 6th Congressional District won't see Joe Barton's name on the ballot this year.

And that's just fine with nearly a dozen Republicans who hope to replace the longtime retiring congressman as the Republican Party's nominee for that post.

"This is the first time in a generation we can elect a new member of Congress from this district," said J.K. "Jake" Ellzey, one of 11 Republicans in the GOP primary race. "People should educate themselves."

The Republicans, along with five Democrats, all hope to win their party's nomination in the March 6 primary and make it to the November general ballot, giving them a fair shot at replacing Barton, who has represented this district since 1985.

"It makes sense that there would be a lot of interest ... given that Barton has been in office for so long," said Kyle Kondik, managing editor for Larry J. Sabato's Crystal Ball at the University of Virginia Center for Politics.

He believes the district will stay in the R column come November, but notes that "open seats sometimes see a big swing to the other party in midterm wave years, though, so I don't think one can totally rule out the Democrats making a play here if the cycle breaks in their favor. "

At stake is a two-year term that pays \$174,000 a year representing a district that includes part of east and southwest Fort Worth, most of Arlington and Mansfield and all of Ellis and Navarro counties. Barton -- who came under fire last year for a nude photo shared online and private messages with sexual overtones with a female constituent -- announced in November that he would not seek another term in office. There are 11 Republicans in the race -- J.K. "Jake" Ellzey, Deborah Gagliardi, Ron Wright, Mark Mitchell, Troy Ratterree, Mel Hassell, Shawn Dandridge, Kevin Harrison, Ken Cope, Shannon Dubberly and Thomas Dillingham. The winner will face off against the winner of the Democratic primary. In that race, five candidates -- Ruby Faye Woolridge, Jana Lynne Sanchez, Levii R. Shocklee, John W. Duncan and Justin Snider -- are seeking their party's nomination. Early voting for the March 6 primary runs from Tuesday to March 2. Here's a look at the Republicans in this race. High profile Two of the highest-profile Republicans in this race are Wright, the 64-



year-old Tarrant County tax assessor-collector who once worked for Barton, and Ellzey, a 48-year-old retired Navy pilot. Wright, of Arlington, has a lengthy public service resume and said he wants to continue his work in Congress. "CD 6 has been my home for over 40 years and I have served as a volunteer, city councilman and tax assessor-collector," Wright said. "My record includes standing up for property rights, the precious right to life and against raising taxes. I understand the needs of the people of CD 6 and will fight for them in Washington." Now in his second term as the county's tax assessor-collector, he had to resign the post to seek the congressional seat but will serve until a replacement is elected. Through the years, Wright -- who served four terms on the Arlington City Council before working in Barton's office -- has made headlines for referring to Hitler while cutting ties to the United Way and adding the motto, "In God We Trust" to county documents. If elected, his top priorities would include securing the border, immigration reform, tax reform and preserving life and liberty. He picked up a slew of endorsements, including those from state Sen. Konni Burton, R-Colleyville; several local House members; Arlington Mayor Jeff Williams; and Tarrant County officials such as Judge Glen Whitley, Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** and District Attorney Sharen Wilson. Ellzey, an airline pilot and small-business owner from Midlothian, said he has been called to public service his entire life and being elected to this post is another way to continue that work. Key issues in this race, he said, include border security, veteran care, illegal immigration, national security and "the unelected bureaucracy which stifles our economy." If elected, he wants to make sure "the voters know I serve only them and establish a reputation of honor and dignity in my conduct in the Capitol," as well as working to restore "faith in Congress." He said he has "a lifetime of public service and a dedication to giving back to the country which I'm blessed to live in." Ellzey, a member of the Texas Veterans Commission who unsuccessfully ran for the Texas House District 10 seat in 2014, has been endorsed by former Texas Gov. Rick Perry. "Jake will serve with honor and dignity as a congressman for the 6th District," Perry said. "And he will legislate according to the original intent of the Founding Fathers." A recent report showed that Ellzey failed to file a personal financial statement with the House Ethics Committee on time. "I am not a politician, and that is evident of me not getting this paperwork done on time," Ellzey told InsideSources. "I dropped the ball on this one. It's entirely my responsibility and entirely my fault. We will owe a \$200 late filing fee." Previous candidates Mitchell, a 62-year-old doctor, attorney, homebuilder and small-business owner from Fort Worth, is making his fifth bid for public office because he's frustrated with what's going on in Washington. "As a medical doctor, I understand public service, the healthcare industry and insurance," he said. "I know the ins and outs of medical practice. I also have been trained in health policy and grasp the dilemmas of healthcare policy questions and solutions to the complex issues. We need to repeal Obamacare, but if that does not happen, I know how to fix the healthcare problem." He said key issues in this race include whether voters want truly conservative leadership or politics as usual. "I am a fighter and will fight for the conservative values of the people of District 6," he said. "Politics-as-usual and career politicians have brought us to this place at this time. Washington, as usual, the government shutdown and the corruption and dissension of our legislators is disgusting. They should be ashamed of wasting our time and dollars." Cope, a 64-year-old retired Army lieutenant colonel and retired aerospace executive from Arlington, said he's in the race to give voters a real choice. In 2014, he unsuccessfully ran for the U.S. Senate. "The people of Congressional District 6 have not been served well in recent years because an entrenched incumbent stopped devoting himself to their best interests," he said. "I will serve their interests and pledge to term-limit myself, if elected, to a maximum of three terms, or six years." Key issues in the race, he said, include the Texas high-speed rail bullet train project, which he calls a "boondoggle" that could "rip apart Ellis and Navarro counties and will adversely affect Tarrant County taxpayers as well." And if elected, he said a top goal is passing legislation "that would require all members of Congress to be subject in every way to the same laws that apply to every other American. People are tired of seeing our elected officials hold themselves above the rest of us." Business leaders Gagliardi, a 56-year-old engineer/contractor/architect from Arlington, has been a longtime critic of Barton. "I have been appalled that so many accepted his sexting of women for years," said Gagliardi, a precinct chair for nearly 20 years and past unsuccessful Arlington City Council candidate. "It was common knowledge. The fact that he reached



out prior to the story hitting the press to pass the baton is even more offensive. The enabling of the abuse is not acceptable; covering it up is even worse. Citizens deserve an honest election."She said she's the best candidate because she knows how to work on time and on budget and has worked on infrastructure and development projects, with the military and on veterans medical facilities."Openness and proper spending of our tax dollars" are top issues in the race, she said, adding that her priorities if elected include "open government and representation. No pay-to-play, no slush funds, full disclosure of cost and programs. It is time to weed out the programs designed to magnify a problem for profit."Ratterree, a 54-year-old CEO of Compressed Air Systems Llc., from Rendon, is making his first bid for office because -- after successfully fighting back Department of Energy regulations that would have devastated his company -- he wants to be a voice for other small-business owners."There is a dire need for experienced business leaders to get involved in Washington, D.C., and change the culture of American politics," said Ratterree, who often goes by the nickname "Big Troy." "We need to defeat career politicians and elect individuals who will serve our country. I will only serve four years in Congress to be certain I do not grow webbed feet and get comfortable in the swamp that the United States Capitol has become."Key issues in this race, which he hopes to address if elected, include national security, student loans, immigration reform, term limits and congressional approval for regulations proposed by regulatory agencies."The threats to small businesses from our regulatory agencies must be stopped," he said. "There are many, many more American jobs I can save from under regulation. Elect me and I will work to bring those jobs home to America and the 6th District of Texas and your family."First timersSeveral candidates in this race are making their first bids for public office. Among them:Harrison, a 51-year-old pastor and college founder from Mansfield, who said he's running for office because God wants him to."I have a grave concern regarding the moral fabric of our leadership in Congress, and rather than talk or complain about it, I've decided to do something to be a part of making a change," he said. "Washington is broken and we need leaders who will help restore the moral compass of America."Key issues in this race, which he would address if elected, include national security, term limits, the national debt, immigration reform and healthcare. "Everything I've done in my life has been to honor and please God," he said. "I'm not looking for a 'position' as a congressman; I already have a fulfilling career. District 6, Texas and America need someone who will stand up and fight for what is right and who is in touch with the needs of everyday people. I'm that person."Dubberly, a 36-year-old IT project manager from Fort Worth who touts his experience in counterterrorism, said he is in this race because he's tired of business-as-usual in Congress."We need congressmen/congresswomen who aren't afraid to stand up to the swamp," he said. "This district is important to me, to the future of Texas and to our country. ... In politics today, we need fresh perspective, not more of the same. We need real world experience, not recycled office holders."He points to time he spent working with the Army and Air Force, as well as his ability to be a problem solver, as important attributes. Key issues in this race, he said, include national security experience, immigration and a fresh perspective. "The biggest issues this office faces are the people's loss of faith in the ethics of their congressional leader and the looming deficit," he said. "I will bring 6th District ethics to D.C. and use my family and faith to keep my eyes focused on the issues at hand -- not the circus surrounding the city."Dandridge, a network engineer in Arlington who declined to give his age, is running for office because he thinks "our political system is completely corrupt and does nothing for the people in its present form."He said he has a good skill set that includes military service and past time as an IT expert.The top issue in the race, he said, is getting "someone in office that will work for the people and not for the establishment or sell out to the lobbyists on K Street. We need someone who will stand up to the Democratic Party and if need be, the people in the Republican Party as well. We don't need another doormat like Joe Barton being elected in the 6th District."If elected, he said he would work on immigration reform, the "woefully broken" Veterans Affairs system and reducing spending on entitlement programs "which are sucking us dry year after year."Dillingham, a 43-year-old technology consultant from North Richland Hills, also is in the race."Facebook drove me out of business because I am a Trump supporter, so I quite honestly have nothing better to do," he said, adding that if elected, his top priorities would be "pushing the America-first agenda (and) updating the telecommunications act to protect freedom of speech



on social media."He notes that he's never said he was the best candidate. "But I talk straight, am open-minded and hope to help advance the America-first agenda," he said.

Hassell did not respond to Star-Telegram requests for information.

Anna Tinsley: 817-390-7610, @annatinsley

Load-Date: February 17, 2018

End of Document

[Campaign for this Texas House seat turns nasty and costly, drawing more than \\$500,000](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

February 9, 2018 Friday

Copyright 2018 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: election

Length: 1684 words

Byline: Anna M. Tinsley

Star-Telegram

Dateline: FORT WORTH

Body

The fight for House District 99 is on.

Once again, the contest for this seat has become a marquee battle -- pitting two men whose families have been longtime friends -- that tips the scales at more than a half million dollars.

State Rep. Charlie Geren, R-Fort Worth, has represented this district since 2001 and is seeking another term in office; Bo French, who unsuccessfully ran against Geren two years ago, is back on the ballot.

So far, the fiery fight for this district involves hundreds of thousands of dollars, a lawsuit and peace officer concerns about a fake Facebook page created two years ago.

"The Geren name is an institution in Fort Worth," said Harvey Kronberg, publisher of the Quorum Report, an Austin-based online political newsletter. "But this is a pretty anti-institutional period in the Republican Party."



Geren notes that he bested French by 16 percentage points two years ago.

"I expect to probably win by that margin again," said Geren, a lieutenant of outgoing House Speaker Joe Straus. "Empower Texas and some others will beat me up as not being conservative enough.

"They tried it before," the 68-year-old said. "But I think the people in District 99 know me. I think I've done a good job."

French, 48, disagrees.

"One of the main issues is that Charlie tells everyone he is a conservative and is fighting for our conservative values," French said in a written statement. "Yet, on many important issues this session, Charlie teamed up with all the Democrats to either block or water down major reforms."

He provided no proof of Geren joining with Democrats.

But he added that he first "ran for this seat because, after years of voting for Charlie Geren, I looked at his record and realized I had been duped. The liberal establishment is in my cross-hairs and I plan on fighting them with a conservative agenda."

The two men and their prominent families have long run in the same circles; Geren's parents lived across the street from French's grandparents.

Some say this battle offers voters now, as it did two years ago, a chance to choose between an experienced lawmaker who knows how to negotiate and a political newcomer promising a more conservative approach.

Geren recently won the 2018 Tarrant County Candidate Fair Straw Poll for this race.

The two now face off in the March 6 Republican primary to determine who will represent the district that stretches from Fort Worth to Pelican Bay and from River Crest to Azle. The winner faces Democrat Michael Stackhouse in the November general election.

At stake is a two-year term that pays \$7,200 a year.

Early voting runs from Feb. 20- March 2.

The lawsuit

This race was thrust into the spotlight last year, after French and his wife, Sheridan, filed a lawsuit in December -- one week before the filing period for the 2018 election ended -- alleging that false accusations of child abuse were made against him during the 2016 primary election campaign.

This lawsuit seeks less than \$100,000 from David T. Sorensen, who the suit claims is a "professional political operative" who worked on behalf of Geren last year.

The lawsuit alleges that Sorensen anonymously triggered a Child Protective Services investigation by making false allegations that "Bo French was abusing and neglecting his young children," which hurt the family, their reputation and likely the political campaign, according to the lawsuit.

Geren said he didn't know anything about the CPS complaint until he read preliminary court filings about it.

Earlier this month, French sent out an email to supporters, letting them know a judge ruled that Sorensen must testify about the issue by Feb. 23.



"Sorenson's testimony on the matter will potentially reveal who was involved in this attack on my family, and his lawyers have been working feverishly to delay his testimony until after the March 6th GOP primary election," French wrote in his email. "My family has been seeking justice through the courts on this matter since June of 2017 and we are very encouraged by (the) ruling.

"At last, this paid political operative for my opponent will have to testify as to what he knows about the malicious and fraudulent attack on my family."

Less than two weeks after the lawsuit was filed, three North Texas law enforcement groups took French to task for an anonymous Facebook page created during the 2016 GOP primary runoff for Tarrant County sheriff.

At issue was the "Thiefbillwaybourn" Facebook page that made allegations of improprieties during the 2016 runoff between former Dalworthington Gardens Police Chief **Bill Waybourn** and then-Sheriff Dee Anderson. Waybourn won.

The three groups say evidence shows that the page, which no longer exists, was linked to French.

"Texas law prohibits the impersonation of a peace officer, and Mr. French owes every officer who wears the uniform an explanation for his intemperate actions," according to the statement by the presidents of the Dallas and Arlington police associations and the Tarrant County Law Enforcement Association.

French has said this issue is a political "ploy" by the Geren campaign.

The incumbent

Geren, owner of the Railhead Smokehouse and president of the LGS Godley Ranch, has represented the district since 2001.

"I have the experience to get things done in Austin," said Geren, who heads the influential House Administration Committee.

Geren, who has long supported a business-friendly Legislature, often works behind the scenes to move issues forward, most recently last year to gain new funding for colleges and help craft the so-called "sanctuary cities" measure. He's long touted the need for transparency in government, which is spilling over now to property tax reform.

"I want to be around to see the public school finance system fixed," Geren said. "And appraisal reform is critical so that we are not taxing people out of their homes. We've got to fix that. We need to see that through."

Some have maintained through the years that Geren -- one of the "Gang of Eleven" Republicans who worked with Democrats in 2009 to oust then-House Speaker Tom Craddick from office and replace him with Straus -- is not conservative enough.

"I think the people know me," said Geren, whose campaign website states "never surrender or retreat."

If re-elected, Geren will be the last of the "Anybody But Craddick" Republicans still in the Texas House.

Geren said he's been asked by some constituents about the CPS case with the French family. And he said he tells them the truth, that he knew nothing about the issue until documents were filed in court last year.



"If I'd known something about it, I would have fired the guy on the spot," he said, adding that his campaign is not bringing up the issue this year. "It would not be an issue in this campaign had they not made it an issue in this campaign.

"I've never talked to CPS and I'm not going to," Geren said. "He's the one who is using it for political reasons. Not (me). And I'm not going to."

Geren has \$314,670 in cash on hand and no outstanding loans, according to campaign finance records filed this year with the Texas Ethics Commission..

His campaign bankroll includes \$25,000 from the Hillco PAC; \$15,000 from the TREPAC/Texas Association of Realtors; \$10,000 from the AT&T Texas PAC; \$6,500 from the QPAC, a committee of Fort Worth investment banker Geoffrey Raynor; and \$10,000 each from the Good Government Fund and the PSEL-PAC, political action committees run by Fort Worth's wealthy Bass family.

The challenger

French, a 48-year-old rancher/private equity investor, challenged and lost to Geren two years ago.

At the time, French, who had served as a chief officer of the late Navy SEAL Chris Kyle's tactical training company Craft International, drew attention for ending up in court in 2014 arguing with Kyle's widow, Taya Kyle, about the future of the company. A lawsuit filed against French and his partner was ultimately dropped.

He said he's the real conservative in the race and his campaign has knocked on nearly 9,000 doors trying to spread the word.

"Fort Worth is a small town and many of us run in the same circles," French said. "My hope was that both of us would stick to policy differences so I was saddened at the nasty turn he took with the dishonest attack ads. Then there was the false CPS allegation.

"That is the kind of thing no one should tolerate, even from a family member. So, I am confident when the truth is known, even family members will distance themselves from that kind of grotesque behavior. For me this is not personal. I believe this district wants actual conservative representation, not liberal-lobbyist, special-interest influenced Democrat-lite representation like we have now."

When asked about his top priorities if elected to this office, French said it would be to "restore conservative representation to HD99."

French has \$220,707 on hand and owes more than \$56,000 in outstanding loans, campaign finance records show.

His campaign coffers include \$210,000 from Empower Texans PAC, an influential conservative group that has worked for years trying to move the Legislature to the right; \$25,000 from S Javaid Anwar, president and CEO of Midland Energy Inc.; \$25,000 from the Austin-based New Leadership PAC which is working to oust Straus and his top lieutenants; \$1,000 from the NE Tarrant Tea Party PAC; and \$5,000 from Kyle L. Stallings, a Midland energy executive.

His political expenses lists several bills totaling nearly \$90,000 to the Dykema Gossett PLLC law firm for "legal fees associated to false CPS report by Geren campaign."

"I spent this money personally and not out of campaign funds," French said. "This was a political attack and would not have happened had I not been running against Charlie Geren. Should I win, I will be able to reimburse myself for these costs."



Anna Tinsley: 817-390-7610, @annatinsley

House District 99 Two Republicans -- incumbent state Rep. Charlie Geren and Bo French -- are facing off for the GOP nomination. The winner faces Democrat Michael Stackhouse in the November general election. The best way to contact the two candidates: French -- Email: bo@bofrench.com. Geren -- Contact charliegeren.com

Load-Date: February 9, 2018

End of Document

[Critics blast decision to include Abbott in Arlington MLK parade](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

January 5, 2018 Friday

Copyright 2018 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: politex_blog

Length: 880 words

Byline: Anna M. Tinsley

Star-Telegram

Body

The announcement that Gov. Greg Abbott will serve as the honorary grand marshal of a Martin Luther King Jr. parade in Arlington on Jan. 15 quickly sparked criticism from some locals.

A number of Democrats took to Facebook to register their protest to Abbott's inclusion in the upcoming Toyota North Texas Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Parade & Celebration.

"Do we boycott or do we show up to protest? The choice of Greg Abbott mocks the heritage of Martin Luther King Jr and of the struggle for human rights," posted Nancy Bean, a Democrat running for Texas House District 93.

Tarrant County Democratic Party Chair Deborah Peoples also weighed in. "What was the thought behind inviting these people who don't care about us!" she posted on Facebook. "The organizers of the parade should uninvite Greg Abbott! The parade taints the whole weekend."

The Arlington National Association for the Advancement of Colored People put out a statement noting that they do not support the parade.



"It is the firm opinion of the Arlington NAACP that the selection of Governor Greg Abbott as Honorary Grand Marshal of any event honoring Dr. King stings with hypocrisy. As we review his career and public service, it is fair to say that Greg Abbott has done more to damage and undermine African-American and Latino civil and voter rights, educational opportunities and economic empowerment than any other modern-day Texas Governor," the statement read.

Arlington officials plan to hold a town hall meeting at the Greater Missionary Baptist Church in Arlington at 7 p.m. Thursday to "discuss the question of what shall be done in response to Gov. Abbott riding in the Tarrant County MLK parade as Honorary Grand Marshal." The church is at 126 E. Park Row Drive in Arlington.

Winsor Barbee, the media contact for the Toyota parade, said she's aware of the criticism about the governor's participation.

"We have heard," she said. "It's from a lot of the minority community activists."

But she emphasized that this parade, which represents six counties -- Tarrant, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Kaufman and Collin -- is a regional celebration and geared to be inclusive. It kicks off at 10 a.m. and will start at AT&T Way and Cowboys Way.

But it isn't meant to overshadow other MLK Jr. celebrations.

Barbee noted that other local parades will continue, such as the Fort Worth parade scheduled downtown at 11 a.m. Jan. 15.

"We wouldn't expect otherwise," Barbee said. "We want as much exposure in North Texas for MLK Jr. as we can get. This is to engage, give something for all the people."

For more information about the Toyota MLK Day parade in Arlington, go online to www.northtexasmilk.com.

Fort Worth MLK Jr. Day Parade Hundreds of North Texans lined the streets of Fort Worth to celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and his legacy. (January 18, 2016.) Video by Andrea Ahles

Early endorsements

Endorsements recently began flaring up on the GOP side of the race to replace Ennis Republican U.S. Rep. Joe Barton in the 6th Congressional District.

Soon after the new year rang in, Republican Jake Ellzey announced an endorsement from former Texas Gov. Rick Perry, and Tarrant County Tax Assessor Collector Ron Wright, a former Barton chief of staff, fired back with a list of nearly 20 endorsements from Tarrant County leaders.

There is a crowded field of candidates hoping to represent CD 6 and replace Barton, who announced -- after coming under fire for a nude photo and private messages with sexual overtones he exchanged with a female constituent -- that he wouldn't seek re-election.

Among those in the race: Republicans Ellzey, Wright, Deborah Gagliardi, Mark Mitchell, Troy Ratterree, Mel Hassell, Craig Walker, Shawn Dandridge, Kevin Harrison, Adrian Mizher, Ken Cope, Shannon Dubberly and Thomas Dillingham. Democrats in the race: Ruby Faye Woolridge, Jana Lynne Sanchez, Levii R. Shocklee, John W. Duncan and Justin Snider.



Perry cited several reasons for supporting Ellzey, including noting that he "will serve with honor and dignity as a Congressman for the 6th District, and he will legislate according to the original intent of the Founding Fathers."

Among the endorsements for Wright: state Sen. Konni Burton; state Reps. Tony Tinderholt, Bill Zedler, Matt Krause, Craig Goldman and Stephanie Klick; Tarrant County Judge Glen Whitley; Tarrant County Commissioners Gary Fickes and Andy Nguyen; Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn**; Tarrant County District Attorney Sharen Wilson; Tarrant County District Clerk Tom Wilder; Tarrant County Clerk Mary Louise Garcia; Arlington Mayor Jeff Williams; Mansfield Mayor David Cook; and Dalworthington Gardens Mayor Kimberly Fitzpatrick.

Looking ahead

The March 6 primary election is the next time Texans can cast ballots.

But work already is going on behind the scenes to line up candidates for the May 5 local election. Filing for that election has begun and runs through Feb. 16.

Local voters will be able in May to weigh in on everything from a \$399.5 million bond package in Fort Worth to city council posts in cities such as Arlington and Mansfield and school board races in districts stretching from Birdville to Everman and Kennedale.

Anna Tinsley: 817-390-7610, @annatinsleyGov. Abbott wants a bathroom bill in TexasGov. Greg Abbott asks Texans to "calmly" review bathroom bill.

Load-Date: January 8, 2018

End of Document

[Sex talk led to harassment claims, firing or discipline for sheriff's officers](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

January 5, 2018 Friday

Copyright 2018 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: fort_worth

Length: 2394 words

Byline: Anna M. Tinsley

Star-Telegram



Body

Editor's note: This article includes graphic language.

FORT WORTH -- The comment came in casual conversation, when a female officer who worked at a Tarrant County jail asked her boss what he did on weekends.

The reply was jolting, when Cpl. Christopher Minor allegedly told the woman, his subordinate, that "I sit in my bed all weekend and jack off."

Not long after that, in 2014, the woman claimed Minor told her she was assigned to shakedown so she would have to remove her coat and "not hide her butt" under it.

She filed a sexual harassment complaint, which eventually was dismissed for lack of evidence.

Minor denied making inappropriate comments, according to a report by the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office Internal Affairs Division, saying "he has never made any sexual comments like those alleged by (the female officer) to anyone while at work or in his personal life."

In July 2017, another complaint -- not for sexual harassment -- was filed against Minor, who had been promoted to sergeant.

This time, Minor, who is black, was accused of calling black female officers a variety of names, including "little chocolate girl," "hot chocolate" and "dark chocolate." He was also accused of having a sexual relationship with women he supervised.

The complaint that Minor failed "to demonstrate professional behavior" also noted another female officer's claims that, when she occasionally wore makeup or lipstick, Minor would say: "I used to be with prostitutes like you overseas" or "the male inmates are going to have a ball tonight. That's why they are always jacking off because you are looking like that."

Minor admitted calling two officers "hot chocolate" and "little chocolate girl," but denied having inappropriate relationships with subordinates.

He was fired in September and is appealing the termination, said Terry S. Boone, a staff attorney with the Combined Law Enforcement Associations of Texas who is representing Minor.

"When you look at intent, Christopher Minor certainly wasn't trying to sexually harass anyone," Boone said. "In his current case, there's not even a statement regarding sexual harassment. ... It was about his supervisory skills.

"We do not believe those charges to be well-founded."

'One case of harassment is too many'

Though he wasn't terminated for the sexual harassment accusation, the 2014 complaint against Minor is one of eight sexual harassment claims filed in Tarrant County -- all from the Sheriff's Office -- since 2014, according to nearly 100 pages of documents obtained by the Star-Telegram through an open records request.



"We think one case of harassment is too many," said David McClelland, chief of staff for Sheriff **Bill Waybourn**, who took office in January 2017, replacing Dee Anderson. "We expect the highest level of conduct from our employees at all times and we will not tolerate sexual harassment in any form from our team members."

Of the eight complaints filed since 2014, four were declared unfounded or dismissed for lack of evidence. Of the other four, one employee was temporarily suspended, one resigned instead of getting fired and two received written disciplines.

Tarrant County jailSome of the sexual harassment claims have come officers working at Tarrant County jails.

Four of those named in complaints no longer work for the sheriff's department. Four still do, county records show.

"Obviously we wished we lived in a world that these things never happened," McClelland said.

Officers who filed the complaints, or were named in them, declined to comment, did not respond to requests from the Star-Telegram or could not be reached for comment.

Boone, who has represented several local deputies through the years, said he believes the complaints need to be put in context.

"Part of the issue within the sheriff's department is that there is a culture," he said. "You are in a high-stress environment when working in a jail. People tend to joke and play around in those sort of situations. ... People tend to forget their boundaries.

"Someone you have played and joked with ... (may) one day feel that your patting them on the shoulder crosses a boundary and they are offended," Boone said. "If you work in a jocular environment, where people kid with each other, the question always is: 'Did you cross the line? Did you start behaving differently? Was there something different that time?' "

The women who made the complaints are not being identified. And the Star-Telegram is only identifying the officers involved in complaints that investigators determined to be true.

'Who is more believable?'

In recent months, sexual harassment or assault allegations have been talked about nationwide, prompting the #MeToo movement on social media and even spurring the dismissal of high-profile figures such as Hollywood producer Harvey Weinstein, actor Kevin Spacey, NBC's Matt Lauer, CBS' Charlie Rose and TV Chef Mario Batali.

Allegations of sexual misconduct prompted the resignation of politicians -- or announcements that officeholders would not seek another term -- ranging from Democratic U.S. Sens. Al Franken of Minnesota and John Conyers of Michigan to U.S. Rep. Blake Farenthold, R-Corpus Christi.

"The biggest solution is having ... society talk more openly about this secret," said Christine Williams, a sociology professor at the University of Texas in Austin. "The deck is always stacked against the complainant. It's a case of one person says this, one person says that -- and who is more believable?"

But now that more people are talking about the issue, and offenders are being held accountable for their behavior, Williams said more people may come forward with complaints even in male-dominated arenas.



Al Franken file Sen. Al Franken, D-Minn., is one of the politicians who has announced he will resign following claims of sexual harassment.

"Law enforcement is one of the arenas that hasn't really changed a lot over time," Williams said. "Sexual harassment is almost like a method some use to preserve male-only spaces in the workplace. On the other hand, this happens in nearly every occupation."

Boone acknowledged that, due to the spotlight shining on the issue of sexual harassment or assault, "there is a heightened sensitivity to workplace conduct (that) has had an effect on the sheriff's department."

There was a chilling effect in the 1990s, Williams said, after Anita Hill accused then-U.S. Supreme Court nominee Clarence Thomas of sexual harassment. Hill testified before Congress that Thomas harassed her by discussing sexual subjects, even examining a can of Coke and asking, "Who has put pubic hair on my Coke?"

Many questioned Hill's credibility; Thomas was confirmed for the job.

"That experience made some women think twice before coming forward," Williams said. "If women feel justice has been served, they'll come forward. It's always going to be difficult to prove in a legal case what exactly happened."

In general, most experts agree that the current climate will encourage more people to report sexual harassment.

"In the past, the principal concern was that victims of harassment and abuse would be reluctant to complain out of fear of retribution and/or their complaint being ignored or dismissed," said Mark P. Jones, a political science professor at Rice University in Houston. "That concern has dissipated somewhat over the past few months as the #MeToo movement has prospered."

Allegations and results

Here's a look at other sexual harassment complaints against the Tarrant County sheriff's department over the past three years, according to records obtained by the Star-Telegram.

Security Control Specialist James Ward was suspended four days without pay and instructed to attend sexual harassment training after allegedly asking a female co-worker in 2015 if "the drapes match the carpet," referring to whether the hair color on her head matched her pubic hair. Ward, who no longer works for the sheriff's office, was allegedly known to say that he liked "eating tacos, the hairless ones."

In a 2014 case, a male officer allegedly told a female co-worker that he was going to have "sex and booze" over a holiday weekend and asked if she and her boyfriend wanted to have an "Eiffel Tower" -- a threesome made up of two men and one woman -- with him. The case was closed after the claims were declared unfounded.

Also in 2014, Officer Karlton Kennard was disciplined for allegedly making an obscene sexual related gesture and related comments to a co-worker while on duty and in front of others. He still works for the sheriff's department.

In 2016, a complaint about a male officer who allegedly "made derogatory comments of a sexual nature" about a female co-worker -- claiming he said he'd "like to hit that" -- was closed after investigators didn't find enough information to support the allegations.



In 2017, an investigation began into a complaint about Sgt. Ian Truehitt allegedly inappropriately talking to and touching a subordinate female co-worker. She said he "would grab both of her hands and pull her close to him when they were talking," read her personal work emails, rub her shoulders and once "placed his hand on her butt and moved her out of the way as he was walking by." The woman said she never, "at any time, gave him any idea that it would have been okay." Truehitt resigned "in lieu of termination."

In 2017, Officer Jamie L. Frazier was disciplined after claims were filed about his allegedly making "inappropriate sexual comments, including unwanted touching," to a female detention officer. He allegedly told her: "You don't know what I want to do to you." And he allegedly massaged her shoulders and one time grabbed her shoulder with one hand "while touching her right hip and buttocks area with the other hand." The male officer said he had a "consensual sexual relationship" with the woman making the allegations. The woman "strongly denied" that claim. He still works for the sheriff's department.

Also last year, an investigation began into claims that a male officer made inappropriate comments, such as telling a female co-worker that if she kept "bouncing like that with your (breasts), it's going to make me want to f--- you." The investigation was closed after "the information obtained during the investigation was not sufficient to support the allegations."

The Tarrant County Law Enforcement Association declined to comment on the local cases.

County investigations

County officials say any employee who believes he or she has been harassed should file a complaint with their boss and/or the county administrator's office within 30 days. Cases will, at least informally, be resolved within 60 days, according to a statement from the county. Anyone who disagrees with the final result may appeal it.

"Sexual harassment will not be tolerated and all complaints will be investigated timely and thoroughly," county officials said in a written statement.

McClelland notes that the sheriff's department is the largest office in the county -- and the only one that has an Internal Affairs Division.

In addition to eight sexual harassment cases, there were six others dealing with sexually explicit issues listed under charges such as conduct unbecoming an officer.

One of those cases was the complaint against Minor regarding his "chocolate" statements.

Two others from 2015 were dismissed regarding complaints that two male officers allegedly "made inappropriate comments" toward a transgender female inmate, telling her to get her "transgendered a-- back against the wall." The inmate said that, and other comments, put her in danger. Investigators said they didn't find enough information to support the allegations.

Also in 2015, a complaint alleged that Deputy Stephen Johnson approached an underage girl at a fast food restaurant, told her she has "the perfect figure" and brushed her bangs away from her face. The girl described her experience with the uniformed deputy as "creepy." Johnson was suspended for 90 days without pay. He no longer works for the sheriff's department.

In 2016, Cpl. James Davis was disciplined after he was overheard making comments "of a sexual nature or with sexual implications that some officers found offensive." He no longer works for the sheriff's department.



And in 2017, a case was investigated and dismissed for lack of evidence to support claims that a female officer was romantically involved with a male inmate and brought contraband, including drugs, into jail for him.

There are two additional cases involving Deputy Alan Hoover -- one claiming sexual harassment and one not -- under criminal investigation.

These cases allege that in 2016 Hoover "made inappropriate sexual advances toward a citizen" and made "inappropriate sexual comments, texted multiple lewd photos to multiple subjects and engaged in inappropriate sexual behavior while on duty and while in uniform." Also alleged is that Hoover "sent confidential ... information to an unauthorized individual."

Hoover was indicted on charges of aggravated sexual assault and official oppression, but has yet to go to trial. Hoover resigned "in lieu of termination."

Anna Tinsley: 817-390-7610, @annatinsley

Tarrant County Sexual Harassment Policy" It is against Tarrant County policy for any employee, official, or non-employee who deals directly with the county, to display conduct which has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with work performance of others or creating a hostile, intimidating or offensive work environment for others due to some form of sexual harassment. Thus, unlawful sexual harassment of an employee by another employee or by a non-employee is clearly a violation of County policy. It is against County policy for any employee or official to make unwelcome sexual advances toward another employee or to take part in any personnel action decision where submission to such action is expressed or implied as a condition of employment. Employees are hereby protected from any reprimands against them for rejection of a sexual favor, or for alerting proper officials of any physical or verbal conduct of a sexual nature that is interpreted to be unlawful sexual harassment. Employees who feel they have been unlawfully sexually harassed should report such violations to the Director of Human Resources. Violations of this policy may be subject to disciplinary, administrative or legal action."

Load-Date: January 5, 2018

End of Document

[**Tarrant County Jail inmates sing Christmas carols to passers-by on the street below**](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

December 23, 2017 Saturday

Copyright 2017 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: fort_worth

Length: 307 words



Byline: Tom Uhler

Star-Telegram

Dateline: FORT WORTH

Body

They may not be Pentatonix, but they don't lack the enthusiasm when it comes to singing "O Come, All Ye Faithful."

Inmates in the Tarrant County Jail belted out Christmas carols from the upper floor of the jail in downtown Fort Worth at lunch hour in the days leading up to Christmas as passers-by looked up in wonder.

"We Wish You a Merry Christmas" and " 'Tis the Season to be Jolly" aren't exactly what you'd expect to be hearing from the county's central lockup.

But a recent ministry at the jail included singing, Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** said. Some of the inmates joined in, along with some corrections officers, and a jailhouse choir was born.

"We thought, you know, why not have an inmate choir for a couple of days before Christmas to give them a bit of hope?" Waybourn said.

The sheriff's office posted a Facebook Live video of the choir's performance that has since gotten 25,000 views and been shared almost 350 times.

Commenters were overwhelmingly supportive -- and moved.

One woman left a note saying: "God bless my daughter who was singing. May God bless each one of you and hold you in his light."

Waybourn said the singing and the reaction to it on social media have had a salutary effect on the inmates.

"The effect was incredibly emotional because these folks that we're dealing with often don't believe they have a positive impact on society at all," he said. "When I shared with them that 20-plus thousand people had viewed this wonderful choir from Wednesday, there was a lot of tears that were rolling down their eyes -- they couldn't believe that they were having that type of a positive impact on people."

The sheriff said there's interest in carrying on the choir program. "It's something good and positive in their life ... and certainly makes them easier inmates to supervise."

Tom Uhler: 817-390-7832, @tomuh

Load-Date: December 24, 2017

End of Document

[***Former state Rep. Ruth Jones McClendon dies at 74***](#)

The Texas Tribune



December 19, 2017 Tuesday 11:18 PM EST

Copyright 2017 Newstex LLC All Rights Reserved

Length: 424 words

Byline: Patrick Svitek

Body

Dec 19, 2017(The Texas Tribune: <http://texastribune.org> Delivered by Newstex) Ruth Jones McClendon[1], the former longtime state representative from San Antonio, has died. She was 74. State Rep.

Barbara Gervin-Hawkins[2], McClendon's successor, said she died this morning at her home in San Antonio. "I think she's best remembered by her candor, her ability to know what was needed in her community and to work with folks across the aisle," Gervin-Hawkins said. "I am very proud to be part of what she's left, and hopefully I can carry it on." McClendon resigned from the House last year after a years-long battle with cancer. She used a motorized scooter during the 2015 legislative session. The Texas Tribune thanks its sponsors. Become one[3]. House Speaker Joe Straus[4], R-San Antonio, issued a statement praising McClendon as a an advocate for her community, a faithful public servant and a tireless fighter for justice." McClendon, he said, "was a person of principle and decency who spoke for those whose voices is too often not heard." McClendon, a Democrat, had represented House District 120 since 1997. Before serving in the Legislature, she was a member of the San Antonio City Council. Read related Tribune coverage: State Rep. Ruth McClendon, D-San Antonio, has submitted a letter of resignation to Gov. Greg Abbott, effective Jan 31, the governor's office confirmed Tuesday. [Full story[5]] The revised Texas House sexual harassment policy includes language that strengthens protections against retaliation and provides specific steps to report inappropriate behavior. It comes about two weeks after The Texas Tribune detailed flaws in the former policy that often left victims to fend for themselves. [Full story[6]] Bo French says the "Thief **Bill Waybourn**" Facebook page he created to mock Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** was merely satire. Three law enforcement groups are calling it a "scandalous crime." [Full story[7]] [1]: <https://www.texastribune.org/directory/ruth-mcclendon/> [2]: <https://www.texastribune.org/directory/barbara-gervin-hawkins/> [3]: <https://mediakit.texastribune.org/> [4]: <https://www.texastribune.org/directory/joe-straus/> [5]: <https://www.texastribune.org/2016/01/26/state-rep-ruth-mcclendon-submits-letter-resignatio/> [6]: <https://www.texastribune.org/2017/12/01/texas-house-approves-new-sexual-harassment-policy/> [7]: <https://www.texastribune.org/2017/12/15/bo-french-accused-online-impersonation-parody-facebook-account/>

Load-Date: December 20, 2017

End of Document

[***A Texas House candidate mocked a sheriff on social media. Did he violate the law?***](#)

Fort Worth Business Press (TX)



18 December 2017

Copyright 2017 Fort Worth Business Press
Distributed by Newsbank, Inc. All Rights Reserved

Section: NEWS

Length: 648 words

Byline: Emma Platoff

Body

Dec. 15, 2017

Bo French, a Fort Worth businessman and Texas House hopeful, argues that "Thief **Bill Waybourn**," a Facebook page he launched in March 2016 to criticize former Dalworthington Gardens Police Chief **Bill Waybourn**, was a harmless joke. Three North Texas law enforcement groups have taken a different view.

"It wasn't merely a political prank, it potentially was a crime," the presidents of the Tarrant County Law Enforcement Association, Arlington Police Association and Dallas Police Association wrote in a joint statement Friday. "We are also calling on the Texas Rangers to investigate this scandalous crime."

The page was created, taken down and investigated in March and April of 2016, but the controversy didn't emerge into the public eye until this week, as French enters a bitter Republican primary rematch against state Rep. Charlie Geren, a former friend who beat him by 16 percentage points in the same race two years ago.

French argues that the statement — and its suspicious timing — is merely a political ploy intended to disadvantage him ahead of March balloting.

"The absurd accusation that a satirical Facebook page in opposition to Mr. Waybourn is an 'impersonation of a peace officer' is ridiculous and merely political rhetoric," French said.

Geren, reached on Friday, denied any knowledge of the Facebook page or its conveniently timed entry into the public sphere, telling a Texas Tribune reporter "you're the first person that's ever said anything to me about it."

But, Geren added, "nothing that Bo does would surprise me." And asked whether French has sufficient respect for law enforcement, Geren said "I don't know the answer to that."

Online impersonation can be prosecuted as either a class A misdemeanor or a felony; if a felony, it can carry a penalty of up to 10 years in prison and a \$10,000 fine. But it's not clear how far these accusations are likely to go. The Texas Rangers could not immediately say whether the agency is investigating the issue. And David Anderson, a law professor at the University of Texas at Austin who focuses on First Amendment and mass media law, said the page would not be considered impersonation "unless reasonable people could believe it was really the chief's page."



"Any reasonable objective review of the evidence against Bo French results in firm proof of a lack of character on his part," Waybourn said Friday. "We should hold all people in public office to a higher standard."

The accusations against French come on the heels of his own efforts to bring legal battles into the primary. French alleged in a lawsuit this month that during the contentious 2016 primary, David Sorensen, one of Geren's campaign staffers, triggered a Child Protective Services investigation of French by falsely alleging that the candidate was abusing his children. French insisted Friday that the law enforcement accusations are an attempt to distract from his own lawsuit.

Geren said Friday he had no knowledge of the CPS investigation into French until the lawsuit was made public, and he denied any involvement in triggering the inquiry.

"I have never involved anybody's family in any campaign that I've had," Geren said.

Disclosure: Facebook and the University of Texas at Austin have been financial supporters of The Texas Tribune. A complete list of Tribune donors and sponsors can be viewed [here](#).

Correction: An earlier version of this story incorrectly referred to former Dalworthington Gardens Police Chief **Bill Waybourn** as the police chief in March 2016.

This article originally appeared in The Texas Tribune at <https://www.texastribune.org/2017/12/15/bo-french-accused-online-impersonation-parody-facebook-account/>.

Texas Tribune mission statement

The Texas Tribune is a nonprofit, nonpartisan media organization that informs Texans — and engages with them — about public policy, politics, government and statewide issues.

Load-Date: December 19, 2017

End of Document

[Deputies say Texas House candidate faked Facebook profile for political smear; in my opinion](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

December 16, 2017 Saturday

Copyright 2017 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram
Found on DFW.com

Section: bud_kennedy

Length: 650 words



Byline: Bud Kennedy

Star-Telegram

Dateline: FORT WORTH

Body

Tarrant County Republican politics has just become very complicated.

Law officers say one local Tea Party candidate secretly used Facebook to smear another, and now it's a public mess two months before voting begins in the all-important party primaries.

A county constable says deputies' 2016 investigation into an accusatory fake online profile of now-Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** led to an unexpected suspect: defeated Texas House candidate Bo French.

"I was very surprised," said Constable David Woodruff, an Arlington Republican: "I sure wasn't expecting that."

Deputies forwarded records of the Facebook profile for "Thief **Bill Waybourn**" to the Texas Rangers in April 2016 for further investigation, Woodruff said.

Nothing ever came of it. French is running again in the March 6 primary for Texas House District 99 as a faith-and-values challenger to state Rep. Charlie Geren.

Faking someone else's online profile is a felony in Texas, and posing as someone else in an email or message is a misdemeanor.

(I'm not saying that makes sense. I'm only saying that's Texas law.)

Waybourn was then a reserve deputy for Woodruff and in a come-from-behind runoff against establishment incumbent Dee Anderson for **sheriff. Waybourn** overcame the Facebook smears and went on to win the runoff and election.

Deputies' Facebook search found the "Thief **Bill Waybourn**" page was administered under three email addresses listing French's name, Woodruff said. One of the addresses connects directly to a \$500 campaign donation French gave in a different race.

Now, I'll try to explain what might be behind such political sideswiping between two faith-and-values Republicans.

Waybourn's campaign treasurer was Taya Kyle of Midlothian, widow of the late Navy SEAL sniper Chris Kyle and co-author of her own book, "American Wife: A Memoir of Love, War, Faith, and Renewal."

Just before the March 2016 primary, she warned French to stop using Kyle's name or photo in his Texas House campaign against Geren. Taya Kyle and French had tangled in court over leadership of Chris Kyle's company, Craft International.

Geren won the primary by 16 percentage points, 58-42.



Two weeks later, according to county Deputy Craig Driskell's search warrant affidavit, the "Thief **Bill Waybourn**" profile appeared on Facebook. It described various supposed abuses of public time or resources when Waybourn was a suburban police chief.

(Anderson did not make such allegations in the campaign.)

"Obviously if you open up a Facebook account saying you're somebody you're not, you could certainly make an attempt to destroy someone's reputation," Woodruff said.

"You could get online as a police officer and start soliciting inappropriately -- that's why these things are illegal."

Woodruff said he referred the case to the Rangers because it involved one of his own reserve deputies, and also because Waybourn did not want to pursue it once the page was taken off Facebook.

The presidents of Tarrant County, Dallas and Arlington police associations issued a statement Friday calling on the Rangers to reopen the investigation.

In a statement, French said coverage of the 2016 investigation is "nothing more than a ploy" to distract from a lawsuit accusing a Democratic campaign worker of filing a false child welfare complaint against French and his wife, Sheridan.

French said he did not support Waybourn "but am proud of the job he has done."

French referred to a "satirical Facebook page," saying the idea that it is an " 'impersonation' ... is merely political rhetoric."

Waybourn flamed French in a comment to the Texas Tribune: "Any reasonable objective review of the evidence against Bo French results in firm proof of a lack of character on his part."

Woodruff said he thought a candidate "would be of a little higher moral character. It seems like an awful juvenile thing to do."

Welcome to campaign season in Tarrant County.

Bud Kennedy: 817-390-7538, @BudKennedy.

Load-Date: December 17, 2017

End of Document

[***A Texas House candidate mocked a sheriff on social media. Did he violate the law?***](#)

The Texas Tribune

December 16, 2017 Saturday 4:23 AM EST

Copyright 2017 Newstex LLC All Rights Reserved

Length: 776 words



Byline: Emma Platoff

Body

Dec 15, 2017(The Texas Tribune: <http://texastribune.org> Delivered by Newstex) Editor's note: This story has been updated with a statement from former Dalworthington Gardens Police Chief **Bill Waybourn**. Bo French, a Fort Worth businessman and Texas House hopeful, argues that 'Thief **Bill Waybourn**,' a Facebook page he launched in March 2016 to criticize then-Dalworthington Gardens Police Chief **Bill Waybourn**, was a harmless joke. Three North Texas law enforcement groups have taken a different view.

"It wasn't merely a political prank, it potentially was a crime," the presidents of the Tarrant County Law Enforcement Association, Arlington Police Association and Dallas Police Association wrote in a joint statement Friday. "We are also calling on the Texas Rangers to investigate this scandalous crime." The page was created, taken down and investigated in March and April of 2016, but the controversy didn't emerge into the public eye until this week, as French enters a bitter Republican primary rematch against state Rep. Charlie Geren[1], a former friend who beat him by 16 percentage points in the same race two years ago. The Texas Tribune thanks its sponsors. Become one[2]. French argues that the statement — and its suspicious timing — is merely a political ploy intended to disadvantage him ahead of March balloting. 'The absurd accusation that a satirical Facebook page in opposition to Mr. Waybourn is an 'impersonation of a peace officer' is ridiculous and merely political rhetoric,' French said. Geren, reached on Friday, denied any knowledge of the Facebook page or its conveniently timed entry into the public sphere, telling a Texas Tribune reporter 'you're the first person that's ever said anything to me about it.' But, Geren added, 'nothing that Bo does would surprise me.' And asked whether French has sufficient respect for law enforcement, Geren said 'I don't know the answer to that.' Online impersonation can be prosecuted as either a class A misdemeanor or a felony; if a felony, it can carry a penalty of up to 10 years in prison and a \$10,000 fine. But it's not clear how far these accusations are likely to go. The Texas Rangers could not immediately say whether the agency is investigating the issue. And David Anderson, a law professor at the University of Texas at Austin who focuses on First Amendment and mass media law, said the page would not be considered impersonation 'unless reasonable people could believe it was really the chief's page.' 'Any reasonable objective review of the evidence against Bo French results in firm proof of a lack of character on his part,' Waybourn said Friday. "We should hold all people in public office to a higher standard.' The Texas Tribune thanks its sponsors. Become one[3]. The accusations against French come on the heels of his own efforts to bring legal battles into the primary. French alleged in a lawsuit[4] this month that during the contentious 2016 primary, David Sorensen, one of Geren's campaign staffers, triggered a Child Protective Services investigation of French by falsely alleging that the candidate was abusing his children. French insisted Friday that the law enforcement accusations are an attempt to distract from his own lawsuit. Geren said Friday he had no knowledge of the CPS investigation into French until the lawsuit was made public, and he denied any involvement in triggering the inquiry. 'I have never involved anybody's family in any campaign that I've had,' Geren said. Disclosure: Facebook and the University of Texas at Austin have been financial supporters of The Texas Tribune. A complete list of Tribune donors and sponsors can be viewed here[5]. Read related Tribune coverage: Lawyers representing Taya Kyle, the widow of famous Navy SEAL Chris Kyle, sent a cease-and-desist letter Wednesday to Texas House candidate Bo French. [Full story[6]] State Rep. Charlie Geren, R-Fort Worth, is once again a target of conservative activists frustrated with House leadership. Geren says he's confident with his conservative credentials and will run on his record. [Full story[7]] [1]: <https://www.texastribune.org/directory/charlie-geren/> [2]: <https://mediakit.texastribune.org/> [3]: <https://mediakit.texastribune.org/> [4]: <http://www.star-telegram.com/news/politics-government/state-politics/article188186154.html> [5]: <https://www.texastribune.org/support-us/donors-and-members/> [



- 6]: <https://www.texastribune.org/2016/02/24/chris-kyles-widow-files-cease-and-desist-against-h/> [
7]: <https://www.texastribune.org/2016/02/03/geren-french-debate-houses-record-race-fort-worth/>

Load-Date: December 16, 2017

End of Document

[Fake Facebook page and dirty politics alleged in contentious House race](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

December 15, 2017 Friday

Copyright 2017 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: election

Length: 747 words

Byline: Anna M. Tinsley

Star-Telegram

Dateline: FORT WORTH

Body

Three North Texas law enforcement groups on Friday took a Fort Worth businessman to task for an anonymous Facebook page created last year during the Republican primary runoff for Tarrant County sheriff.

At issue is the "Thiefbillwaybourn" Facebook page that made allegations of improprieties during the 2016 runoff between former Dalworthington Gardens Police Chief **Bill Waybourn** and then-Sheriff Dee Anderson.

Waybourn won and became Tarrant County's sheriff earlier this year.

The three groups say evidence shows that the page, which no longer exist, was linked to Bo French, who is again challenging state Rep. Charlie Geren, R-Fort Worth, for the House District 99 seat in next year's election.

"When Bo French created a fake Facebook account in the name of ... Waybourn, it wasn't merely a political prank, it potentially was a crime," according to the statement by the presidents of the Dallas and Arlington police associations and the Tarrant County Law Enforcement Association.



"Texas law prohibits the impersonation of a peace officer, and Mr. French owes every officer who wears the uniform an explanation for his intemperate actions."

No charges have been filed in the case, records show.

French denies allegations

French sent out a statement in response, saying this issue is a political "ploy" by the Geren campaign.

"I did not support **Bill Waybourn** in his election last year, but am proud of the job he has done as Sheriff since getting elected," according to his statement. "I'm on the board of the Fort Worth Police Department SWAT Support Group and have helped raise nearly \$1,000,000 for local law enforcement over the last 6 years.

"The absurd accusation that a satirical Facebook page in opposition to Mr. Waybourn is an 'impersonation of a peace officer' is ridiculous and merely political rhetoric."

In last year's primary, Geren claimed 58 percent of the vote to French's 42 percent and went on to win another term in office.

bo frenchBo French

French and his wife, Sheridan, filed a lawsuit one week before the Dec. 11 filing deadline for Texans seeking spots on next year's primary ballot, alleging that false accusations of child abuse were made against him during the contentious primary race in 2016.

"This is nothing more than a ploy to distract from the fact that we filed a lawsuit against members of the Charlie Geren campaign who we believe knowingly filed a false CPS report against my family in an attempt to take my children away," French's statement read.

Geren said he didn't know anything about the fake Facebook page until Friday, after law enforcer associations sent out the statement.

"I hope he didn't do it," Geren said. "Because it is breaking the law. If he did it, it needs to be investigated."

The Facebook page

During last year's primary runoff, the Thiefbillwaybourn Facebook page made allegations of improprieties by Waybourn, whose lists of endorsements ranged from former Gov. Rick Perry to Taya Kyle, the widow of Chris Kyle.

In April 2016, a search and seizure warrant was filed by the Precinct 2 constable's office in Tarrant County, asking Facebook to trace information regarding the fake page to determine who created it.

charlie gerenState Rep. Charlie Geren, R-Fort Worth

"We looked into it and felt it met the criteria for online impersonation, a Class A misdemeanor," Precinct 2 Constable David Woodruff said. "We sent the search warrant to Facebook. Shortly after we sent the warrant to Facebook, ... the page disappeared."

The Facebook Business Record traced the fake page back to three emails that included the name Bo French.



A reverse Google search of the email addresses showed that one -- bofrench@mac.com -- was linked to a \$500 campaign donation Bo French of Fort Worth made in 2003.

"We sent the case to the Texas Rangers," Woodruff said.

The group that sent out Friday's statement urged the Texas Rangers to investigate this case.

Lonnie Haschel, a spokesman with the Texas Department of Public Safety, was looking into whether the Rangers have received the case.

The search warrant noted that the false page "is in violation of the offense of online impersonation, as stated in Section 33.07 of the Texas Penal Code as the suspected party used the name of persona of **Bill Waybourn**, without obtaining the consent of **Bill Waybourn**, and with the intent to harm, defraud, intimidate or threaten **Bill Waybourn**, then create a website on a commercial social networking site or other Internet website."

Anna Tinsley: 817-390-7610, @annatinsley

Load-Date: December 15, 2017

End of Document

[**Weekend's Top 10 list: Think princess, a prized piano and holiday 'Plaid'; The top 10**](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

November 29, 2017 Wednesday

Copyright 2017 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram
Found on DFW.com

Section: things_to_do

Length: 894 words

Byline: Sandy Guerra-Cline

Star-Telegram

Body

'It's a Wonderful Life': FWSO at the Movies

1 Need something to convince you it's time to haul out the Christmas lights and decorate the fireplace mantel? Try this 1946 Christmas classic starring Jimmy Stewart and Donna Reed, screened on the Bass



Hall stage as the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra and the Dallas Chamber Choir perform the soundtrack to the movie. John Jesensky conducts the FWSO. It's at 7:30 p.m. Friday. Tickets are \$38.50-\$93. 817-665-6000; www.fwsymphony.org.

image001 (2)Vadym Kholodenko

Vadym Kholodenko in concert

2 The 2013 Cliburn gold medalist helps the Texas Wesleyan University's School of Music welcome its new Hamburg Steinway grand piano to its new home in Martin Hall. Kholodenko will perform Mozart's Piano Sonata No. 8 in A minor, K. 310; Beethoven's Piano Sonata No. 2, 2/2; and Tchaikovsky's Piano Sonata in G major, Op. 37 during the program at 7:30 p.m. Friday. Tickets are \$15 at <http://bit.ly/2AHj3Kf>. Martin Hall is at 1309 Wesleyan St., Fort Worth. For more information, call 817-531-4992.

'Ascension'

3 Fresh from a screening at the recent Lone Star Film Festival, this documentary is about North Texas horseman Ascension Banuelos, the first Mexican-American to be inducted into the National Cutting Horse Association's Hall of Fame. The doc's stars include Steve Murrin, state Rep. Ramon Romero Jr. and other familiar faces. It screens at 6:30 p.m. Monday at Will Rogers Coliseum. Tickets are \$10 adults, \$7 children. Want to see the trailer? Visit <http://www.ascencionfilm.com/trailer/trailer/>.

\$4 double feature at the Coyote Drive-In

4 A better family-friendly combo than this? Inconceivable. That would be "The Princess Bride" and "Big Trouble in Little China," showing Friday-Dec. 7 at the Coyote. The first movie on the bill, "The Princess Bride," starts at 7:30 p.m. with "activities" beginning at 5:45 p.m. each night. Saturday, those activities will include a "Princess Bride" costume contest and a movie trivia contest. 223. N.E. Fourth St., Fort Worth. 817-717-7767.

Plaid Tidings2Joshua Sherman, Branden A. Bailey, Jason Philip Solis and Jamall Houston in "Plaid Tidings"

'Plaid Tidings: Holiday Edition of Forever Plaid'

5 Francis, Sparky, Jinx and Smudge, aka the boy band members from "Forever Plaid," are coming home for the holidays. The sequel musical from playwright Stuart Ross opens at 8 p.m. Friday and runs through Dec. 17 at Theatre Arlington. Performances are 7:30 p.m. Thursdays, 8 p.m. Fridays, 2 and 8 p.m. Saturdays and 2 and 6 p.m. Sundays. A special performance will be 7:30 p.m. Dec. 13, which is a Wednesday. Tickets are \$26.50. Theatre Arlington is at 305 W. Main St., Arlington. 817-275-7661; www.TheatreArlington.org

The Grotto Final Show

6 It's hard to imagine Fort Worth without the Grotto. This familiar watering hole near TCU has always championed local musicians. For this, the bar's "final show," some of them team up for a lineup that includes Arenda Light, the Hendersons, Royal Sons and the Matt Tedder Trio. The doors open at 8 p.m. Sunday, and the show begins at 9. Stop by and ask "Where do you think you're going?" The Grotto is at 571 University Drive, Fort Worth. 817-882-9331; thegrottofw.com.

'Lost Restaurants of Fort Worth' book signing



7 Star-Telegram contributor and Fort Worth native Celestina Blok sets the table with delicious names from the past, including the Richelieu Grill, the Colonial Cafeteria, Carlson's Drive-Inn, the Carriage House and more in her new book, "Lost Restaurants of Fort Worth" (\$21.99, Arcadia Publishing and the History Press), out Monday. She'll be signing copies beginning at 6 p.m. Tuesday at the TCU Campus Store, 2950 W. Berry St., Fort Worth. 817-257-7844; www.bkstr.com/tcustore/home

Holiday concerts, movies in Grapevine

8 Not for nothing does Grapevine call itself "the Christmas Capital of Texas." The city's historic Palace Theatre does its part by hosting live music and showing classic holiday movies all month long in December. "A Christmas Carol" starts things off at 7 p.m. Friday, followed by "A Christmas Story, Dec. 5, and "It's a Wonderful Life," on Dec. 6. Movie tickets are \$6. "A Merry Little Christmas Show With Ricki Derek" hits the stage at 8 p.m. Saturday. Tickets are \$27. The theater is at 300 S. Main St., Grapevine. 817-410-3100; www.Palace-Theatre.com

Christmaspectacular!

9 This annual community production boasts a bigger cast and new musical numbers this year. Celebrity narrators include Arlington Mayor Jeff Williams, on Friday, along with Fort Worth Mayor Betsy Price, Tarrant Sheriff **Bill Waybourn**, KXAS/Channel 5's Alice Barr and more. Performances will be at 3 p.m. Saturday, Sunday, Dec. 9 and Dec. 10 and at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Saturday, Dec. 8 and Dec. 9 at Arlington Music Hall. The Arlington Police Department collects donations at each performance. 224 N. Center St., Arlington. 817-226-4400; arlingtonmusichall.net

34th annual Candlelight Christmas in Ryan Place

10 This long-running tour in the historic Ryan Place neighborhood features five homes -- from mansions to bungalows -- that have been restored and then decorated to the nines for the holidays. You can ooh and aah, and get some holiday decorating inspiration, too. Tours are noon-9 p.m. Saturday and noon-5 p.m. Sunday. Early bird tickets are \$15, \$20 on the weekend at St. John's Church, 2401 College Ave., Fort Worth, or from eventbrite.com.

Load-Date: November 29, 2017

End of Document

[North Texas DWI press conference](#)

AP Planner

November 16, 2017 Thursday

Copyright 2017 Associated Press All Rights Reserved

Section: NEWS AGENDA; In-State Interest Only; Emergency Services

Length: 131 words

Body



North Texas DWI press conference, with representatives from Dallas, Tarrant, Denton, Collin and Ellis counties discussing DWI reduction and enforcement efforts during the holiday season and updating on the Dallas Co. DWI Taskforce 'What Alcohol Says' campaign. Speakers include Dallas County Commissioner Elba Garcia, Denton County District Attorney Paul Johnson, Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn**, Collin County Sheriff Jim Skinner, Ellis County Sheriff Charles E. Edge, Dallas County Chief Deputy Sheriff Marian Brown, Cedar Hill Mayor Rob Franke, DWI victim Jackie Murphree, who is unable to speak, and her father, and representatives from Mothers Against Drunk Driving

Event Start Date: 2017-11-15

Event End Date: 2017-11-15

Event URL: <http://www.dallascounty.org>

Event time: 10:00 CST

Load-Date: November 16, 2017

End of Document

[Gladney Center for Adoption finalization ceremony](#)

AP Planner

November 3, 2017 Friday

Copyright 2017 Associated Press All Rights Reserved

Section: LIFESTYLE; Anniversaries; Family & Parenting

Length: 72 words

Body

Gladney Center for Adoption finalization ceremony to celebrate its 130th anniversary and kick-off National Adoption Day, with over 60 children finalizing their adoptions before a superhero themed celebration. Attendees include Fort Worth Mayor Betsy Price, Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn**, and Gladney President Frank Garrot

Event Start Date: 2017-11-03

Event End Date: 2017-11-03

Event URL: adoptionsbygladney.com

Event time: 09:30 CDT

Load-Date: November 3, 2017



Convicted sex offender released by mistake

Cleburne Times-Review (Texas)

September 21, 2017 Thursday

Copyright 2017 Cleburne Times-Review

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

Section: STATE AND REGIONAL NEWS

Length: 628 words

Byline: Jessica Pounds, Cleburne Times-Review, Texas

Body

Sept. 21--A Burleson man convicted in Johnson County last month on two charges of sexual assault of a child was mistakenly released from the Tarrant County Jail on Tuesday.

Shaun James, 26, was sentenced Aug. 15 to more than 10 years in prison for crimes he committed in 2015, but transferred to Tarrant County to face additional charges.

After pleading out on those charges, authorities said James was subsequently released from the Tarrant County Jail.

Once the victim's mother was aware of his release, she contacted the Tarrant County District Attorney's office, who then contacted Johnson County Sheriff Adam King.

"The first thing I did was I reached out to Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** and he was very much determined to catch that guy immediately," he said. "He sent -- I don't know how many -- deputies down here to help us search for him."

King said he then contacted the victim's mother and assured her both sheriff's departments would spare no effort to get James back in jail.

"We were checking some addresses in the Burleson-Crowley area and ended up being able to call him on the phone to talk to him," he said. "As we were encouraging him to turn himself in, at the same time [JCISO Chief Deputy] James Saulter spotted him driving around with his mother."

King said instead of pulling them over, they decided to keep surveillance on him.

"He had said he was going to go and turn himself in," he said. "The surveillance team followed him back to the jail; he did what he said he was going to do."

David McClelland, chief of staff for the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office, attributed the mistaken release to human error.



"On a weekly basis, we take in between 800 to 1,000 inmates," he said. "And then we release between 800 to 1,000 inmates on a weekly basis.

"We have humans doing this and it is done on paper and everything is put into file. One did slip through the cracks, and we are going back to find out why he was released to prevent that from happening again because one was too many."

Flashback

In 2015, the victim told police she met James through social media after he told her how pretty she was and that she several times told him that "she was only 15," according to an arrest warrant.

The girl told police she later met James in person and that they engaged in sexual activity on three occasions both at his apartment and at her house.

The girl provided police a physical description of James including several tattoos and identified him from a photo lineup, according to reports.

The Children's Advocacy Center of Johnson County handles cases where a child has been the victim of sexual and/or severe physical abuse, as well as those who are a witness to homicides and other violent crimes.

CAC Executive Director Tammy King said a mistake like this could potentially have a big impact on the victim.

"I am sure that everyone was horrified; this had to completely unnerve the victim and her family," she said. "There is so much trauma associated with child abuse, and we all work so hard to reduce that trauma and help these children heal.

"It is very unfortunate that this happened, but I hope that this mom will stand proud and tall in the knowledge that she advocated not only for her child, but all children when she notified authorities of the mistake."

Tammy King said although mistakes were made, she is glad authorities were quick to rectify the situation.

"The reality is that as long as people are involved in performing tasks, you will sometimes have to deal with human error," she said. "It is wonderful that she had the app that notified her of his release."

___ (c)2017 the Cleburne Times-Review (Cleburne, Texas) Visit the Cleburne Times-Review (Cleburne, Texas) at www.cleburnetimesreview.com Distributed by Tribune Content Agency, LLC.

Load-Date: October 4, 2017

End of Document

[County leaders raised taxes and voted themselves a 3% pay raise. Nobody even spoke up](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

September 12, 2017 Tuesday





Section: bud_kennedy

Length: 507 words

Byline: Bud Kennedy

Star-Telegram

Dateline: FORT WORTH

Body

Tarrant County commissioners gave themselves more money Tuesday, and took more of ours.

The four elected commissioners who run county government will be paid \$172,491.92 each next year. They're the second-highest-paid in Texas.

Only the Harris County commissioners earn more. (And deserve it.)

With much of Houston still in shelters and Texas recovering from both a hurricane and an energy bust, Tarrant County's leaders still voted unanimously to dole themselves 3 percent raises next year along with other county officials and workers.

Will you get a 3 percent raise next year?

County Judge Glen Whitley of Hurst will. He and Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** of Dalworthington Gardens will be paid \$182,482.04.

That's still less than the \$203,745, a 1 percent raise, for District Attorney Sharen Wilson of Fort Worth.

Commissioners cut the tax rate by 1 cent per \$100 in home value. But since values are up about 10 percent, the typical tax bill will go up about \$24.

If the idea of some of Texas' most well-paid commissioners writing themselves bigger paychecks bothers you, consider this:

In a county of 2 million people, nobody showed up on a Tuesday morning to complain about the raises. (Or defend them.)

The public comment period took six seconds.

Later, Whitley said Commissioners Roy C. Brooks and J.D. Johnson of Fort Worth, Gary Fickes of Southlake and Andy H. Nguyen of Grand Prairie looked at other counties and settled on the average 3 percent merit raise for workers and flat 3 percent for most officials, including themselves: "We feel very good about that."



Wilson, on the ballot next year along with Whitley, Nguyen and Johnson, sent an emailed statement: "I am working hard every day to make sure that the people of Tarrant County have the best criminal and civil office in the state."

Only Waybourn seemed sheepish. He said through a spokesman that he didn't know he'd get a raise and didn't ask for one. He thanked commissioners for deputies' 3 percent raise.

Last week, when the Dallas County commissioners voted themselves a raise, County Judge Clay Jenkins and Commissioner Elba García, both Democrats, spoke against it. They turned down the extra money, and Jenkins called for cutting taxes instead.

But both Democratic and Republican local party leaders acquiesced.

"I don't think I would do it, but they're elected and they're the ones who get to make the call," said Republican county chairman Tim O'Hare, a Southlake attorney.

The Democratic chairwoman, former telecommunications executive Deborah Peoples of Fort Worth, said: "The 3 percent doesn't bother me if commissioners step up and meet the challenges. But for Tarrant County not to have first-class mass transit is an issue."

League of Women Voters President Kate Norris said voters need more notice.

Commissioners always meet on Tuesdays, and always during a workday.

"We would like to see more opportunity for the public to comment on a decision like that," she said.

First you have to show up.

Bud Kennedy: 817-390-7538, @BudKennedy. His column appears Sundays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Load-Date: September 13, 2017

End of Document

[Funeral arrangements finalized for beloved deputy constable Mark Diebold](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

September 10, 2017 Sunday

Copyright 2017 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram
Found on DFW.com

Section: fort_worth

Length: 161 words



Byline: Patrick M. Walker

Star-Telegram

Body

Funeral arrangements for a beloved Tarrant County deputy constable who died during training last week have been finalized.

Visitation for Precinct 5 Deputy Constable Mark Diebold will take place from 6 to 8 p.m. Monday at Greenwood Funeral Home in Fort Worth.

Funeral services are scheduled for 11 a.m. Tuesday at Capstone Church in Benbrook, with ceremonial honors to follow.

The details were released Sunday by David McClelland, chief of staff for Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn**, who was asked to speak for Diebold's family.

Diebold, 48, died Thursday during tactical team qualifications after suffering an apparent heart attack. He is survived by his wife and three daughters.

He may have been best known for helping deliver a baby on the side of the road last July and then having a tea party with her when she turned 1. Read more here, and read what Diebold's peers in law enforcement had to say about him here.

Patrick M. Walker: 817-390-7423, @patrickmwalker1

Load-Date: September 11, 2017

End of Document

[MARK DIEBOLD Tarrant officer helped deliver baby on roadside](#)

THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

September 9, 2017 Saturday, 1 EDITION

Copyright 2017 THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

DallasNews.com

Section: METRO & STATE; Pg. B04

Length: 396 words

Byline: CLAIRE Z. CARDONA, Staff Writer

Body



A Tarrant County deputy constable who helped deliver a baby girl on the side of the road last year died Thursday, officials said.

Mark Diebold had just finished tactical team qualifications Thursday morning when he collapsed, the Tarrant County sheriff's office said.

Members of the tactical team started CPR, and he was taken to Alliance Medical Center in Fort Worth, where he died. He was 48.

The cause of death hadn't been established. Officials suspected a heart attack.

Diebold worked for the sheriff's office from 1994 to 2008 before transferring to the constable's office.

In July 2016, he was on his way to work when an SUV sped past him. He turned on his lights and sirens to slow the driver down and pulled up at a light next to a couple. Caleb Hall explained that they were rushing to the hospital because his wife, Destiny, was in labor, KXAS-TV (NBC5) reported.

They drove to a nearby parking lot and less than a minute later, Diebold was helping deliver the Granbury couple's baby in the front seat of their SUV.

"She started crying and we both were ecstatic, jumping, screaming, 'The baby's here,'" Diebold told the station. "It was a wonderful experience. It was one I'll never forget."

They remained close, and in July, Diebold, a muscular and tattooed man, sat down for a tea party photo shoot with Evelyn Hall, now a toddler.

On Thursday, the couple recorded memorials to Diebold on Facebook Live. At a loss for words, Caleb Hall came up with a workout in his honor. Through tears, Destiny Hall described "Uncle Mark" as "the world's finest man" and a member of their family.

"Heaven just received the biggest angel. Thank you Mark for the kindness, compassion, courage and love you showed," Destiny Hall said in a Facebook post. "You did way more than help with Evelyn's delivery ... you brought a light into our life as well as countless of others. I will miss your daily corny jokes on FB and your big smile."

In a written statement, Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** said Diebold was "an amazing person, and his light will be missed."

"We are all one family. No matter what happens we have our brothers and sisters to rely on for support," Waybourn said. "Not only to support each other, but to rise up and support Mark's family. They need us more now than ever."

Funeral arrangements were pending. Diebold is survived by his wife and children.

Twitter: @clairezcardona

Load-Date: September 9, 2017

End of Document



[Mayor's Council of Tarrant County Hosts Second Mental Health and Law Enforcement Summit](#)

US Official News

September 8, 2017 Friday

Copyright 2017 Plus Media Solutions Private Limited All Rights Reserved



Length: 336 words

Body

Austin: Tarrant County, The State of Texas has issued the following news release:

The Mayors' Council, in cooperation with Tarrant County Commissioners Court, Sheriff, and Criminal District Attorney, will host its second annual Mental Health and Law Enforcement Summit on Wednesday, August 30th from 7:30 am until noon at the Hurst Convention Center. Speakers will include Mayor Jim Griffin from the City of Bedford, County Commissioner Roy C. Brooks, Criminal District Attorney Sharen Wilson, Sheriff **Bill Waybourn**, County Judge Glen Whitley, and Mr. Leon Evans, nationally recognized expert on Stepping Up, an initiative to reduce the number of mentally ill individuals in county jails.

Approximately 200 elected officials, police chiefs, community leaders, and experts in mental health and criminal justice will be in attendance to discuss options to reduce the number of individuals with mental illness in Tarrant County Jail and JPS Health system. At the end of the Summit, a County-wide Stakeholder Committee will be announced to begin a coordinated effort to address care for mentally ill patients outside of the criminal justice system. Mayor Griffin stated, "While the goal is to work on solutions to appropriately place citizens with mental illness in proper facilities, alleviate pressure on local police forces, and continue to serve the growing number of individuals with mental illness coming into contact with our officers daily, we must also recognize this problem affects all aspects of our community."

∞

The Mayors' Council of Tarrant County was established in 1975 and is comprised of the mayors of 41 cities of Tarrant County as well as the County Judge. This Council provides a policy forum for elected officials and senior staff to address a variety of issues crossing city boundaries, such as state and federal legislation, transportation, emergency preparedness, and housing.

In case of any query regarding this article or other content please contact:
editorial@plusmediasolutions.com



Load-Date: September 9, 2017

End of Document

[Texas police officer who helped deliver a baby girl and later enjoyed a heartwarming tea party in celebration of her first birthday has died at age 48](#)

MailOnline

September 8, 2017 Friday 2:09 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Associated Newspapers Ltd. All Rights Reserved

MailOnline

Section: NEWS; Version:6

Length: 595 words

Byline: FORREST HANSON and VALERIE SIEBERT FOR DAILYMAIL.COM

Body

- Mark Diebold was deputy constable in Tarrant County, Texas police department
- He helped deliver a couple's baby girl on the side of a road on July 18, 2016
- Stayed in touch with the family and this past July, celebrated the toddler's first birthday with her in an adorable tea party
- Officials say Diebold might have died of a heart attack and he is survived by his wife and children
- The girl's mother wrote in a tribute: 'You brought a light into our life as well as countless of others. I will miss your daily corny jokes on FB and your big smile'

The Texas police officer who went viral after being pictured in July enjoying an adorable tea party with the toddler he helped deliver a year ago has died, officials say.

Mark Diebold, Tarrant County Deputy Constable, died Thursday at the age of 48. His cause of death is not known but might have been a heart attack, the Dallas Morning News reported.

Diebold had worked in law enforcement since 1994 and had worked in the constable's office since 2008.

He became Internet famous after enjoying a tea party this past July with Evelyn Hall, the toddler he helped to deliver on the side of a road one year prior.

The toddler's mother, Destiny, wrote in a Facebook tribute: 'Heaven just received the biggest angel. Thank you Mark for the kindness, compassion, courage and love you showed.'



'You did way more than help with Evelyn's delivery... you brought a light into our life as well as countless of others. I will miss your daily corny jokes on FB and your big smile.'

Hall, of Granbury, Texas, was born on July 18 after her mother went into labor on the way to the hospital with Evelyn's father Caleb.

Diebold flagged the couple's speeding vehicle down and, upon ascertaining the situation, offered to escort them to the hospital.

But, on the drive over, Destiny realized that her little girl simply couldn't wait to be born.

'[Destiny] said, "Pull over, I'm having the baby," and I said, "No!"' Caleb explained to ABC News last year.

'When she told me that it was happening, we were behind Officer Diebold and he had his lights and sirens going. I kind of had a small glimpse of hope that maybe we would make it.'

The group turned into a gas station, where the officer helped the parents bring Evelyn Joy Deborah Hall into the world. Hall weighed six pounds, 11 ounces at birth.

Ever since then, the officer has continued to be an important part of little Evelyn's life, with her parents even honoring Diebold with a photoshoot featuring Evelyn leaning next to his badge.

Then, almost exactly one year since they first met, Deputy Constable Diebold joined the little girl for a tea party to celebrate her birthday.

Photos taken of the sweet moment, taken by Cyndi Williams, see the police officer in his uniform sitting at the tiny table with Evelyn, and even lifting one of the itsy bitsy teacups to his lips.

'She loved clinking her little tea cup with him. They had a bonding moment there for sure,' Destiny told ABC News.

'Mark Diebold, without a doubt, is one of the most genuine, loving, thoughtful and caring [people] we have ever met. He is quick to think of others and we are so blessed to call him friend and family.'

The parents have since become good friends with Diebold, and little Evelyn's siblings all call him 'Uncle Mark.'

The Halls, in a memorial, described Diebold as 'the world's finest man'.

Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** wrote in a statement that Diebold was 'an amazing person, and his light will be missed'.

Waybourn added: '[Mark's family] need us more now than ever.' Diebold leaves behind his wife and children.

Load-Date: September 8, 2017

End of Document

[***Deputy Constable Mark Diebold, famous for a roadside baby delivery, died Thursday; Obituary: Mark Diebold \(1969-2017\)***](#)



Copyright 2017 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: fort_worth

Length: 705 words

Byline: Mitch Mitchell

Star-Telegram

Dateline: FORT WORTH

Body

Friends described Precinct 5 Deputy Constable Mark Diebold as a consummate law enforcement officer and a great friend.

Diebold died Thursday during tactical team qualifications this morning, according to a news release from the Tarrant County Sheriff's Department. Deputy Diebold was finishing qualifications when it appears that he had a heart attack, but the official cause of death is still unknown, the release said.

Diebold is survived by his wife and three daughters.

Our thoughts & prayers are with the family & friends of @TarrantCountyTX Deputy Constable Mark Diebold on his passing. pic.twitter.com/EWo34v4ody— Tarrant County DA (@TarrantCountyDA) September 7, 2017 //

Diebold, 48, was born June 28, 1969. He worked for the Tarrant County Sheriff's Department from 1994 to 2008, after which time he began working for the constable's office.

"We are all one family," said Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn**, who was asked to speak for the family. "No matter what happens, we have our brothers and sisters to rely on for support. Not only to support each other, but to rise up and support Mark's family. They need us more now than ever. Mark was an amazing person, and his light will be missed."

Justice of the Peace Sergio De Leon called Diebold a gentle giant. Diebold, who worked in De Leon's office, was the type of law enforcement officer who could face down the baddest of bad guys one moment and the next moment, help bring a child into the world, which he did.

Diebold's baby delivery may have been the moment in his career that most resonated with the public, but among law enforcement he was known as a stand-up officer, De Leon said.



Last July, Diebold stopped a speeding Jeep and the man inside said his wife was about to have a baby. Diebold flipped on his sirens and lights, planning to escort the Granbury couple, Caleb and Destiny Hall, to a hospital in downtown Fort Worth.

Soon, he saw the Jeep pull to the side of the road, so he did the same.

"I said, 'Caleb, pull to the side of the road. I'm having this baby,' " said Destiny Hall, 26, at the time. "He said, 'Stop pushing.'

"I said, 'I'm not pushing, but this baby is coming anyway.' "

Diebold called an ambulance but the baby would not wait, so he worked with the husband to complete the delivery. Diebold was there again when the baby had her first birthday and shared an imaginary tea-party with the child. Diebold was among the first to hear the new child's cries.

"It was an amazing moment," Diebold said. "It's probably the most beautiful sound I've ever heard."

"Lately, everybody's hearts have been down, with all that has happened" with the Dallas police shooting, Diebold said softly. "This was really uplifting."

SAD NEWS: Dep. Const. Mark Diebold died of a heart attack today. You might remember his tea party w/the girl he delivered in a parking lot. pic.twitter.com/CXbUazvNzU— Tami Carr (@CarrTamicbs11) September 7, 2017 //

De Leon said that's what Diebold did wherever he worked -- uplift hearts.

Deputy Diebold was one of the founding members of the Tarrant County Constable Special Response Team, De Leon said. Diebold's SWAT training was instrumental in getting that unit started, De Leon said.

Diebold was also part of the protective detail that escorted former Canadian Prime Minister Jean Chretien, former Mexican President Vincente Fox and former Nigerian President Olusegun Obassnjo, while they were in Fort Worth, De Leon said.

De Leon also credits Diebold with saving him from serious injury.

"We were working off duty at a night club and I was confronted with two or three individuals who were two or three times my size," De Leon said. "I found a man at the night club and asked if he had seen that rather large officer there on the other side of the club, and he said yes.

"I asked him to please go and get him. When Diebold came over we were able to handle the situation. Had he not come over, I'm not sure that we would be talking right now."

Diebold was an amazing person, said David McClelland, Tarrant County Sheriff's Department chief deputy.

"He was a person who could light up a room," McClelland said.

Funeral arrangements have not been finalized.

Mitch Mitchell: 817-390-7752, @mitchmitchel3

Load-Date: September 11, 2017



[Immigrants uneasy, police on hold as SB4 weighed in courts](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

September 4, 2017 Monday

Copyright 2017 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: fort_worth

Length: 2115 words

Byline: Domingo Ramirez Jr.

Star-Telegram

Dateline: EVERMAN

Body

In 2007, Isabel Aguilar witnessed an accident and stopped to report it to a Fort Worth police officer. He checked her citizenship.

"He said he wanted my driver's license and proof of an insurance," Aguilar said. "He then said, 'I'm running your name.' I'm a witness and I'm trying to be a good citizen, and he checks on me."

It happened again in 2012, after she witnessed another collision, she said.

"I'm the one who gets checked, and all I was doing was being a witness," said Aguilar, an American citizen who was born in Texas.

Those kinds of incidents make Aguilar and other immigrants wary of what will happen if Senate Bill 4 takes effect. A federal judge Wednesday halted major provisions of the law, which seeks to outlaw "sanctuary" entities, the common term for governments that don't enforce federal immigration laws.

Before the federal ruling Wednesday, SB4 would have punished local government heads and elected officials who didn't cooperate with federal immigration "detainers" -- requests by agents to turn over immigrants subject to possible deportation. Punishment ranges from jail time to a maximum fine of \$25,000.

U.S. District Judge Orlando Garcia temporarily blocked the part of the bill that prohibits "a pattern or practice that materially limits" the enforcement of immigration laws.

He let stand a provision allowing police officers to question the immigration status of people they detain.

Texas Gov. Greg Abbott has promised an immediate appeal.



North Texas law enforcement agencies, which were working on new policies for SB4, are waiting to see what happens next.

"Our policy is on hold until a decision has been made on an injunction by a federal judge," Grand Prairie police spokeswoman Chelsea Kretz said Thursday. "The judge placed an injunction on parts of the law. The police chief is watching this closely and has decided to just place a hold on the entire policy for now."

Hurst Police Chief Stephen Moore agreed.

"We will not do anything at this time in regards to SB4, unless the injunction is lifted," Moore said Thursday in a telephone interview.

Immigrants and their allies welcomed the temporary halt on SB4 but promised to keep fighting.

"I had been feeling extremely uneasy and anxious and after the news yesterday, I cried and felt a huge relief even if it is temporary," said Sandra Tovar, a Fort Worth immigration advocate whose family includes members with different immigration statuses.

"The court was right to strike down virtually all of this patently unconstitutional law," said Lee Gelernt, deputy director of the ACLU's Immigrants' Rights Project.

"Senate Bill 4 would have led to rampant discrimination and made communities less safe. That's why police chiefs and mayors themselves were among its harshest critics -- they recognized it would harm, not help, their communities."

'The imminent fear of deportation'

An estimated 475,000 undocumented immigrants are in the Dallas/Fort Worth area, according to the Pew Research Center, based on U.S. Census Bureau data. About 1 million are in Texas and, in 2016, there were an estimated 11.3 million undocumented immigrants in the United States.

Many families include people with different immigration statuses -- parents who may have no status, older children on DACA (Deferred Action For Childhood Arrivals), younger siblings who are U.S.-born. As Sept. 1 approached, fears among immigrants and their allies intensified.

Ana Garza of Arlington heard from friends who don't have legal status. One told her, "Ana, I am afraid to drive."

Others said they would only venture out of their homes when they had to, Garza said.

Asked what immigrants fear most about SB4, Tovar said: "The imminent fear of deportation at any time ... something that arises from a traffic stop with no driver's license to show."

But before the federal ruling, some area police chiefs had already said officers would not be flooding neighborhoods or businesses searching for illegal immigrants and that local jails would not be packed with them, several police officials said.

An array of fears

Immigrant allies have stepped up to help immigrants know their rights -- often bringing police and immigrants face to face to answer questions. Last week, about 500 people gathered at St. Joseph Roman Catholic Church in Arlington to find out how SB4 would work.



500+ AMOS leaders gather to get clear on SB4 with @ArlingtonPD @MansfieldPDTX @fortworthpd @kennedale pd pic.twitter.com/pJtFtvQRnG— DallasAreaInterfaith (@DAI_IAF) August 30, 2017 //

The parish is the founding member of the Arlington Mansfield Organizing Strategy, which aims to empower immigrants regarding their rights.

The Rev. Daniel Kelley of St. Joseph said the church community has helped quell worries among immigrants in the congregation. People want to know how they will be impacted and their questions dealt with an array of fears, including: "If we get deported can someone else take care of our kids?"

Garza, a member of St. Joseph in Arlington who co-chaired the event, said participants met with officers from Arlington, Mansfield, Kennedale and Fort Worth to discuss how SB4 would work. Immigrants and officers worked in small groups.

Participants learned that police seeking identification during a routine traffic stop are looking to verify the identity of a driver, not immigration status. A driver's license, passport or identification card is enough in most cases.

Garza said participants told her they weren't afraid.

"I feel peace. I can trust them," Garza said she was told, adding, "This is hope."

'We totally support every resident'

Building a sense of trust has been a common message among North Texas police departments and immigration experts.

Fort Worth Police Chief Joel Fitzgerald told the City Council on Aug. 15 that SB4 will be hard to enforce and asked the community to trust the police department. He said officers would be trained on the department's new SB4 policy, which will be posted online.

Law enforcement agencies throughout Texas revamped policies to provide guidelines on the new law and to monitor officers when they apply it.

"We totally support every resident of the city of Fort Worth," Fitzgerald said. The department "doesn't engage in discrimination practices or racial profiling. Our mission is to protect each and every person in this city, whether you're a citizen or not."

At the time of an arrest, residents will need to produce a government-issued identification such as a driver's license or identification card, Grapevine Police Lt. Barry Bowling said.

Immigration attorney Francisco Hernandez of Fort Worth said he doesn't expect North Texas jails to be full of undocumented immigrants nor to have his office slammed with residents fearful of being deported.

"ICE didn't ask cities and counties for any help with undocumented immigrants," Hernandez said. "The law is a fantasy because those who are are deported are going to come back."

But criminal defense attorney Santiago Salinas of Fort Worth said he fears crimes will go unreported because residents will be afraid to call police.

"We are in a bad situation," Salinas said. "These people are becoming targets because criminals will go after them, knowing they won't report it or be a witness to a crime."



No increase expected at jails

Eules Police Chief Michael Brown and other area police chiefs said they didn't expect an increase in undocumented immigrants detained by officers.

For years, Eules has contracted with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement to temporarily house ICE detainees. Eules gets about \$55 per detainee and holds them for ICE officers for a day or two.

Any Texas city or county holding an undocumented immigrant without a federal hold is not paid by the federal government, officials said.

As of the end of July, Eules has held 2,465 detainees in the Eules jail this year. Brown estimated Eules gets about 2,000 a year.

"I expect after Sept. 1, it's going to be business as usual," Brown said. "I don't expect any increases in our jail."

At the Tarrant County Jail, Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** is having 12 detention officers undergo federal training to act as immigration agents. Four are in training paid for by the federal government and the rest should complete their training by the end of the year, officials said.

"The federal training of our detention staff has nothing to do with SB4," department spokesman David McClelland said. "ICE agents are in our jail Monday through Friday from 8 to 5. By participating in this program, it gives us 24/7 coverage and allows us to have more local control of the process."

ICE officials at a recent meeting on SB4 agreed with Grand Prairie Police Chief Steve Dye when he said ICE agents would not stop everything they were doing to go to a local police department to pick up an illegal immigrant. Agents would probably take the information and follow up later, the police chief said.

"ICE is focused on effective immigration enforcement that prioritizes its resources based on those who pose the biggest threat to national security, border security and public safety," ICE spokesman Carl Rusnok said in an email. "The decision to take custody of an individual arrested on local criminal charges is made on a case-by-case basis, prioritizing serious criminal offenders and other individuals who pose a risk to national security or public safety."

Under SB4 as written, sheriffs or police chiefs who defied the federal immigration requests would face a Class A misdemeanor charge, fines and potential jail time. Fines ranged from \$1,000 to \$1,500 on a first violation and \$25,000 to \$25,500 for each one after that.

Elected officials faced removal from their positions for not complying with the law.

But under SB4, an officer may not inquire into the immigration status of a victim and/or a witness to a crime unless the officer determines such an inquiry is necessary to investigate the offense.

And the new law would prohibits local agencies from racial profiling.

"One of the main points we want to emphasize with our community, we do not want officers to act on racial profiling," said Fort Worth police spokesman Daniel Segura. "Racial profiling is illegal."

Segura said the Fort Worth police department is revising its policies to monitor and document officers who ask about a resident's immigration status.



"Our mission is not immigration enforcement," North Richland Hills police Lt. Jeff Garner said. "We will continue to comply with all applicable state and federal laws regarding immigration issues."

In recent interviews, Hurst Police Chief Stephen Moore and other area police officials said one way they would monitor officers under the new law would be through the use of body cameras and dash cameras.

"Each month, supervisors randomly view those videos from officers," Moore said. "If an officer asks about someone's immigration status, that officer will have to articulate their reason for asking."

Grand Prairie police noted the law does not apply in community centers, hospital and hospital district police agencies, school districts and open-enrollment charter schools, community centers, local public health departments and federally qualified health centers.

"During a religious service or for a religious organizations, while [officers] are working at that religious facility, Senate Bill 4 does not apply to them," Grand Prairie Police Chief Steve Dye told a group of police officers at a recent SB4 meeting.

Dye admitted some of the trust between officers and the large Hispanic community in Grand Prairie has eroded.

"We work really hard to reassure our public that we value all persons regardless of whether someone was born in the United States or not," Arlington police Lt. Christopher Cook said.

Aguilar remains cautious.

"If someone has broken the law in a violent crime or something like domestic abuse and gets arrested, then I agree go ahead and check their status," Aguilar said. "But if a taillight is out on my car and I get pulled over, that's unfair to ask about immigration status."

Domingo Ramirez Jr.: 817-390-7763, @mingoramirezjr

If you're asked about your immigration status Do not hire a "notario" to help you with immigration matters. If possible, you should speak with an immigration lawyer before you answer any questions about your immigration status. Do not falsely claim U.S. citizenship or make any false representations. If you are in the U.S. on a tourist, student or work visa, you do not have to disclose your status if asked by federal immigration officers. You do not have to answer questions about your immigration status if you do not want to. If you wish to remain silent, you may say, "I am exercising my right to remain silent." Source: ACLU of Texas

Load-Date: September 5, 2017

End of Document

[HONORING Correctional Staff 2017](#)

American Jails

September 1, 2017 Friday

Copyright 2017 ProQuest Information and Learning
All Rights Reserved



Section: Pg. 8; Vol 31; No. 4; ISSN: 10560319

Length: 2628 words

Byline: Anonymous

Dateline: Hagerstown

Body

FULL TEXT

On May 5, 1984, Ronald Reagan, the 40th President of the United States, delivered a proclamation designating the first week in May as National Correctional Officers Week. The importance of all staff members who serve cannot be overstated, because each has an important role, whether civilian or security staff. Those who serve in the field can easily identify with the depth and spirit found in the context of the nearly 40-year old proclamation. The President-and possibly the Nation-began to recognize that we are no longer "guards," but trained professionals. In this article, we share some of the ways in which National Correctional Officers and Employees Week was observed in 2017.

Tarrant county sheriff's office

Fort Worth, Texas

For the first time in the history of Tarrant County, during the Tarrant County Commissioner's meeting on May 9, Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** and Executive Chief Deputy Raul S. Banasco, along with the TCSO Detention Bureau staff, accepted a Proclamation recognizing the 950 men and women who ensure public safety among the various jail facilities during National Correctional Officers and Employees Week 2017.

The Tarrant County Sheriff's Office operates the 3rd largest jail in Texas and the 15th largest in the United States with a capacity of 5,015 inmates among its five facilities.

The men and women arrive at the TCSO jail facilities with a "can do" attitude and go the extra mile to ensure public safety. The sheriff and his leadership served a meal to all staff on May 11 from 5 a.m. until 5 p.m. in appreciation of the staff's continued dedication, motivation, and hard work.

Solano county sheriff's office

Fairfield, California

The Solano County Board of Supervisors recognized the efforts of correctional officers at their board meeting on May 2 by reading a proclamation stating their hard work and commitment to providing safe, secure, and humane jails. The Board also spoke to the increasingly dangerous environment in which officers perform their daily duties to protect those incarcerated, as well as protecting themselves and the citizens of Solano County.

The Sheriff's Office staff planned a variety of activities for each day of the week, including raffle ticket prizes, discount coupons at local restaurants, and a BBQ for staff put on by the Custody Division Commander.

A final accolade was given to Officer Ignacio Villasenor, a 28-year veteran of the sheriff's office, who received a Hometown Hero Award-his prize was a ride in one of the Blue Angel's jets during an air show at



Travis Air Force Base. Ignacio exclaimed, "It was the thrill of a lifetime" as he was flown directly over one of the detention facilities.

Imperial county sheriff's office

El Centro, California

Imperial County observed National Correctional Officers Week, May 8-12 by kicking off the celebratory week with an opening ceremony where various county department members and Board of Supervisor members attended. Imperial County Superior Court Presiding Judge Plourd was the guest speaker, along with the sheriff and undersheriff, speaking to the work that the division has been able to accomplish. These appearances show their support for correctional officers and their profession, in addition to building morale and affirming that our profession is appreciated.

The Imperial County Deputy Sheriffs' Association was also gracious enough to donate money for a cook-out on Wednesday, May 10, which was enjoyed by many on the corrections team. The ceremonies closed on May 12 with a cake-cutting ceremony and award presentation- Corporal Juan Carlos Galindo was awarded the Telmate Hero Award for his innovative programming at Imperial County Sheriff's Office.

Spending a week celebrating the profession is a great way to show the team they are appreciated. Imperial County is fortunate to have an administration that takes time to make celebrations important, and to help with preparation and costs. A week may not be enough time, but it lets the officers know the appreciation the country has for their profession.

Onondaga county sheriff's office

Syracuse, New York

For Correctional Employees Week, the Onondaga County Sheriff's Office and the Deputies Union hosted a pizza party for all shifts. The week was topped off with shifts enjoying days of daily specials in staff dining by their food service vendor, Aramark. This year, the agency invited the local media to do a cover story of "a day in the life" of a deputy/corrections officer.

A great time was had by all. Having these events for the employees helps with the morale of the staff and it gives them a chance to come together, socialize, and take a short break away from the stress of the job.

MANISTEE COUNTY CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

Manistee, Michigan

The Manistee County Sheriff's Office celebrated Correctional Officers Week on May 10th with a meal, gifts, games, and Life Saving Awards. The Sheriff's Office Administrative team sponsored the entire event. The Emergency Operations Center was decorated with balloons, streamers (appropriately made from SHERIFF'S LINE DO NOT CROSS tape), and a banner. The time was situated just before shift change so that officers who were both coming on and going off duty could all partake in the festivities.

The sheriff awarded four Life Saving Awards and gave a speech thanking everyone for their hard work and dedication. The meal included barbequed pulled-pork sandwiches, homemade coleslaw, chips, cheese, crackers, venison sausage, venison jerky, and homemade cupcakes. There was a competition to disassemble and reassemble a duty weapon-best time was 13 seconds-in a blindfold competition. With music and fun for all, other prizes were awarded: dinner and a movie, coffee mugs, and gift certificates.

Oscedla county corrections



Kissimmee, Florida

The Osceola County Corrections Department in Kissimmee, Florida, celebrated National Correctional Officers and Employees Week with an appreciation luncheon for all the men and women who work behind the walls. Additionally, a raffle was held and a number of staff walked away with various prizes. All staff were also presented with certificates and a commemorative keychain featuring St. Michael, the Patron Saint of Law Enforcement.

Kershaw county detention center

Camden, South Carolina

During the week of May 7-13, 2017, the Kershaw County Detention Center celebrated Correctional Officers Appreciation Week. The week began with a full breakfast that was served to the correctional staff on Monday and Wednesday during shift changes. Lunch was also provided on these days to the staff from local businesses, Subway and Sub Station II. On Tuesday and Thursday, the administrative personnel took all staff members for lunch to a local restaurant called Hall's.

Donated door prizes were given to the staff during the lunch; thanks to local businesses showing their appreciation of our correctional officers. After eating lunch at Hall's, the staff members were treated to a movie and popcorn at a local movie theater called Little Theater of Camden, who graciously opened their doors to staff for a private viewing, courtesy of the Jail Administrator, Peggy E. Spivey.

After the movie, staff returned to the facility and were given Correctional Officer Appreciation Logo tote bags and water bottles filled with donated gift cards. Staff also received additional door prizes before exiting the facility.

Broomfield police detention center

Broomfield, Colorado

The Broomfield Police Department recognized its police and correctional officers in a joint National Correctional Officers and Peace Officers Memorial Day Ceremony on May 15, 2017.

Led by the Broomfield Combined Honor Guard, citizens and staff from both the Operations and Support Services Bureaus came together to acknowledge the accomplishments and contributions that corrections and law enforcement staff bring to the criminal justice system. The proclamation read in part:

Whereas, the members of the Broomfield Police Department play an essential role in safeguarding the rights and freedoms of the Citizens of the City and County of Broomfield.

Whereas these men and women by their patriotic service and their dedicated efforts have earned the gratitude of our community.

On hand to provide additional remarks were Broomfield Deputy Chief of Police Mike Clement, and Broomfield City and County Manager Charles Ozaki. All participants were then treated to various desserts and drinks.

Palm beach county sheriff's office

West Palm Beach, Florida



The Palm Beach County Sheriff's Executive and Command staff commemorated all of its correctional officers and employees who without hesitation risk their safety to protect inmate populations and fellow deputies every day.

During National Correctional Officers and Employees Week, a long anticipated fun and friendly competition was birthed between Palm Beach, Broward, and MiamiDade Counties. The competition included bowling and a talent show. Not only was there fun, the Tri-Counties formed long-standing friendships by networking and sharing common goals and professional philosophies. Each event had at least 300 correctional officers and employees participating.

The week's schedule included:

* Monday-Raffle.

* Tuesday-County Commissioner Dave Kerner presented a National Correctional Officers and Employees Week Proclamation.

* Wednesday-Department BBQ and cake for all shifts donated by the Police Benevolent Association and a bowling tournament between Palm Beach, Broward, and Miami-Dade County.

* Thursday-Raffle.

* Friday-Dinner.

* Saturday-Talent show between Palm Beach, Broward, and Miami-Dade County.

Since National Correctional Officers and Employees Week has ended, the friendships formed during this time have evolved into the Tri-Counties visiting each other's facilities. During these visits, we share ideas and progress further in the improvement of daily activities and technology, strengthening the strong bonds between Palm Beach, Broward, and Miami-Dade Counties. We not only look forward to next year's National Correctional Officers and Employees Week, but also to the comradery and business relationships as we continue to share! _

Wyandotte county sheriff's office

Kansas City, Kansas

Honoring all those who work with Wyandotte County Sheriff's Office, National Correctional Officers and Employees Week was observed May 7-13, 2017. All personnel assigned to the Detention Division-both ADC and JDC-were recognized by Sheriff Donald Ash for playing a major role in keeping the community safe.

During the week, Aramark provided a steak dinner for employees. Sheriff Ash and Warden Fewell recognize the stress factors that deputies and staff are under; they are constantly involved in maintaining boosted morale throughout the year.

Centre county correctional facility

Bellefonte, Pennsylvania

The Centre County Correctional Facility in Bellefonte, Pennsylvania celebrated Corrections Employee Week May 7-13, 2017. In addition to the National and Commonwealth proclamations, the Centre County Board of Commissioners issued a proclamation recognizing the week.



Each year during this celebration, five staff recognition awards are presented. The Centre County Board of Inspectors recognized 7-3 Officer of the Year David Zettle, 3-11 Officer of the Year Tony Little, 11-7 Officer of the Year Kyle Miller, Staff Member of the Year Counselor Caitlyn Neff, and Supervisor of the Year Lt. Thomas Allen Jr. with certificates and photographs at the May 11 public meeting.

There is a special menu prepared for staff on all shifts throughout the week. This year, the facility administration took part in the preparations to thank the staff for their hard work. Deputy Warden Melanie Gordon baked 12 dozen cupcakes in six flavors, and Deputy Warden Christopher A. Schell seasoned and cooked 150 chickens and served the staff on Wednesday May 10th. Members of the Board of Inspectors joined the staff for lunch at the cookout to spend time thanking individuals.

There is a tradition of getting a small gift for the staff, which changes each year. This year, each staff member was gifted a 30 oz. travel mug with the facility logo for use at work or at home.

Centre County is proud to recognize not only our great jail staff, but also the dedicated staff at the State Corrections Institutions Rockview and Benner Township who serve in our community. Together we have 1,400 corrections professionals recognized for outstanding commitment.

St. Lucie County Sheriff's Office Department of Detention

Fort Pierce, Florida

During the week of May 8, 2017, the St. Lucie County Sheriff's Office Department of Detention celebrated Corrections Officers and Employees Week with a repeat of last year's successful week-great food, giveaways, posters, and a fun slideshow.

Often times, the personnel working within the confines of a detention facility are absorbed by the reputation and stigma of the community in which they serve. The correlation of jail and community is overlooked and our "stars" within the detention facility are dulled. This year we increased the opportunities for our stars' brilliance to be admired through Corrections Officer and Employees Week activities.

Sheriff's Office Detention members were presented with insulated custom engraved high quality cup, a Department of Detention challenge coin, and snacks donated by Aramark food service.

Additionally, all facility employees were treated to several themed feasts throughout the week ranging from Italian to BBQ. During meal times, food was served by department and facility command staff much to the surprise enjoyment of staff members. An entertaining musical slideshow of members in work and fun settings was played in the dining room during week. Many of the pictures were also featured in large format posters displayed around the facility.

Once again, facility personnel expressed their appreciation for the acknowledgment of their contribution to the agency and society.

City Of Atlanta Department Of Corrections

Atlanta, Georgia

The City of Atlanta Department of Corrections (DOC) commemorated National Correctional Officers and Employees Week with a week-long celebration of events and activities. Each year, the first full week in May is recognized as National Correctional Officers and Employees Week, paying tribute to the contributions of correctional officers, nurses, and other personnel who work in jails, prisons, and community corrections across the country.



"Due to the nature of our primary role at the Atlanta Department of Corrections, it is rare that we have an opportunity to highlight the sacrifice and commitment of corrections officers. Celebrating National Correctional Officers and Employees Week provides a platform for the department to pay tribute to officers and civilians who have passed away, reunite with retired personnel and acknowledge staff who go above and beyond the call of duty every day to keep the citizens of Atlanta safe," said Chief Patrick Labat.

The Atlanta DOC kicked off its celebration with a four-mile run/walk led by Chief Labat, the Department of Corrections' Command Staff, and VIPER Team at the Atlanta BeltLine East Trail entrance located in Midtown. Other events planned for the week included a memorial service, a retirees' luncheon, health fair, golf tournament, softball tournament, bowling tournament, raffles, prizes, cookout, and more.

The observance culminated with the presentation of the 2017 Correctional Officer of the Year award to Officer Jacques Cliatt. Other employee awards were presented by Chief Labat. Atlanta Mayor Kasim Reed and City of Atlanta COO Dan Gordon addressed the DOC staff about the importance of corrections officers. Atlanta City Councilman C.T. Martin, City Councilman Andre Dickens Municipal Judge Terrinee Gundy, and Judge Leigh Dupre also attended the awards program. ?

Load-Date: February 12, 2018

End of Document

[**Abbott defends sanctuary ban at state sheriffs' meeting**](#)

THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

August 1, 2017 Tuesday, 1 EDITION

Copyright 2017 THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

DallasNews.com

Section: METRO & STATE; Pg. B01

Length: 598 words

Byline: GROMER JEFFERS JR., Political Writer

Body

GRAPEVINE — Texas Gov. Greg Abbott on Monday touted the state's new law banning sanctuary cities as a way to curb human trafficking and other crimes.

He called human trafficking a byproduct of broken borders and said the sanctuary cities law that he signed this year would help fix the problem.

"It would remove from the streets dangerous criminals, not detain hardworking families and innocent children," Abbott told the Sheriff's Association of Texas in Grapevine. "I appreciate the strong support the law has received from so many sheriffs across Texas."



But Democrats were quick to blast the law and Abbott.

“SB4 will only divide communities from law enforcement, which is why every major police chief in the state opposed the bill,” said Chris Turner, D-Arlington and the leader of the House Democratic Caucus. “Greg Abbott and the Republican-controlled Legislature just ignored them.”

Turner said the sanctuary cities law, dubbed the “papers, please” bill by critics because it would allow law enforcement officers to

people for proof of citizenship, would create divisions between the police and immigrant communities.

Sheriffs’ reaction

The sheriffs in the room are mixed on the law, and Abbott’s remarks sought to clarify that his intentions were not to have Texas law enforcement officials serve as immigration police.

“There are as many opinions as there are hats,” said Dallas County Sheriff Lupe Valdez. “There are a lot of officers that don’t agree with that.”

Valdez said the law was a political tool to attack vulnerable Texans.

“Throughout history, we’ve had a vulnerable group to pick on,” Valdez said. “Now it seems to be Hispanics.”

Valdez said Department of Public Safety numbers show that 1.6 percent of crime is committed by unauthorized immigrants.

“Why don’t we actually take care of the problem, instead of going after a group?” she said.

Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** also said he was glad Abbott clarified that the new law would not be used to make local police officers the immigration police.

Session update

In a news conference after his speech, Abbott said he was hopeful that the Legislature would approve all 20 items on the agenda for the special session now in progress.

He said the Senate has conducted its business and the House could do the same, if it had the will.

But the governor did not commit to calling another special session if lawmakers don’t approve all of his wish list.

Abbott also defended the controversial bathroom bill that would reverse local laws related to transgender restroom use. Transgender residents would be restricted to using bathrooms that correspond to the gender of their birth.

He said police officers would not have to enforce such a law; that would be left to the Texas attorney general.

He asked Texans to “step back and calmly look at what the bill says before casting misguided judgment.”

But Valdez, Dallas County’s first Hispanic, female and lesbian sheriff, said the Legislature should stop trying to pass a bathroom bill.



"I've had more people injured by trying to hold their urine to go to a bathroom where they feel safe than injured by somebody going in dressed as another sex," Valdez said. "We're making up something. It's not an issue. We need to start caring for our people."

Also at the sheriffs meeting, Abbott said the country needed to better support police officers.

"Respect for our law enforcement officers must be restored in our nation," he said. "The badge every sheriff and every officer wear over his or her heart is a reminder of a sacred trust, commitment and contract with each of us."

Twitter: @gromerjeffers

Load-Date: August 1, 2017

End of Document

[GOP Sen. John Cornyn joins city and county leaders to discuss local law enforcement efforts to recruit veterans](#)

AP Planner

April 11, 2017 Tuesday

Copyright 2017 Associated Press All Rights Reserved



Section: NEWS AGENDA; Political Events; Emergency Services

Length: 67 words

Body

Republican Senator John Cornyn joins Fort Worth Mayor Betsy Price, Tarrant County Judge Glen Whitley, Sheriff **Bill Waybourn**, and Fort Worth Police Department (FWPD) Assistant Chief Ed Kraus to discuss bipartisan legislation that would incentivize the hiring of military veterans for law enforcement jobs

Event Start Date: 2017-04-10

Event End Date: 2017-04-10

Event URL: cornyn.senate.gov

Event time: 15:00 CDT

Load-Date: April 11, 2017



[Cornyn touts bill meant to encourage law enforcement agencies to hire veterans](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

April 10, 2017 Monday

Copyright 2017 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: fort_worth

Length: 383 words

Byline: Domingo Ramirez Jr.

The Star-Telegram

Dateline: FORT WORTH

Body

U.S. Sen. John Cornyn came to Fort Worth Monday to promote a bill that would encourage local and state governments to hire military veterans as law enforcement officers.

He got a warm welcome from county and city leaders.

"This is has been a military community for years," Mayor Betsy Price said.

Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** agreed.

"We are placing a lot of emphasis on hiring veterans," he said.

One after another, Tarrant County and Fort Worth leaders voiced their strong support for the American Law Enforcement Heroes Act, a bill introduced by Cornyn and fellow Sen. Amy Klobuchar, D-Minn.

Cornyn held a roundtable discussion about the bill Monday at the Bob Bolen Public Safety Complex with police and local leaders.

The bill would encourage state and local law enforcement agencies to hire veterans by creating a statutory preference to prioritize the hiring and training of veterans.

There is currently an administrative process that gives a preference to state and locals that hire veterans. This bill would essentially codify that administrative process, putting a preference in the law for state and local agencies which hire veterans.



Officials pointed out that veterans' experience and skills make them highly sought after by police recruiters.

Law enforcement agencies could get as much as \$25,000 in federal money for hiring veterans and could be eligible for additional money for academy and field training, supplemental community policing training, uniforms and basic training.

But some critics through the years have said hiring veterans as police officers may be risky because they may suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder or other mental health problems.

Those supporting the bill include the Fraternal Order of Police, the Texas Police Chiefs Association and Texas Municipal Police Association.

Thomas Belton, director of Tarrant County Veteran Services, noted Monday the transition from the military to civilian life remains a challenge.

"I would tell agencies to make sure the recruiters follow up -- just follow up," Belton told Cornyn when the senator asked him what challenges veterans face.

Cornyn believes the bill is a way to help veterans.

"This is not a complicated bill," he said. "It's a way to make a community safer."

Domingo Ramirez Jr.: 817-390-7763, @mingoramirezjr

Load-Date: April 12, 2017

End of Document

[GOP Sen. John Cornyn joins city and county leaders to discuss local law enforcement efforts to recruit veterans](#)

AP Planner

April 10, 2017 Monday

Copyright 2017 Associated Press All Rights Reserved



Section: NEWS AGENDA; Political Events; Emergency Services

Length: 67 words

Body

Republican Senator John Cornyn joins Fort Worth Mayor Betsy Price, Tarrant County Judge Glen Whitley, Sheriff **Bill Waybourn**, and Fort Worth Police Department (FWPD) Assistant Chief Ed Kraus to discuss bipartisan legislation that would incentivize the hiring of military veterans for law enforcement jobs



Event Start Date: 2017-04-10

Event End Date: 2017-04-10

Event URL: cornyn.senate.gov

Event time: 15:00 CDT

Load-Date: April 10, 2017

End of Document

[Sheriff: ICE arrests immigrants reporting for labor detail](#)

The Associated Press

March 28, 2017 Tuesday 12:33 AM GMT

Copyright 2017 Associated Press All Rights Reserved

Section: DOMESTIC NEWS

Length: 469 words

Dateline: FORT WORTH, Texas

Body

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) - Federal immigration agents arrested 26 immigrants suspected of living in the country illegally as they reported for labor-detail sentences for unrelated crimes in Fort Worth, according to local authorities.

Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** told local television station KXAS that his office participated in the arrests Sunday morning at the request of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

Of the 26, 23 are from Mexico and three are from Honduras, according to an ICE statement Monday. Twenty three of those arrested have criminal convictions for driving while intoxicated. Two have multiple DWI convictions, and one of those convicted of DWI was given an enhanced sentence for driving with a 15-year-old minor at the time. Four of those arrested have criminal convictions for possessing a controlled substance.

Three of those arrested have been previously deported, and will have their previous final orders of removal reinstated, according to the ICE statement. Six will be voluntarily returned to Mexico, and 12 have been issued notices to appear before a federal immigration judge who will determine their immigration cases. All those who have not been removed or voluntarily returned to Mexico remain in ICE custody pending their removal or disposition of their immigration cases.

Waybourn said the arrested individuals were suspected of living in the country illegally and had been convicted of high-level misdemeanors or low-level felonies. The sheriff said the individuals were taken to an ICE facility in Dallas for processing, and some may be released. He said their families were notified.



The Fort Worth Star-Telegram reported that Waybourn's office was contacted about a week ago by federal authorities asking for information about people in the work detail. A judge can order suspects to report for work detail as part of a sentence.

"If someone gets booked into jail Friday night and bonds out on Saturday, ICE never has a chance to screen them," David McClelland, Waybourn's chief of staff, told the newspaper. "I don't believe the people detained were ever screened by ICE when they came into our jail."

Fort Worth-based immigration attorney Nicolas Chavez said Sunday's operation could have a "chilling effect" on immigrants who want to comply with the terms of their sentences but are concerned about federal enforcement action.

Chavez said he and other local immigration attorneys have seen a spike in clients who want a better understanding of their rights. He said many are also now seeking, for the first time, a permit allowing for legal residence.

"We're seeing more and more individuals who are eligible but haven't applied for it before, and now they're just coming out of the shadows and seeking some form of protection to remain in the United States," he said.

Load-Date: March 28, 2017

End of Document

[26 reporting for community service are detained by ICE](#)

THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

March 27, 2017 Monday, 1 EDITION

Copyright 2017 THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

DallasNews.com

Section: METRO & STATE; Pg. NEWS_B07

Length: 440 words

Byline: JULIETA CHIQUILLO JCHIQUELLO@DALLASNEWS.COM, STAFF WRITER

Body

Federal immigration officers detained 26 people suspected of being unauthorized immigrants when they reported for community service Sunday morning in Fort Worth, according to the Tarrant County Sheriff's Department.

Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** told KXAS-TV (NBC5) that his office participated in the operation at the request of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.



"This was totally initiated by ICE," Waybourn told NBC5. "They came to us and said, 'Listen, we reviewed the list [of names], and we suspect some of them are illegal aliens.' So we said, 'Whatever you need to do.'"

The operation took place at the Tarrant County facility on Cold Springs Road in Fort Worth. An NBC5 photographer reported seeing an ICE bus and two vans. Most of the people were frisked as they were escorted onto the bus, and one man was shackled, the news station reported.

The detainees had convictions for felonies and misdemeanors and had been ordered by a court to do community service, said David McClelland, the sheriff's chief of staff. It appears that they were not screened by ICE when they were first booked in jail after their arrests, he said.

Two ICE agents work at the Tarrant County Jail from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday to Friday, screening records to look for unauthorized immigrants, but the agency might miss them if immigrants are booked when no ICE agents are on duty, McClelland said.

ICE spokesman Carl Rusnok declined to give details about the operation on Cold Springs Road.

"ICE officers are conducting ongoing immigration enforcement operations in North Texas," he said in a prepared statement. "No further details are available until the conclusion of this operation. ICE routinely conducts immigration enforcement operations locally and nationwide which help improve overall public safety by removing criminal aliens from our communities, and ultimately from our country."

The people taken into custody Sunday were driven to a federal detention center in Dallas, McClelland said.

Waybourn told NBC5 that the families of the detainees have been notified and that some could be released.

The sheriff took office in January. He said he wants to participate in a federal program known as 287(g), which would give his detention officers the power to look for unauthorized immigrants entering the jail.

"This is going to give us coverage 24 hours, seven days a week, so the ability for somebody to slip through the cracks is going to be reduced," Waybourn told the Fort Worth Star-Telegram. "I will not foolishly say somebody won't slip through the cracks at some point in a large, urban jail like this, but this will reduce that."

Twitter: @jmchiquillo

Load-Date: March 27, 2017

End of Document

[ICE arrests 26 illegal immigrants while they are carrying out community service as part of parole deals](#)

MailOnline

March 27, 2017 Monday 6:34 AM GMT

Copyright 2017 Associated Newspapers Ltd. All Rights Reserved



Section: NEWS; Version:5

Length: 258 words

Byline: ASSOCIATED PRESS

Body

- ICE agents swooped on 26 illegal immigrants in Fort Worth, Texas on Sunday
- They had just turned up to carry out community service, like trash collection
- Juan Herrera, whose brother was detained, said they were punishing 'those who try to be straight and pay all the money back and everything'

Immigration agents swooped on a group of men carrying out community service in Fort Worth, Texas and arrested 26 illegal immigrants who were out on parole.

Yesterday's operation was one of the biggest carried out by Immigration and Customs Enforcement in north Texas.

Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** said those arrested had been convicted of a range of low-level felonies and high-level misdemeanors and had been released from jail by mistake.

But Juan Herrera, whose brother Jaime was one of those detained, said they were actually punishing those who were trying to do the right thing and bothered to turn up for their community service.

He told NBC : 'It's kind of weird, because the people who don't do it, still outside and the people who try to be straight and pay all the money back and everything, that's what happened.'

Mr Herrera said his brother had lived in the US for a decade and had three children born in the country.

It is believed to be the first time ICE have targeted undocumented immigrants who reported for court-ordered community service, which usually involves picking up trash or cleaning up vandalized buildings.

ICE spokesman Carl Rusnock said: 'ICE routinely conducts immigration enforcement operations locally and nationwide.'

Load-Date: March 27, 2017

End of Document

[**ICE Deported Around 26 Parolees About to Do Community Service in North Texas**](#)

Latino Rebels

March 27, 2017 Monday 5:23 PM EST



Copyright 2017 Newstex LLC All Rights Reserved

Length: 117 words

Byline: Latino Rebels

Body

Mar 27, 2017(Latino Rebels: <http://latinorebels.com> Delivered by Newstex) Via NBC Dallas-Forth Worth[1], this happened over the weekend:It is believed to be one of the largest such sweeps in North Texas in recent memory and perhaps the first of undocumented immigrants who reported for court-ordered community service, like picking up trash along highways. Those arrested were convicted of high-level misdemeanors or low-level felonies like drunk driving, theft and assault, and were released from jail by mistake, said Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn**. [1]: http://www.nbcdfw.com/news/local/ICE-Arrests-Undocumented-Parolees-in-Fort-Worth-417125103.html?osource=SocialFlowTwt_DFWBrand

Load-Date: March 27, 2017

End of Document

[Most Tarrant County offenders detained Sunday by ICE were convicted of DWI](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

March 27, 2017 Monday

Copyright 2017 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: fort_worth

Length: 552 words

Byline: Susan McFarland

The Star-Telegram

Dateline: Fort Worth

Body



Out of 26 offenders detained Sunday by Immigration and Customs Enforcement, 23 were working off sentences for DWI convictions.

The probationers were detained as they reported for labor detail at a Tarrant County Jail facility north of downtown. It was part of a three-day ICE operation that targeted illegal immigrants with criminal convictions who are deportable to their countries of origin, said ICE Dallas region spokesman Carl Rusnok.

Of those detained, 23 are from Mexico and three from Honduras.

Out of the 23 DWI convictions, two have multiple DWI convictions and one was given an enhanced sentence for driving with a 15-year-old minor, and four have criminal convictions for possessing a controlled substance, Rusnok said.

Rusnok said three of those arrested have been previously deported and will have their previous final orders of removal reinstated; six will be voluntarily returned to Mexico; and 12 have been issued notices to appear before a federal immigration judge, who will determine their fate.

The remaining five are still in ICE custody pending disposition of their cases, the spokesman said.

"During this operation, we removed from our streets 23 criminal aliens who had DWI convictions," Simona L. Flores, field office director for ICE's Enforcement and Removal Operations Dallas, said in a statement. "This three-day operation literally made our communities safer and our streets safer to drive."

During fiscal 2016, ICE conducted 240,255 removals nationwide; 92 percent of those had previously been convicted of a crime, Rusnok said.

Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** has pledged to crack down on undocumented immigrants, especially those convicted of crimes. After he took office in January, he applied to take part in a federal program that would train jailers to screen for undocumented immigrants in the Tarrant County Jail.

Two ICE agents work at the Tarrant County Jail during the day Monday through Friday, his chief of staff, David McClelland, said Sunday.

"If someone gets booked into jail Friday night and bonds out on Saturday, ICE never has a chance to screen them," he said. "I don't believe the people detained were ever screened by ICE when they came into our jail."

Anita Quinones, a local activist who tutors immigrant children, said Sunday: "These individuals were following the law by showing up to do their community service. In the act of doing the right thing they were rounded up like cattle. No good deed goes unpunished."

Maria Robles of Arlington, a bilingual organizer with North Texas group Faith, said Sunday's roundup is the type of crackdown that immigrants fear.

"This type of collaboration is what tears at the relationship and trust between our community and law enforcement," she said in a message. "We will continue to stand in solidarity to ensure our community's rights are respected by continuing to organize and bring 'Know Your Rights' sessions to the Fort Worth community."

"Unfortunately in these types of situations there is little or nothing that can be done in the moment, but there is plenty of room to empower our community with helping them recognize they too have rights under our Constitution regardless of immigration status," Robles said.



Staff writer Diane Smith contributed to this report.

Susan McFarland: 817-390-7984, @susanmcfarland1

Load-Date: March 27, 2017

End of Document

[Sheriff: ICE arrests 26 parolees during community service](#)

Associated Press International

March 27, 2017 Monday 5:32 AM GMT

Copyright 2017 Associated Press All Rights Reserved

Section: DOMESTIC NEWS

Length: 152 words

Dateline: FORT WORTH, Texas

Body

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) - Authorities in Fort Worth say federal immigration agents arrested 26 parolees living in the country illegally as they performed community service.

Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** tells KXAS-TV (<http://bit.ly/2o7GYcf>) his office participated in Sunday morning's operation at the request of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. An ICE spokesman confirmed the operation, but didn't provide additional details.

Spokesman Carl Rusnock tells the station "ICE routinely conducts immigration enforcement operations locally and nationwide."

Waybourn says those arrested were convicted of high-level misdemeanors or low-level felonies and were released from jail by mistake. He also says the families of the detainees had been notified.

The sheriff says they were taken to an ICE facility in Dallas for processing, and some may be released.

Information from: KXAS-TV, <http://www.nbcdfw.com>

Load-Date: March 28, 2017

End of Document

[Sheriff: ICE arrests immigrants reporting for labour detail; Sheriff: ICE arrests immigrants reporting for labour detail](#)





Section: INTERNATIONAL

Length: 468 words

Byline: The Associated Press

Body

FORT WORTH, Texas - Federal immigration agents arrested 26 immigrants suspected of living in the country illegally as they reported for labour-detail sentences for unrelated crimes in Fort Worth, according to local authorities.

Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** told local television station KXAS that his office participated in the arrests Sunday morning at the request of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

Of the 26, 23 are from Mexico and three are from Honduras, according to an ICE statement Monday. Twenty three of those arrested have criminal convictions for driving while intoxicated. Two have multiple DWI convictions, and one of those convicted of DWI was given an enhanced sentence for driving with a 15-year-old minor at the time. Four of those arrested have criminal convictions for possessing a controlled substance.

Three of those arrested have been previously deported, and will have their previous final orders of removal reinstated, according to the ICE statement. Six will be voluntarily returned to Mexico, and 12 have been issued notices to appear before a federal immigration judge who will determine their immigration cases. All those who have not been removed or voluntarily returned to Mexico remain in ICE custody pending their removal or disposition of their immigration cases.

Waybourn said the arrested individuals were suspected of living in the country illegally and had been convicted of high-level misdemeanours or low-level felonies. The sheriff said the individuals were taken to an ICE facility in Dallas for processing, and some may be released. He said their families were notified.

The Fort Worth Star-Telegram reported that Waybourn's office was contacted about a week ago by federal authorities asking for information about people in the work detail. A judge can order suspects to report for work detail as part of a sentence.

"If someone gets booked into jail Friday night and bonds out on Saturday, ICE never has a chance to screen them," David McClelland, Waybourn's chief of staff, told the newspaper. "I don't believe the people detained were ever screened by ICE when they came into our jail."



Fort Worth-based immigration attorney Nicolas Chavez said Sunday's operation could have a "chilling effect" on immigrants who want to comply with the terms of their sentences but are concerned about federal enforcement action.

Chavez said he and other local immigration attorneys have seen a spike in clients who want a better understanding of their rights. He said many are also now seeking, for the first time, a permit allowing for legal residence.

"We're seeing more and more individuals who are eligible but haven't applied for it before, and now they're just coming out of the shadows and seeking some form of protection to remain in the United States," he said.

Load-Date: March 30, 2017

End of Document

[ICE detains 26 offenders reporting for community service in Fort Worth; Immigration](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

March 26, 2017 Sunday

Copyright 2017 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: fort_worth

Length: 699 words

Byline: Susan McFarland

The Star-Telegram

Dateline: FORT WORTH

Body

Agents for Immigration and Customs Enforcement detained 26 offenders suspected of being undocumented as they reported for community service Sunday morning at a Tarrant County Jail facility north of downtown.

David McClelland, chief of staff for Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn**, said the Sheriff's Department was contacted about a week ago by federal agents asking for information about people in the work detail, a program for those who are on probation and are working off part of their sentences.



McClelland said those detained Sunday at the Cold Springs Road work detail facility had convictions of high-level misdemeanors and low-level felonies.

Carl Rusnok, ICE spokesman for the Dallas region, declined to give specifics regarding the Sunday roundup.

"ICE officers are conducting ongoing immigration enforcement operations in North Texas. No further details are available until the conclusion of this operation," Rusnok said in an emailed statement. "ICE routinely conducts immigration enforcement operations locally and nationwide which help improve overall public safety by removing criminal aliens from our communities, and ultimately from our country."

NBCDFW.com reported that most of those detained were frisked as they were escorted onto a bus and that one man was shackled.

"This was totally initiated by ICE," Waybourn told NBC5. "They came to us and said, 'Listen, we reviewed the list (of names) and we suspect some of them are illegal aliens.' So we said, 'Whatever you need to do.'"

Those detained were taken to an ICE facility in Dallas where they were to be processed and at least some would possibly be released, according to the TV station. It was not clear Sunday night where they were taken or whether any had been released.

Waybourn has pledged to crack down on undocumented immigrants, especially those convicted of crimes. After he took office in January, he applied to take part in a federal program that would train jailers to screen for undocumented immigrants in the Tarrant County Jail.

Sheriff wants jailers to screen for undocumented immigrants

Two ICE agents work at the Tarrant County Jail during the day Monday through Friday, McClelland said.

"If someone gets booked into jail Friday night and bonds out on Saturday, ICE never has a chance to screen them," he said. "I don't believe the people detained were ever screened by ICE when they came into our jail."

Anita Quinones, a local activist who tutors immigrant children, said: "These individuals were following the law by showing up to do their community service. In the act of doing the right thing they were rounded up like cattle. No good deed goes unpunished."

Fort Worth immigration activist Gloria Gonzalez-Garcia said the immigrant community was following reports of the ICE operation closely.

"Our thoughts are that we are disappointed that Waybourn would use such ... tactics, creating an 'open season' on our community," she said in a text message.

Maria Robles of Arlington, a bilingual organizer with North Texas group Faith, said Sunday's roundup is the type of crackdown that immigrants fear.

"This type of collaboration is what tears at the relationship and trust between our community and law enforcement," she said in a message. "We will continue to stand in solidarity to ensure our community's rights are respected by continuing to organize and bring 'Know Your Rights' sessions to the Fort Worth community."



"Unfortunately in these types of situations there is little or nothing that can be done in the moment, but there is plenty of room to empower our community with helping them recognize they too have rights under our Constitution regardless of immigration status," Robles said.

Staff writer Diane Smith contributed to this report, which includes material from the Star-Telegram archives.

Susan McFarland: 817-390-7984, @susanmcfarland1

Sheriff **Bill Waybourn**, Tarrant Co. deputies to ID illegal immigrants Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** discusses his plan to have jail deputies identify illegal immigrants when booked into jail.

Message to the Hispanic community from Fort Worth police officer Daniel Segura Officer Segura shared the video on his Facebook page early Thursday morning.

Load-Date: March 27, 2017

End of Document

[ICE arrests 26 parolees doing community service in Fort Worth](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

March 26, 2017 Sunday

Copyright 2017 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: local

Length: 405 words

Byline: Susan McFarland

The Star-Telegram

Dateline: Fort Worth

Body

Agents for Immigration and Customs Enforcement detained 26 undocumented parolees reporting for community service Sunday morning at a Tarrant County facility on Cold Springs Road.

David McClelland, chief of staff for Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn**, said the Sheriff's Department was contacted about a week ago by federal agents asking for information about people in the labor detail, a program for those who have been convicted or are on probation and are working off part of their sentences.



McClelland said those detained had convictions of high-level misdemeanors and felonies.

Carl Rusnok, ICE spokesman, confirmed officers are conducting ongoing immigration enforcement operations in North Texas but said he could give no further details until the conclusion of the operation.

"ICE routinely conducts immigration enforcement operations locally and nationwide which help improve overall public safety by removing criminal aliens from our communities, and ultimately from our country," Rusnok said, via an emailed statement.

NBCDFW.com reported that most of those detained were frisked as they were escorted onto a bus and that one man was shackled.

"This was totally initiated by ICE," Waybourn told NBC5. "They came to us and said, 'Listen, we reviewed the list (of names) and we suspect some of them are illegal aliens.' So we said, 'Whatever you need to do.' "

Those arrested were taken to an ICE facility in Dallas where they will be processed and some possibly released, according to the TV station.

Waybourn has pledged to crack down on undocumented immigrants, especially those convicted of crimes. After after he took office in January, he applied to take part in a federal program that would train jailers to screen for undocumented immigrants in the Tarrant County Jail.

Fort Worth immigration activist Gloria Gonzalez-Garcia said the immigrant community was following reports of the raid closely.

"Our thoughts are that we are disappointed that Waybourn would use such ... tactics, creating an 'open season' on our community," she said in a text message.

Another local activist, Anita Quinones, who tutors immigrant children, said: "These individuals were following the law by showing up to do their community service. In the act of doing the right thing they were rounded up like cattle. No good deed goes unpunished."

Staff writer Diane Smith contributed to this report.

Susan McFarland: 817-390-7984, @susanmcfarland1

Load-Date: March 26, 2017

End of Document

[Rep. Burgess Recognizes 26th Congressional District's Law Enforcement Officers](#)

Targeted News Service

March 10, 2017 Friday 9:09 PM EST

Copyright 2017 Targeted News Service LLC All Rights Reserved

Length: 242 words

Byline: Targeted News Service



Dateline: WASHINGTON

Body

Rep. Michael C. Burgess, R-Texas, issued the following speech, which was published in the Congressional Record on Feb. 27, recognizing the 26th Congressional District's law enforcement officers:

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor our heroes in blue who serve and protect the North Texas community. The exemplary members of our law enforcement put their lives on the line daily to ensure the safety of our citizens and deserve all of the respect and honor that our nation has to offer.

With 135 law enforcement officers lost in 2016 alone, the sacrifices made by these selfless men and women to ensure our safety are more apparent now than ever before. These tragic losses were felt even closer to home when five officers were lost in Dallas just six months ago. I want to express my sincerest gratitude to Police Chiefs Reim, Tackett, Bruce, Wilson, Hargis, Carolla, Kerbow, Perdue, Kowalski, Amyx, Coulon, Watson, Sadler, Johnson, Reynolds, Pauley, Payne, Harrison, Henley, Brooks, Edland, Genova, Howell, Blount, Walthall, Patrick, Fitzgerald, Fowler and Kancel; to Denton County Constable Hammons, Truitt, Raburn, Burch and Boydston; and Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** and Denton County Sheriff Tracy Murphee.

The leadership exhibited by these law enforcement officers and their service to the 26th District of Texas is invaluable and it is my privilege to recognize such an outstanding group.

Copyright Targeted News Services

MSTRUCK-5801720 MSTRUCK

Load-Date: March 10, 2017

End of Document

['Pup in training:' Tarrant County sheriff enlists labradoodle therapy dog](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

March 7, 2017 Tuesday

Copyright 2017 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram
Found on DFW.com

Section: fort_worth

Length: 137 words



Byline: Ryan Osborne

The Star-Telegram

Dateline: FORT WORTH

Body

The Tarrant County sheriff's department will soon have a furry new deputy.

Former Dallas Cowboys tight end Jay Novacek and his wife, Amy, are donating a labradoodle to serve as a therapy dog for the agency, NBC 5 reported.

"Every time I have seen a dog like this interjected into a situation, it brings down the tension in the room," Sheriff **Bill Waybourn**, who took office in January, told the TV station.

For now, the therapy dog is still a "pup in training," sheriff's department spokesman David McLelland said, but the Novaceks, who raise labradoodles in Johnson County, will provide a few others on an as-needed basis in the meantime.

Last year, the Tarrant County district attorney's office got a therapy dog, Brady, a golden retriever, to help comfort victims and witnesses.

//

Ryan Osborne: 817-390-7684, @RyanOsborneFWST

Load-Date: March 7, 2017

End of Document

[United States Courts Opinions: United States District Court Eastern District of Texas: KEVIN REID ALTHOUSE, Petitioner, v. BILL WAYBOURN, Sheriff, Tarrant County, Texas, Respondent.](#)

US Official News

March 4, 2017 Saturday

Copyright 2017 Plus Media Solutions Private Limited All Rights Reserved



Length: 710 words

Dateline: New York



Body

Washington: United States District Court Eastern District of Texas has issued the following order:

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS FORT WORTH DIVISION KEVIN REID ALTHOUSE, § Petitioner, § § v. § Civil Action No. 4:17-CV-097-Y § **BILL WAYBOURN**, Sheriff, § Tarrant County, Texas, § Respondent. § OPINION AND ORDER Before the Court is a petition for a writ of habeas corpus pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2254 filed by petitioner, Kevin Reid Althouse, a state prisoner who was confined in the Tarrant County jail at the time of filing, against **Bill Waybourn**, Sheriff of Tarrant County, Texas, Respondent. After having considered the pleadings and relief sought by Petitioner, the Court has concluded that Respondent's motion to dismiss should be granted and the petition dismissed for mootness. I. Factual and Procedural History In February 1999 Petitioner was convicted of theft of property of \$20,000 or more and aggravated assault in Dallas County, Texas, and sentenced to concurrent 25-year terms of imprisonment. TDCJ's Offender Information Details, available at <http://www.tdcj.state.tx.us>.

Petitioner claims that he was on state parole in the 1999 cases but in November 2016 was arrested in Colleyville, Texas, and charged with a misdemeanor theft. (Pet. 6, 6-A - 6-B, ECF No. 1.) After serving a 40-day sentence on the misdemeanor theft, the state Case 4:17-cv-00097-Y Document 8 Filed 02/16/17 Page 1 of 3 PageID parole board directed that his parole supervision continue, but, as a sanction, required that he participate in a 60-day Intermediate Sanction Facility (ISF) program. In this petition, Petitioner claims that he has been illegally confined in solitary confinement in the Tarrant County jail since his arrest in November 2016 without notice, hearing or review because of his previous "walk away" escapes in Pennsylvania. He seeks immediate release from solitary confinement; immediate transport to West Texas ISF in Brownfield, Texas; or release from the Tarrant County jail at "completion of parole sanction time of 60 days." (Id. at 7.) Respondent has filed a motion to dismiss the petition as moot. (Resp't's Answer, ECF No. 6.) II. Discussion Respondent provides proof that Petitioner was released from the Tarrant County jail and transported to the East Texas Treatment Facility, an ISF, on February 3, 2017. (Resp't's Answer 3, ECF No. 6.) Petitioner has not given the Court notice of his address change. Nevertheless, the Court finds Petitioner's claims are rendered moot as a result of his transfer to an ISF. Because there is no longer any relief for the Court to award and Petitioner has been afforded the relief he is seeking by way of this federal habeas petition, dismissal for mootness is appropriate. See *Bailey v. Southerland*, 821 F.2d 277, 278 (5th Cir. 1987). For the reasons discussed, the Court GRANTS Respondent's 2 Case 4:17-cv-00097-Y Document 8 Filed 02/16/17 Page 2 of 3 PageID motion to dismiss, DISMISSES Petitioner's petition for a writ of habeas corpus pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2254 for mootness. Further, a certificate of appealability may issue "only if the applicant has made a substantial showing of the denial of a constitutional right." 28 U.S.C. § 2253(c)(2). A petitioner satisfies this standard by showing "that jurists of reason could disagree with the district court's resolution of his constitutional claims or that jurists of reason could conclude the issues presented are adequate to deserve encouragement to proceed further." *Miller-El v. Cockrell*, 537 U.S. 322, 326 (2003)(citing *Slack v. McDaniel*, 529 U.S. 473, 484 (2000)). Upon review and consideration of the record in the abovereferenced case as to whether Petitioner has made a showing that reasonable jurists would question this Court's rulings, the Court determines he has not and that a certificate of appealability should not issue for the reasons stated in this order. Therefore, a certificate of appealability is DENIED. SIGNED February 16, 2017. _____ TERRY R. MEANS UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE 3 Case 4:17-cv-00097-Y Document 8 Filed 02/16/17 Page 3 of 3 PageID



In case of any query regarding this article or other content needs please contact:
editorial@plusmediasolutions.com

Load-Date: March 5, 2017

End of Document

[Third person dies from injuries suffered in domestic shooting](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

March 3, 2017 Friday

Copyright 2017 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: fort_worth

Length: 312 words

Byline: Deanna Boyd

The Star-Telegram

Dateline: TARRANT COUNTY

Body

The final victim in a domestic shooting early Thursday in unincorporated northwest Tarrant County that left two others dead has died from her injuries.

Michelle Morris, 50, was pronounced dead at 2:26 a.m. Friday at John Peter Smith Hospital, according to the Tarrant County medical examiner's office website.

Tarrant County Sheriff's officials have said Morris' estranged husband, James Lee Morris, shot her and her new boyfriend inside her home in the Avondale Ranch subdivision, west of Haslet, before turning the gun on himself.

The boyfriend, 24-year-old James K. Brantley, was pronounced dead at the scene.

James Morris, 53, died later Thursday morning at John Peter Smith Hospital.

All three had been shot in the head, sheriff's officials said.



"Apparently [James Morris] was fairly upset at his estranged wife's and the other victim's relationship," Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** said in a news conference Thursday afternoon.

Officials said Michelle Morris had an emergency protective order in place against her estranged husband when the shooting occurred.

James Morris was charged last month with assaulting both Michelle Morris and Brantley, court records show.

Four other people, including three teens, were inside the home when the shooting took place. The teens are now in the care of a relative, officials have said.

Tarrant County Sheriff addresses fatal domestic shooting near HasletTarrant County Sheriff's officials say they believe a man shot his estranged wife and her boyfriend before turning the gun on himself.

Deanna Boyd: 817-390-7655, @deannaboyn

Tarrant County's 10 Most Wanted Criminals, March 1Fort Worth Police and the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office are looking for these 10 fugitives. Crime Stoppers will pay up to \$1,000 for information leading to an arrest. Call 817-469-8477. Police warn citizens not to attempt to arrest or detain of the subj

Load-Date: March 3, 2017

End of Document

Washington: IN RECOGNITION OF THE 26TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT'S LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

US Official News

February 28, 2017 Tuesday

Copyright 2017 Plus Media Solutions Private Limited All Rights Reserved



Length: 254 words

Dateline: New York

Body

Washington: The Library of Congress, The Government of USA has issued the following Speech:



HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS of texas in the house of representatives Monday, February 27, 2017 Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor our heroes in blue who serve and protect the North Texas community. The exemplary members of our law enforcement put their lives on the line daily to ensure the safety of our citizens and deserve all of the respect and honor that our nation has to offer. With 135 law enforcement officers lost in 2016 alone, the sacrifices made by these selfless men and women to ensure our safety are more apparent now than ever before. These tragic losses were felt even closer to home when five officers were lost in Dallas just six months ago. I want to express my sincerest gratitude to Police Chiefs Reim, Tackett, Bruce, Wilson, Hargis, Carolla, Kerbow, Perdue, Kowalski, Amyx, Coulon, Watson, Sadler, Johnson, Reynolds, Pauley, Payne, Harrison, Henley, Brooks, Edland, Genova, Howell, Blount, Walthall, Patrick, Fitzgerald, Fowler and Kancel; to Denton County Constable Hammons, Truitt, Raburn, Burch and Boydston; and Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** and Denton County Sheriff Tracy Murphee. The leadership exhibited by these law enforcement officers and their service to the 26th District of Texas is invaluable and it is my privilege to recognize such an outstanding group.

In case of any query regarding this article or other content needs please contact: editorial@plusmediasolutions.com

Load-Date: March 1, 2017

End of Document

[Texas Senate passes sanctuary city bill](#)

The Shorthorn: University of Texas - Arlington

February 8, 2017 Wednesday

University Wire
Copyright 2017 UWIRE via U-Wire All Rights Reserved

Section: NEWS; Pg. 1

Length: 700 words

Byline: Madelyn Edwards

Body

Senate bill 4, which aims to ban sanctuary cities in Texas, passed through the Texas Senate on Wednesday.

The bill, authored by Sen. Charles Perry, R-Lubbock, was passed in a 20-10 decision. The Texas House of Representatives will now consider and vote on SB 4. The bill was filed last November.

In sanctuary cities, police officers don't enforce immigration laws or cooperate with immigration officials.



If SB 4 becomes a law, officers would have to ask about a person's immigration status and detain those who violate immigration laws. This would also apply to campus police at colleges and universities.

Perry said in a hearing that SB 4 does not turn police officers into immigration officers. The federal government will still be in charge of deportation, not local police, he said.

If passed, SB 4 allows the state to deny funding to campus police departments and local entities, like cities and counties, for failure to comply with this bill.

In a final statement before the Senate vote, Perry said there needs to be a statewide standard of law for everyone.

"Government's role is to protect good and punish evil," Perry said in the meeting. "If you want to get to the heart of what this bill is about, it's allowing kings to be made on local jurisdictions to pick and choose how they are going to apply our civil law. That's SB 4 in a nutshell."

Public relations senior Maria Garcia said she was disappointed that this bill passed to the House. She said SB 4 would raise fear and criminalize undocumented immigrants, particularly students.

"Some students go to school and feel less afraid, because they're somewhere they're trying to further themselves," Garcia said. "It just creates more barriers and lets them know they're not even worthy of getting an education."

Garcia would like for President Vistasp Karbhari to claim UTA as a sanctuary campus.

This is also a goal for Mark Napieralski, Progressive Student Union president and art senior. On President Donald Trump's Inauguration Day, the union submitted a letter to Karbhari demanding that UTA be declared a sanctuary campus.

The president responded that the university doesn't give out student information, unless requested by court order, Napieralski said. The union may write another letter, requesting that police and immigration officials not have access to a person's immigration status while on campus. Napieralski said the university needs to establish written protections for immigrants.

Perry said undocumented immigrants should apply for green cards, work permits or citizenship.

"I do have a heart for those that are afraid today, that feel like this bill may jeopardize their being in this state," Perry said in the meeting. "Those that are underneath that fear have chose not to engage our system in some level, and I would encourage my faith-based communities and my immigration attorneys to invest their time in getting these people into that process."

Sen. Sylvia Garcia, D-Houston, said in the meeting that SB 4 could lead to more court cases opposing this bill because of questions about probable cause for detainment and liabilities for local authorities.

"What we're doing does set us back as a state, but it also moves us forward straight to the courthouse, where we will spend more and more money on litigation," Garcia said. "We'll have even more chaos on trying to figure out what are law enforcement officials and city officials supposed to do and not do."

In a previous hearing, Sen. Eddie Lucio Jr., D-Brownsville, said he has a moral objection to SB 4, because it risks harm to undocumented families who are exploited by the drug and human trafficking trade.

"Many of these undocumented people are good people, but are scared and alone," Lucio said at the hearing.



Dallas County passed the "Welcoming Cities" resolution Tuesday, declaring receptiveness to undocumented immigrants. Also, UT-Rio Grande Valley was recently declared an "inclusive campus," keeping police and immigration officers away from the immigration status of students and their families.

In Tarrant County, Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** proposed an initiative for police to scan the jailhouse for undocumented immigrants.

@MadelynEdward13

news-editor.shorthorn@uta.edu

Load-Date: February 9, 2017

End of Document

[Sheriff to continue checking for illegal immigrants](#)

Weatherford Democrat (Texas)

February 7, 2017 Tuesday

Copyright 2017 Weatherford Democrat

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

Section: STATE AND REGIONAL NEWS

Length: 314 words

Byline: Maggie Fraser, Weatherford Democrat, Texas

Body

Feb. 07--The Parker County Sheriff's Office will continue to comply with federal immigration laws by checking any inmate suspected of being in the country without legal permission through U.S. Immigrations and Customs Enforcement (ICE), Sheriff Larry Fowler said.

"We check every person that comes in this jail, if we even suspect they are a foreign national from any country," he said. "We always have and always will. That's the policy we have here."

Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** recently announced his intention to train county jailers to identify inmates who are in the country without legal permission.

The move is in response to Texas Gov. Greg Abbot's push to make cities comply with ICE deportation requests under threat of cutting state funding, according to a report by the Associated Press.

This is a practice Parker County has maintained over the years, in contrast to governments that designated themselves as sanctuary cities, Fowler said.



"I honor all ICE detainees. We do it anyway and always have," Fowler said. "I expect the Sanctuary Cities Act is coming back into play now. Of course, I'll be happy to participate. I've never changed. Not at all. We've always done this since I've been the sheriff."

Fowler mentioned a 2014 incident as one reason for the department's vigilance: Israel Andre, an undocumented immigrant who had been deported to Mexico four times, broke into a Springtown house and tried to assault a sleeping child before he was arrested, the sheriff said.

"We got him, and he got 85 years... [But] he had already been deported four times. I'm real serious about this," he said. "If you come through this jail, you're going to get checked. Regardless what country you come from."

___ (c)2017 Weatherford Democrat (Weatherford, Texas) Visit Weatherford Democrat (Weatherford, Texas) at weatherforddemocrat.com Distributed by Tribune Content Agency, LLC.

Load-Date: February 9, 2017

End of Document

[Sheriff wants jailers to identify inmates in US illegally](#)

Associated Press State & Local

February 6, 2017 Monday 7:52 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Associated Press All Rights Reserved

Section: STATE AND REGIONAL

Length: 526 words

Dateline: FORT WORTH, Texas

Body

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) - The sheriff of Tarrant County says he wants to establish a partnership allowing county jailers to identify inmates who are in the country illegally and begin deportation proceedings, rather than wait on federal agents.

Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** is proposing to train 12 jailers to look in the jail for those in the country without legal permission, according to the Fort Worth Star-Telegram (<http://bit.ly/2lhmb4D>).

The move would only pertain to people in jail and deputies will not be questioning people on the street about their immigration status, he said. The program also would not apply to people who are crime victims, he said, speaking to a complaint of Democrats who contend that threat of deportation would lead immigrant communities from assisting in criminal investigations.

"This is going to give us coverage 24 hours, seven days a week so the ability for somebody to slip through the cracks is going to be reduced," Waybourn said. "I will not foolishly say somebody won't slip through the cracks at some point in a large, urban jail like this, but this will reduce that."



Normally the work falls on U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement but federal law allows the agency to partner with local law enforcement to conduct the work. Harris and Lubbock counties are among the ones in Texas that have agreements in place with ICE, as do dozens of counties in other states.

State Rep. Ramon Romero, D-Fort Worth, questioned why Tarrant County needs to get involved in a job that's already the responsibility of federal authorities.

"There are unintended consequences that aren't being realized," Romero told the newspaper. "You can have people in there for something as simple as a traffic violation and suddenly they're getting deported. Who's going to suffer are their families and their children."

Waybourn said he has the authority to enter into an agreement with ICE, but said he's willing to discuss it with county commissioners for the sake of transparency.

His proposal relates to ongoing debate over so-called sanctuary cities. The term has no legal definition, but Republican Gov. Greg Abbott has promoted the legislation as a move to crackdown on criminal suspects who are in the country illegally. The issue has become contentious in many legislatures around the country, especially with President Donald Trump promising to wall off the U.S.-Mexico border and impose strict federal immigration policies.

As proposed, Texas' bill applies to local police forces and law enforcement at college campuses, and seeks to strip authorities of state-controlled grant funding if they don't comply - though some of its key provisions may change as it clears the Senate and makes its way through Texas' Republican-controlled state House.

Individual sheriffs and police chiefs - particularly in heavily Democratic areas - have long opposed enforcing federal immigration law, and Abbott has already blocked \$1.5 million from the Travis County sheriff, who has said the jails in the state capital of Austin will no longer honor most federal immigration detainers.

Information from: Fort Worth Star-Telegram, <http://www.star-telegram.com>

Load-Date: February 7, 2017

End of Document

[Sheriff wants Tarrant jailers screening for undocumented immigrants; Immigration](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

February 3, 2017 Friday

Copyright 2017 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram
Found on DFW.com

Section: fort_worth



Length: 1153 words

Byline: Bill Hanna

The Star-Telegram

Dateline: FORT WORTH

Body

Two U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement officers screen for undocumented immigrants in the Tarrant County Jail, but if Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** has his way, his own detention officers will soon be doing that job.

Waybourn wants to see 12 of his detention officers trained to look for undocumented immigrants entering the jail. All that's required is a memorandum of understanding between the Sheriff's Department and ICE.

"This is going to give us coverage 24 hours, seven days a week so the ability for somebody to slip through the cracks is going to be reduced," Waybourn said. "I will not foolishly say somebody won't slip through the cracks at some point in a large, urban jail like this, but this will reduce that."

The authority to look for undocumented immigrants would only apply to people who enter the jail. Deputies would not question people on the street about immigration status, and the program does not apply to crime victims.

Known as 287(g), the program has its share of critics. It was shut down in Maricopa County, Ariz., in 2009 amid accusations of civil rights violations. The program also drew protests in Houston.

State Rep. Ramon Romero, D-Fort Worth, questioned why local law enforcement needs to carry out a job that is already the responsibility of federal authorities.

"There are unintended consequences that aren't being realized," Romero said. "You can have people in there for something as simple as a traffic violation and suddenly they're getting deported. Who's going to suffer are their families and their children."

The contributions of immigrant families in Fort Worth cannot be ignored, Romero said. Immigrants have helped improve areas such as Fort Worth's Poly neighborhood, where abandoned homes have been repaired and new homes have been built on vacant lots.

Ripe for revival

But with President Donald Trump calling for stepped-up enforcement of undocumented immigration and Gov. Greg Abbott declaring war on sanctuary cities, the program may be ripe for a revival.

Any memorandum of understanding is negotiated between the law enforcement agency and the federal agency, said ICE spokesman Carl Rosnock. Getting ICE approval can take several months and the detention officers then must be trained to use ICE databases and taught how to question those who come into the jail, Waybourn said.

He has said detention officers would screen everyone who enters the jail. Deportation proceedings wouldn't be started against anyone until an individual's criminal case was adjudicated. It would ultimately be ICE's determination whether someone was deported.



"Anybody that comes through that jail, we'll look at them," Waybourn said.

The sheriff said he has the authority to enter into an agreement, but he is willing to discuss the matter with commissioners or anyone in the community who has concerns.

"We want to be transparent," Waybourn said.

He said his position is in line with both Abbott and Trump, who signed an executive order Jan. 25 calling for the deportation of undocumented immigrants convicted of any crime as well as urging deportation of those charged with crimes.

"In stark contrast to the Sheriff of Travis County, **Sheriff Waybourn** is proactively taking steps to protect the citizens of Tarrant County by enforcing the rule of law and honoring the oath he took to uphold the Constitution," said John Wittman, an Abbott spokesman. "Tarrant County will be safer because of his actions and the governor applauds him for these efforts."

Trump has also called for the revival of the controversial 287(g) task-force program, which deputized local law enforcement to help round up illegal immigrants on the street while investigating crimes.

In perhaps the best-known case, the Department of Homeland Security revoked the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office's 287(g) task force agreement in Arizona after the U.S. Department of Justice alleged that Sheriff Joe Arpaio was involved in widespread racial profiling and civil rights violations, according to the Arizona Republic.

In Texas, Abbott blocked \$1.5 million in grants to Travis County Sheriff Sally Hernandez after she said her department wouldn't uphold warrantless requests from ICE to hold people in her jail who had entered the country illegally.

Thursday in Austin, the Senate State Affairs Committee voted 7-2 to send a bill to the full Senate that would levy penalties against local governments that don't follow requests from ICE officers to hand over immigrants in custody for possible deportation.

'An uneven program'

Currently, 37 entities in 16 states have agreements with ICE, including four in Texas -- the Carrollton Police Department, Harris County Sheriff's Office, Lubbock County Sheriff's Office and Jackson County Sheriff's Office, southwest of Houston.

In Harris County, Sheriff Ed Gonzalez pledged during his campaign to end the county's 287(g) agreement. The program had generated protests under previous Sheriff Ron Hickman.

"Review and consideration of the program is one of the sheriff's top priorities," said Harris County Sheriff's Office spokesman Ryan Sullivan said. "We are actively working with ICE to evaluate our partnership and make responsible decisions on best ways to move forward."

The program had support from Abbott, who urged Hickman to renew the program last year.

In 2015, Harris County booked 120,129 people into the Harris County Jail with 3,486 stopped for possible immigrant violations, according to Houston television station KTRK. A total of 1,831 (52 percent) had holds placed on them by ICE and 167 of those were eventually deported.



In Carrollton, two detention officers are trained to screen for immigrants but police spokeswoman Jolene DeVito referred questions about the number of people held or deported to ICE. DeVito said there are no additional costs with the program.

"The only cost absorbed by the department is the pay and benefits to employ the officer," DeVito said.

For detention officers to qualify, they must go through a four-week basic training program and a one-week refresher training program every two years at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) ICE Academy (ICEA) in Charleston, S.C., according to the ICE website. The federal agency pays the cost for the training, Waybourn said.

"I think the costs would be minimal," Waybourn said. "I know the Travis County Sheriff brought up costs and I would counter that with duty. You know we have a duty. The laws of the state of Texas subjugate that we have duty to do this before we talk about what is the cost."

Muzaffar Chisti, director of the Migration Policy Institute office at New York University School of Law, has been critical of the program, which once had more than 70 law enforcement agencies participating but now has 37.

"I think what we see on the ground is it is an uneven program," Chisti said. "There's a huge variation. Local culture seems to permeate."

Bill Hanna: 817-390-7698, @fwhanna

Load-Date: February 7, 2017

End of Document

[Actor Chuck Norris plans to rally Tarrant County Republicans](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

February 3, 2017 Friday

Copyright 2017 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram
Found on DFW.com

Section: politics_government

Length: 279 words

Byline: Anna M. Tinsley

The Star-Telegram

Dateline: FORT WORTH

Body



Actor Chuck Norris will party with local Republicans later this month.

Norris -- well known for many acting roles, particularly on TV's "Walker, Texas Ranger" -- will join a list of distinguished guests at the annual Tarrant County Lincoln Day Dinner on Feb. 18.

"We are all excited about having Mr. Norris join us that evening," said Mona Bailey, the vice chair of fundraising for the Tarrant County Republican Party, who is in charge of this event. "He will give us a brief, uplifting message."

Norris, who will attend as a special guest of Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn**, has in the past donated items such as a signed handgun to the local fundraiser.

He will be among those -- including Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick and U.S. Reps. Kay Granger of Fort Worth, Michael Burgess of Pilot Point and Roger Williams of Austin -- leading up to the keynote speaker, U.S. Rep. Jason Chaffetz, R-Utah, who heads the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

Others expected to play a role in the event at the Omni Hotel include Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton; GOP state Sens. Kelly Hancock of North Richland Hills and Konni Burton of Colleyville; state Rep. Jonathan Stickland, R-Bedford; and Tarrant County District Attorney Sharen Wilson.

"For Texas to remain conservative, it is essential that the Tarrant County GOP be well-funded," said Tim O'Hare, who heads the Tarrant County Republican Party. "Don't miss what is always a fantastic evening and a great way to strengthen our county, state, and country."

For more information or to register online for the event, go online to www.tarrantgop.org or call the party at 817-595-0303.

Anna Tinsley: 817-390-7610, @annatinsley

Load-Date: February 3, 2017

End of Document

[Sanctuary silly: If it isn't Islamophobia, it's Hispanophobia](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

February 2, 2017 Thursday

Copyright 2017 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram
Found on DFW.com

Section: bud_kennedy

Length: 504 words



Byline: Bud Kennedy

The Star-Telegram

Body

If it isn't Islamophobia, it's Hispanophobia.

Before the protests end against what President Trump himself originally called a "Muslim ban," Texas is talking about passing an immigration enforcement law that would go far beyond banning "sanctuary cities."

A Texas Senate committee spent 12 hours hearing testimony from about 100 Texans before voting 7-2 to pass Senate Bill 4, a tougher version of past failed bills that originally only allowed state and local law officers to ask anyone's federal civil immigration status.

Past bills simply gave police more freedom. This year's gives them less.

This year, author Sen. Charles Perry, R-Lubbock, and co-authors including local Sens. Brian Birdwell, R-Granbury, and Kelly Hancock, R-North Richland Hills, want to force county deputies, city and university police to fulfill any request for help from federal civil immigration officials, regardless how optional, irrelevant or costly.

If forcing local police to help enforce federal civil rules sounds fine with you, imagine if the president were a Democrat and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives wanted help rounding up guns.

There's a reason county deputies, city and university police don't automatically get involved in civil matters. We fund local law enforcement to fight crime and keep us safe and secure, not to handle federal regulations or get tangled up in Washington's paperwork.

There is no rampant "sanctuary cities" problem in Texas, anyway. Based on a Texas Tribune study of statistics from 2014 to 2015, we're talking about a statewide average of only seven foreign nationals per month who were released from custody before federal review of their immigration status.

(Half were in Travis County. None was in Tarrant County, where new Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** plans to train some jail deputies to help handle federal immigration work.)

Most of the frenzy over criminal illegal immigrants is politically induced mania, the result of a presidential campaign fueled in part by an ethnic nationalist faction that blames foreigners for America's ills.

Even Fort Worth police officer Daniel Segura was the target of abuse Thursday after he posted a heartfelt Facebook video telling residents in Spanish "¡Calma amigos!" ("Calm down, friends!"): "If you are a victim of a crime, we don't care about your immigration status."

As the video neared 1 million views, Mayor Betsy Price and the department rushed to announce that Fort Worth is not a sanctuary city and "follows" federal laws.

But we don't want police forced to follow federal orders.

Bud Kennedy: 817-390-7538, bud@star-telegram.com, @BudKennedy. His column appears Sundays, Wednesdays and Fridays.



Sheriff **Bill Waybourn**, Tarrant Co. deputies to ID illegal immigrants Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** discusses his plan to have jail deputies identify illegal immigrants when booked into jail.

Message to the Hispanic community from Fort Worth police officer Daniel Segura Officer Segura shared the video on his Facebook page early Thursday morning.

Load-Date: February 3, 2017

End of Document

[Morning briefing: Fort Worth panhandling; Little Elm officer's funeral; Keller searches for graffiti artist](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

January 24, 2017 Tuesday

Copyright 2017 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: fort_worth

Length: 461 words

Byline: Azia Branson

The Star-Telegram

Dateline: FORT WORTH

Body

Here are the top stories from around Fort Worth and Texas on Tuesday morning. Click on the links for details on each one.

Fort Worth Council to vote on panhandling issues

The Fort Worth City Council is expected to discuss at its Tuesday meeting the issue of aggressive panhandling, something that has become "disturbing and disruptive" to residents, tourists and businesses within the city.

The council will vote Tuesday to repeal a portion of the city's ordinance that makes loitering for begging illegal and replace it with stricter language.

Since **Bill Waybourn**, the new Tarrant County Sheriff, took office on Jan. 1, deputies have increased patrols around county buildings downtown in order to reduce the homeless population in the area.



Little Elm officer to be laid to rest

Detective Jerry Walker, who was shot and killed last week when he responded to a person with weapon call, will be laid to rest Tuesday.

His funeral is at 10 a.m. at Prestonwood Baptist Church in Plano. Law enforcement officers from across the country and members of the community are expected to travel to Plano to pay their respects.

Walker was trying to get a better view of the barricaded suspect last Tuesday when gunfire from Rudy Garcia fatally struck him. Garcia was found dead inside the home hours later.

Fundraisers all across North Texas are helping to raise money for the family of Detective Walker, who is survived by his four children.

TCU running back arrested

Kyle Hicks, a TCU running back, and with two former players were arrested on public intoxication charges over the weekend, jail records show.

Hicks, 22, Bryson Henderson, 21, and George Baltimore, 21, were arrested at a Whataburger early Saturday after police were dispatched due to a reported fight.

TCU officials said Monday they were aware of the incident and looking into the details.

Keller looking for graffiti artist

A Keller landscape worker discovered a work of art, rather than vandalism, when he saw a young deer painted on the wall of a tunnel under Bear Creek Parkway.

Now, city officials are searching for the artist's identity not because he or she is in trouble but to discuss future artwork in the area.

"There's more room in that tunnel," Gary Davis, the park's maintenance and development manager said. "Hopefully the artist will reach out to us."

Homicides rise in 2016

A Star-Telegram database found that 141 people fell victim to homicides in Tarrant, Denton, Johnson and Parker counties in 2016, which was the most since 2011.

Fort Worth saw a rise in domestic homicides, Arlington saw a rise in total homicides and six people were killed in officer-involved shootings, including the death of Euless police officer David Hofer in March.

Check out the database here.

Azia Branson: 817-390-7547, @aziabranson

Load-Date: January 24, 2017

End of Document

[***Fort Worth Council clamping down on aggressive panhandling***](#)





Section: fort_worth

Length: 819 words

Byline: Sandra Baker

The Star-Telegram

Dateline: FORT WORTH

Body

Cracking down on aggressive panhandling, something city officials say "has become disturbing and disruptive" to residents, tourists and businesses, is scheduled to be discussed by the Fort Worth City Council Tuesday.

But for now, at least, a contentious proposal to make it illegal to give panhandlers money is not included.

District 4 Councilman Cary Moon, who requested that provision, said he was told by the city's attorneys that that section of the ordinance is still be drafted and will come later. Moon said he is pleased with the ordinance changes so far.

"We've got to get something out there," Moon said, adding that the section he wants "is harder to piece together." Few cities nationwide make it illegal to give panhandlers money, so it's more challenging to model Fort Worth's ordinance, he said.

"I understand that it seems over-reaching," but the city does govern other behaviors such as speeding and smoking, that it's important to make giving money to panhandlers against the law as a way to curb the activity, he said.

As part of its consent agenda, the council will vote Tuesday night to repeal a portion of the city's ordinance that makes loitering for begging illegal and replacing it with stricter language that regulates aggressive panhandling and solicitation in public places and on private property.

A beggar or panhandler becomes aggressive when they use violent or threatening gestures and continues to solicit a person when they've already been told no, according the new ordinance. The beggar or panhandler also cannot touch or block a pedestrian, among other things, the ordinance says.

The new ordinance also sets distance guidelines for when a solicitation becomes an offense. For example, a person can't beg or panhandle within 20 feet at such places as an automated teller machine, at a parking meter or the entrance to a restaurant, or within 50 feet of a public or private school.



One downtown worker enjoying a noontime salad outdoors Monday said property managers at her office building tell employees to call police if they feel they're being bothered by a panhandler. She said she doesn't always agree with approach. Instead, she said she'd rather see the council put more effort into programs addressing homelessness and job training.

"I'm sympathetic and I'll talk to them," she said. Sometimes they do tug at your heart, but other times it can be uncomfortable, she admitted. "I don't like to give them money. But, I don't think there's too many that are aggressive."

Growing concerns

An increase in aggressive begging, panhandling or soliciting throughout the city has heightened fear, intimidation, violent conduct and disorder among the public, a staff report said. The new "narrowly tailored" regulations protect citizens, but also a person's First Amendment right to panhandle.

"Current city ordinances are insufficient to address aggressive panhandling to protect citizens from the fear and intimidation accompanying certain kinds of begging, panhandling or solicitation that have become an unwelcome, overwhelming and dangerous presence in certain parts of the city," the report said.

District 5 Councilwoman Gyna Bivens, who also has been vocal about the issue, said some of her constituents don't like the idea of the city issuing tickets to people who give. She also said the city needs to provide residents a phone number to report popular spots for panhandling.

"I've been complaining about the matter for more than a year now," Bivens said. "There are still members of the public who have let me know they are conflicted when it comes to interfering with their giving. They don't want to be ticketed. That stated, city staff has done a fine job defining aggressive panhandling and identifying locations the city will keep under careful watchful eyes."

"I'm fine with the ordinance as they have presented. I'm sure we'll make modifications," she said.

Since Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** assumed office on Jan. 1, deputies have stepped up patrols around the county buildings in downtown Fort Worth. David McClelland, chief of staff for the sheriff' office, said the patrols with Segways and a golf cart have reduced the homeless population in the northern part of downtown.

"Prior to taking office, there had been numerous complaints including; panhandling and assaults of jurors and county employees," McClelland said by email. "We started conducting preventative patrol in partnership with Fort Worth PD. Upon making contact with people in the area we provided them with information about various recourses and assistance available. They have chosen to vacate the area voluntarily, and to date we have made no arrests."

Staff writer Bill Hanna contributed to this report.

Sandra Baker: 817-390-7727, @SandraBakerFWSTYOU MAY ALSO LIKE Volunteers reach out to homelessWhen We Love and Compassion of Christ Ministries are among outreach groups caring for homeless

Load-Date: January 23, 2017

End of Document



Inaugural boycott; Putin stooge; too many guns; fanatic legislators; kudos to sheriff; street fee

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

January 18, 2017 Wednesday

Copyright 2017 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: letters_to_the_editor

Length: 497 words

Byline: The Star-Telegram

Body

Inaugural boycott

Progressives/liberals believe that compromise with conservatives has been reached when conservatives agree with their point of view. They promote themselves as being compassionate, accepting and tolerant of others.

All one has to do is observe their behavior as we approach the inauguration to determine that just the opposite is true.

Approximately a third of the progressives/liberals in the U.S. House of Representatives have decided not to participate in the inauguration. They have decided to act like spoiled children and take their marbles and go home.

The conclusion that one must draw is that beating them at the ballot box is the only logical way to deal with them. We just did, and you see that their lack of compassionate, tolerant and accepting behavior is on full display.

Wayne Duke, Arlington

Putin stooge

It's clear that Donald Trump is steadfastly with Russian President Vladimir Putin, never missing an opportunity to praise him. More and more in his party are doing the same.

Playing the stooge to Putin is deplorably disgraceful.

Ed Holloman, Fort Worth

Too many guns



There can be no better example of the danger in having so many people with guns than the killing of a man Monday in the Kroger parking lot in Bedford.

All it takes is a disagreement, a gun and a feeling of being threatened, and shots are fired.

Maybe we should go back to the days of duels? At least the other side is given a chance.

David Jones, Arlington

Fanatic legislators

The state of Texas has managed to elect legislators who instead of concentrating on budgets, school financing, parks, roads and infrastructure have their own social agendas -- bathrooms, divorce and abortions.

Let's get rid of these fanatic legislators at the next election and see if we can elect people who are interested in taking care of Texas

Geraldine Orr, North Richland Hills

Kudos to sheriff

Kudos to new Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** for making needed changes in both street and building security that has made it safer for employees, jurors, litigants and other visitors to the county complex in downtown Ft. Worth.

In just his first two weeks in office, **Sheriff Waybourn** has injected a new attitude toward a co-operation and communication with county and city officials that will benefit all of Tarrant County.

Tom Wilder, Bedford

Street fee

Somebody in Fort Worth doesn't understand the concept of user fees.

There is a proposal to put a user fee on our water bills to pay for street maintenance.

Huh? What's the correlation between using water and using streets? Shouldn't a user fee for streets be assessed on those who use the streets?

In other words, a gasoline tax makes sense; a tax on water does not make sense.

Charging me an extra \$8 a month on my water bill to pay for streets that I hardly use simply does not compute.

Charging me a penny or two per gallon to pay for streets I clearly use (if I didn't use them, I wouldn't need to buy gas) makes much more sense.

Gary Johnson, Fort Worth

Load-Date: January 18, 2017



End of Document

[New sheriff; legal immigration; California votes; Trump and Putin; President Harding](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

January 3, 2017 Tuesday

Copyright 2017 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: letters_to_the_editor

Length: 491 words

Byline: The Star-Telegram

Body

New sheriff

The Editorial Board stated that more visibility by deputies under Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** would bring about a risk of unnecessary traffic stops and arrests and more expenses for an overburdened justice system. ("High hopes for new sheriff, but with caution," Friday)

The sheriff of Tarrant County is a law enforcement officer. Law enforcement means more than just running a jail and providing security for our courthouse.

I applaud Waybourn for the job he did as police chief in Dalworthington Gardens, and I hope he will carry those ideals forward.

I hope he changes the attitude of the deputies who staff the stations in the lobby of the Tarrant County Courthouse searching for weapons.

All people passing through the weapons detection station are treated as inmates by sarcastic-talking deputies. All are treated rudely.

Hal Gerhardt, Watauga

The picture in Monday's newspaper of our new sheriff's executive staff showed one African-American and no women.

What could possibly go wrong?

Al Vincent, Arlington

Legal immigration



I can't feel sorry for immigrants in the country illegally, even children.

To provide education and medical care, food and shelter for them is unrealistic. They are bankrupting the U.S. infrastructure.

They can come back when they want to enforce laws, stand by our flag and defend the Constitution -- they will be welcome.

Both my dad and son fought in the U.S. military so that others can come to to America. Don't insult us by thinking people can sneak into this country and expect us to just accept it.

Let's make America great like it used to be. Get legal or go home. Follow the law.

I'm sure there are relatives back there somewhere they can stay with.

Sue Mitchell, Fort Worth

California votes

A couple of recent letter writers argued that California votes should not count in deciding the presidency.

Let me see, votes from a highly educated and prosperous state should count less than votes from less educated and less prosperous states.

Kind of turns upside down what we were always told to strive for as a nation. Now I understand how our nation sunk so low in the last election.

Greg Ceshker, Richland Hills

Trump and Putin

Some fear that President-elect Trump would be a lapdog to Russian President Vladimir Putin.

Would Trump ever be a lapdog to anybody?

Eva Snapka, Arlington

President Harding

Richard Hein of Southlake (Sunday letter) referred to Warren G. Harding as a bad president.

Harding was one of our best presidents.

After the economic crash of 1921, Harding cut government spending by one third and refused to start bailout programs or public assistance.

He allowed the free market to heal itself, as it had in the past. In less than a year the recession/depression was over.

Compare this with Presidents Herbert Hoover and Franklin Roosevelt, who dragged out the 1929 Depression by 15 years with price fixing, welfare programs and government intervention of all sorts.

Bruce D Ferguson, Fort Worth



Load-Date: January 3, 2017

End of Document

[Sheriff's new team includes award-winning jail administrator](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

January 3, 2017 Tuesday

Copyright 2017 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: fort_worth

Length: 280 words

Byline: Bill Hanna

The Star-Telegram

Dateline: FORT WORTH

Body

The new command staff for Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** became official Tuesday with Tarrant County commissioners approving the reorganization of his office.

The staff includes Raul Banasco, executive chief of confinement, who had been deputy chief/jail administrator for the Bexar County Sheriff's Department, where he was named the 2016 Correctional Administrator of the Year by the American Jail Association.

The appointment is important since managing the jail is one of the key duties of the sheriff's office.

Other new members of the staff include Mike Simonds, senior chief; Tim Canas, chief of patrol; Cedric Simon, confinement chief; Randy Cundiff, confinement chief; Craig Driskell, executive chief personnel and judicial; Jerry Venum, chief of warrants; Roy Kurban, chief administrator; Steve Sparks, chief of inmate services; and David McClelland, chief of staff.

McClelland is a Fort Worth attorney who had worked on Waybourn's campaign. Driskell had been working as an attorney for the Combined Law Enforcement Associations of Texas. Kurban is a retired justice of the peace, while Venum is a former Dalworthington Gardens police chief who also worked under Waybourn when he was chief.

Simonds, Canas, Cundiff, Sparks and Simon had all been with the Sheriff's Department working under previous sheriff Dee Anderson.



The reorganization included one reclassification, six positions being eliminated, eight being added, and 13 positions and organizational units being moved or revised. The position for former public information officer Terry Grisham was eliminated.

Waybourn defeated Anderson, who had been sheriff for 16 years, in a May GOP runoff.

Bill Hanna: 817-390-7698, @fwhanna

Load-Date: January 3, 2017

End of Document

[Bill Waybourn sworn in as first new Tarrant County sheriff in 16 years](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

January 1, 2017 Sunday

Copyright 2017 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: fort_worth

Length: 484 words

Byline: Susan McFarland

The Star-Telegram

Dateline: FORT WORTH

Body

New year, new era for the Tarrant County Sheriff's Department.

For the first time in 16 years, there's a new leader: Sheriff **Bill Waybourn**, who was sworn in Sunday on the steps of the Tarrant County Courthouse.

The longtime police chief in Dalworthington Gardens told those gathered that he will not become comfortable in his new role and will be committed every day to "doing the right thing."

"We will be fair and we will be compassionate, but we will not apologize for enforcing the law," Waybourn said. "Our goal is to be the best sheriff's office in the country."

Waybourn was easily elected in November after a contentious campaign against now former Sheriff Dee Anderson in the Republican primary. Anderson, Tarrant County's sheriff since 2001, had beaten Waybourn



in the March 1 primary 49 percent to 41, but it was not enough to win the election outright and Waybourn rallied in the runoff, winning 55 percent of the vote to Anderson's 45 percent.

No Democrat ran against Waybourn in November, and the GOP nominee easily defeated Libertarian Max Koch III with more than 80 percent of the vote.

Local dignitaries, law enforcement officers from agencies across North Texas, and even country singer Randy Travis were among the several hundred people in attendance to hear Waybourn take the oath of office, administered by state Sen. Brian Birdwell, a retired Army officer.

Birdwell praised not only the new sheriff but also his wife, Laura Waybourn.

"They both serve together," he said. "Bill in the official capacity and Laura in the unofficial capacity as first lady of Tarrant County. She is going to be a great first lady for you, I promise. She is a great servant, a great prayer warrior and makes a great chocolate chip cookie."

Other speakers described the sheriff as humble, kind, selfless, a man of integrity, a godly man and a Christian.

Taya Kyle, the widow of Chris Kyle and an author, political commentator and activist, told the crowd that Waybourn is the type of officer who truly cares for all people and is known for telling inmates, "I will pray for you," as he closes the jail cell.

Waybourn said the foundation of his faith started with his parents, who raised him and his seven siblings to be leaders and servants.

"On behalf of the family and the extended family, this is a big deal," **Bill Waybourn's** brother Charles Waybourn said before the ceremony. "But we recognize it's a bigger deal for all of the honest, hardworking people of Tarrant County."

This report includes material from the Star-Telegram archives.

Susan McFarland: 817-390-7984, @susanmcfarland1

Dalworthington Gardens mayor responds to questions about Bill Waybourn At a Dalworthington Gardens' City Council meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 17, 2016, Mayor Mike Tedder responds to reporters' questions about the city's former police chief **Bill Waybourn**. Waybourn is running for Tarrant County sheriff. Video by pmoseley@star-te

Load-Date: January 2, 2017

End of Document

[High hopes for new sheriff, but with caution](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

December 29, 2016 Thursday

Copyright 2016 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: editorials

Length: 377 words

Byline: THE EDITORIAL BOARD

The Star-Telegram

Body

A new year brings new leadership at the Tarrant County Courthouse, and this is a year of sharp change.

Sheriff-elect **Bill Waybourn** of Dalworthington Gardens will be sworn in at 1:30 p.m. Sunday as the county's first new chief jailer in 16 years, succeeding Sheriff Dee Anderson of Kennedale.

Waybourn will inherit a sheriff's office and jail staff that served the public reliably and well under Anderson.

Most notably, Tarrant County's deputies have worked professionally and quietly, avoiding high-profile incidents at a time of tension between law enforcement agencies and many residents.

Waybourn has said he wants patrol deputies to be more visible. As the 31-year police chief in Dalworthington Gardens, he and his officers pioneered DWI stops that include a "no refusal" blood test, and he rightfully should increase the emphasis on DWI enforcement on rural Tarrant County roads patrolled by sheriff's deputies.

But more visibility also brings a risk of unnecessary traffic stops and arrests, more dangerous confrontations, more potential liability for taxpayers and more expenses for an overburdened justice system.

Many conservative leaders in Austin promote a "right on crime" philosophy of "effective" police work that focuses on solving problems and not exacerbating them. Waybourn should join that effort.

Waybourn has not yet said how he and his new senior command team, to be named either this weekend or before the Commissioners Court meeting Tuesday, will reflect Tarrant County's diverse population. Nor has he said how he might help cities achieve positive policing in minority communities.

But no doubt by now he has seen video of a Fort Worth officer sent to protect a resident's child who instead made the conflict worse, ending in three arrests. That was not serving the community.

In 2001, when Anderson took over the sheriff's office, he brought a public relations knack and 21st-century professional standards to what had been known as an old-fashioned "cowboy" law enforcement agency.

Waybourn wears a cowboy hat, but he is also a personable and highly regarded 31-year suburban chief with goals to improve training, upgrade equipment and raise standards for deputies and jailers.

His goal should be to make the sheriff's office better, not busier.

Load-Date: December 29, 2016

End of Document

[One of Texas' toughest on DWIs, prosecutor adjusts to retirement](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

December 17, 2016 Saturday

Copyright 2016 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: bud_kennedy

Length: 584 words

Byline: Bud Kennedy

The Star-Telegram

Dateline: FORT WORTH

Body

He might be Texas' toughest DWI prosecutor. He sent dozens of killer drunken drivers to prison.

Now, after 30 years, Richard Alpert just retired. But he still worries during the holidays.

"God forbid, you never know when a police officer will get hit by a drunk driver," said Alpert, 56, of North Richland Hills, retired as a prosecutor and litigation expert in the Tarrant County district attorney's office.

"If that happens, I know I'll call the investigators and help. I won't sit by."

Ever since three officers were killed within five weeks in 1992, Alpert has worked long hours to punish drivers whose drinking killed an officer, leaving innocent families and victims behind.

"No refusal" blood tests make proving that easier.

"But intoxication cases are still complicated," Alpert said.

"Imagine a case where the person on trial never meant to hurt anybody. You have to articulate to the jury why this accident deserves punishment."

For Alpert, his career was an extension of drama classes and Shakespearean productions at the University of Texas. He grew up in Dallas and worked briefly in Collin County before landing in Tarrant County in 1987 under the late District Attorney Tim Curry and chief deputy Steve Chaney.



He arrived just as the Mothers Against Drunk Driving watchdog group emerged. Curry and Chaney wanted to shake the label "Tolerant County."

"Tim wanted to make Tarrant County a model, the place where other counties sent everybody for training," Alpert said.

In large part, Curry succeeded.

Alpert tried more than 100 cases before juries. He was honored with both MADD and State Bar of Texas "prosecutor of the year" awards.

He continues as a consultant, working several weeks next year with the Texas District & County Attorneys Association.

"I have no political aspirations," Alpert said: "I have no interest in being a judge. My greatest interest is in serving the state on law enforcement matters." He hopes to help Sheriff-elect **Bill Waybourn**, Alpert said.

Alpert said 10 years of mandatory blood tests for alcohol have turned up surprising numbers of other substances.

"We see prescription drugs that are not illegal being combined with alcohol, and we might need the Legislature's help on that," he said.

About one-third of blood samples show a mixture of alcohol and drugs, he said, particularly sedatives such as Xanax.

"It's real prominent in drivers from about age 30 to 60," he said.

"They don't think they're 'on drugs.' They don't think it affects them. But it does. ... Driving is a series of unanticipated events, and you have to be ready to react instantly."

He wants those unsafe drivers locked up.

Alpert's successor as misdemeanor chief is prosecutor Lloyd Whelchel, also a pioneer of no-refusal blood draws. Just last week, Whelchel helped send Fred Couch, father of drunken-driving delinquent and unsuccessful escapee Ethan Couch, to a short jail term over false Lakeside police ID.

District Attorney Sharen Wilson sent a statement praising Alpert: "Richard was instrumental in shaping the early career of hundreds of attorneys. ... Richard's stalwart commitment to seeking justice for Tarrant County's crime victims has not wavered throughout his almost 30 years."

It's not wavering now.

"I'm a prosecutor," he said: "I will never be a defense attorney. If I were going to do that, I would have done it long ago."

He retired from the courthouse. But not from justice.

Bud Kennedy: 817-390-7538, bud@star-telegram.com, @BudKennedy. His column appears Sundays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Load-Date: December 17, 2016



[NCPA discusses sad state of cyber security in U.S.](#)

The Irving Rambler (Texas)

December 10, 2016

Copyright 2016 The Irving Rambler
Distributed by Newsbank, Inc. All Rights Reserved

Section: NEWS; Pg. 1

Length: 814 words

Byline: Joe Snell

Body

As foreign governments continue to make significant strides in cybersecurity, the National Center for Policy Analysis (NCPA) gathered leading cyber and national security experts to discuss the risks facing our cyber-dependent world.

Yet, despite heavy investments by countries like Russia and China in their own cyber security systems, the United States is lagging behind in cyber policy and security.

“In 2009, the Department of Defense declared cyber space a new domain of warfare after growing concerns about cybersecurity and an increase in cyber threats,” said Lt. Col. (Ret.) Allen West, NCPA Executive Director. “The army decided in late 2013 to build a new cyber command headquarters alongside National Security Agency’s Georgia facilities at Fort Gordon, Georgia. They finally broke ground for this new cyber command headquarters for the army this week.

“2009, they recognize that we had a problem. 2013, they said we need to have a facility. 2016, they’re just now break-ing ground on the facility. This is how far we are behind in our military.”

The panel, hosted on Wednesday evening, Nov. 30, at the University of Dallas in Irving, addressed a number of issues ranging from the complexities of defending cyber infrastructure as it affects businesses and individuals, to the future of cyber security in the military.

A significant number of local and state leaders were in attendance including Texas Senator Bob Hall (District 2), House Representative Tan Parker (District 63), Tarrant County Sheriff-elect **Bill Waybourn**, and Collin County Sheriff-elect Jim Skinner among others. Senator Hall is a champion of protecting the electric grid in the state of Texas, the only state with a self-contained grid.

Dr. David Grantham, NCPA National Security and Counterterrorism Expert and one of three panelists to speak at the event, discussed a significant new transition we are seeing in cyber attacks.

“Cyber capabilities over the last five to ten years have matured quickly and significantly, to the point that there are now cyber technologies, viruses, malware that can physically destroy, physically corrupt equipment,” Grantham said.



Dr. Christian Nielsen, Affiliate Assistant Professor in Cybersecurity and Information and Technology Management at the University of Dallas, highlighted volume as the main issue on the business and local levels. With the number of attacks that come in under the radar, the three-letter agencies do not have the manpower to deal with everything that comes across their desks.

“The [federal agencies] have set arbitrary limits, dollar limits, that say if your loss is under this amount, then I’m sorry you’re on your own,” Nielsen said. “Unless that particular loss is part of a pattern that we see, and we can aggregate that pattern into something that rises to the occasion of a response.”

One solution is developing a new form of internet altogether, one that has security at its heart. The U.S. and some of its world partners are working on the Internet2 with an aim to create constraints such as firewalls while still maintaining the openness and connectivity of the original structure. According to Nielsen, the current Internet was designed for information sharing on an academic level and had no constraints built in.

“What we’re looking at in Internet2, is how do we put constraints that still maintain the connectivity, a degree of openness, but have some firewalls in it,” Nielsen said. “If we have to, we can stop traffic from certain locations or stop certain types of traffic or at least be able to identify where traffic is coming from.”

The issue, the panelists agree, comes down to dedicating more effort toward understanding and furthering cyber policy as well as beefing up human intelligence.

“The Chinese have dedicated hundreds of thousands of people to do cyber warfare and hack into our systems,” Lt. Col. (Ret.) West said. “Guess how big the United States cyber command is? Less than 20,000.”

Lt. Col. (Ret.) West served in Operation Desert Storm, Operation Iraqi Freedom, and Afghanistan. He earned a number of commendations including a Bronze Star. After the military, West served as the Florida representative in the US House of Representatives. At the NCPA, he focuses on national and economic security.

“As a matter of fact, the big fight right now in the National Defense Authorization Act is, do we allow the United States Cyber Command to be its own unified combatant command?,” West said. “Much the same as you have the Central command, the Pacific command, the Africa command, the European command.

“Other countries are investing heavily in this. Russia, China, Iran, non-state belligerents. We’re sitting around playing bureaucratic games.”

The panel was moderated by Jim Amos, President and CEO of the NCPA. The NCPA, a nonprofit public policy research organization, is headquartered in Dallas.

Load-Date: December 15, 2016

End of Document

[There's a new Tarrant County sheriff in town as Waybourn wins](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

November 8, 2016 Tuesday





Section: fort_worth

Length: 505 words

Byline: Bill Hanna

The Star-Telegram

Body

Tarrant County will have a new sheriff for the first time in 16 years.

Voters overwhelmingly picked former Dalworthington Gardens Police Chief **Bill Waybourn** over Libertarian Max Koch III in unofficial returns. Waybourn had 81 percent of the vote to Koch's 19 percent with all 694 precincts reporting in unofficial returns.

In the May 24 GOP runoff, Waybourn knocked off Sheriff Dee Anderson and vowed to improve low morale in the department. Anderson had been sheriff since 2001.

Waybourn said there are important steps he will take when he assumes office on Jan. 1

"First we need to recruit more people to the county and empower the people to do the noble job they are called to do," Waybourn said in a statement Tuesday night. "Second, we need to work on community relations and we look to create a great foundation for intelligence and crime prevention."

White Settlement City Council

In politics, it probably isn't a good idea to hack off cat lovers.

White Settlement Mayor Pro Tem Elzie Clements found out the hard way.

With all five precincts reporting, his challenger, Evellyn Spurlock had 57 percent of the vote while Clements had 43 percent.

In 2-1 vote in June, Clements voted to give Browser the Cat 30 days to be removed from the city's library. The news got posted on Facebook and cat lovers around the world came to Browser's defense.

A month later, he joined other council members in reversing that decision after Mayor Ronald White said they received nearly 1,400 emails from as far away as London, Guam and Australia urging the council to let Browser stay.

In the Place 3 race Danny Anderson had 60 percent of the vote while his opponent, George F. Klecan, had 40 percent with all five precincts reporting.

County Tax Assessor-Collector



Incumbent Ron Wright, R-Arlington, won reelection with 57 percent of the vote with all 694 precincts reporting. Democrat Lucas Lothamer of Arlington had 38 percent, and Libertarian Cindy Stanford had 5 percent. Wright has been tax assessor-collector since 2011.

County Commissioner Precinct 1

With all 208 precincts reporting, longtime incumbent Democrat Roy Charles Brooks with 58 percent of the vote defeated Republican Roy E. Lozano, an accountant, with 42 percent.

348th District Judge

Republican Colleyville attorney Mike Wallach was the winner with 57 percent (368,539 votes) of the vote over Fort Worth civil attorney Joe Drago who had 43 percent (273,483 votes) with all 694 precincts reporting. Drago's father Joe Drago, was a longtime Tarrant County district judge who died in 2011. Judge Dana Womack, who had sat on the bench since 1997, decided not to seek re-election.

Constable Precinct 5

Democrat Ruben Garcia won easily with 85 percent over Libertarian Jack Betz, a pizza deliveryman, who had 15 percent with all 85 precincts reporting.

Constable Precinct 6

With all 70 precincts reporting, Republican incumbent Jon H. Siegel captured 57 percent of the vote to defeat Democratic challenger Kelicia L. Lyons, who had 43 percent of the vote.

Bill Hanna: 817-390-7698, @fwhanna

Load-Date: November 9, 2016

End of Document

[**What's on the Nov. 8 ballot in Tarrant County?**](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

November 3, 2016 Thursday

Copyright 2016 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: election

Length: 816 words

Byline: Anna M. Tinsley

The Star-Telegram



Body

Did you wait to vote on Election Day?

If so, make sure you are ready.

Here's a list of the contested candidates and issues on the Tarrant County ballot to help you get ready for what you'll see on the ballot Tuesday.

Voters will only get to weigh in on the races and issues in their voting precinct.

Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday.

General elections

President: Donald J. Trump, R; Hillary Clinton, D; Gary Johnson, Lib; Jill Stein, Grn

U.S. Rep. 6: Joe Barton, R; Ruby Faye Woolridge, D; Darrel Smith Jr., Grn

U.S. Rep. 12: Kay Granger, R; Bill Bradshaw, D; Ed Colliver, Lib

U.S. Rep. 24: Kenny E. Marchant, R; Jan McDowell, D; Mike Kolls, Lib; Kevin McCormick, Grn

U.S. Rep. 25: Roger Williams, R; Kathi Thomas, D; Loren Marc Schneiderman, Lib

U.S. Rep. 26: Michael Burgess, R; Eric Mauck, D; Mark Boler, Lib

U.S. Rep. 33: M. Mark Mitchell, R; Marc Veasey, D

Railroad Commissioner: Wayne Christian, R; Grady Yarbrough, D; Mark Miller, Lib; Martina Salinas, Grn

Supreme Court 3: Debra Lehrmann, R; Mike Westergren, D; Kathie Glass, Lib; Rodolfo Rivera Munoz, Grn

Supreme Court 5: Paul Green, R; Dori Contreras Garza, D; Tom Oxford, Lib; Charles Waterbury, Grn

Supreme Court 9: Eva Guzman, R; Savannah Robinson, D; Don Fulton, Lib; Jim Chisholm, Grn

Court of Criminal Appeals 2: Mary Lou Keel, R; Lawrence "Larry" Meyers, D; Mark Ash, Lib; Adam King Blackwell Reposa, Grn

Court of Criminal Appeals 5: Scott Walker, R; Betsy Johnson, D; William Bryan Strange III, Lib; Judith Sanders-Castro, Grn

Court of Criminal Appeals 6: Michael E. Keasler, R; Robert Burns, D; Mark W. Bennett, Lib

State Senate 12: Jane Nelson, R; Rod Wingo, Lib

State Senate 22: Brian Birdwell, R; Michael Collins, D

State Rep. 92: Jonathan Stickland, R; Kim K. Leach, D; Leah Sees, Lib; Travis Christal, Grn

State Rep. 93: Matt Krause, R; Nancy Bean, D



State Rep. 94: Tony Tinderholt, R; Jessica Pallett, Lib

State Rep. 95: Albert G. McDaniel, R; Nicole Collier, D

State Rep. 96: Bill Zedler, R; Sandra D. Lee, D

State Rep. 97: Craig Goldman, R; Elizabeth Tarrant, D; Patrick Wentworth, Lib

State Rep. 98: Giovanni Capriglione, R; Maricela Sanchez Chibli, D

State Rep. 99: Charlie Geren, R; Dan Hawkins, D

State Rep. 101: Carlos "Charlie" Garza, R; Chris Turner, D

District Judge 348: Mike Wallach, R; Joe Drago, D

Sheriff: **Bill Waybourn**, R; Max W. Koch III, Lib

County Tax Assessor-Collector: Ron Wright, R; Lucas Lothamer, D; Cindy Stanford, Lib

County Commissioner 1: Roy E. Lozano, R; Roy Charles Brooks, D

Constable 5: Ruben Garcia, D; Jack Betz, Lib

Constable 6: John H. Siegel, R; Kelicia L. Lyons, D

Propositions

Azle ISD: School officials are asking voters to weigh in on a \$59.5 million bond proposal to build and renovate schools and install security upgrades.

Arlington: Local voters will have a chance to cast their vote regarding a plan to finance a new \$1 billion air-conditioned ballpark for the Texas Rangers. Arlington residents are being asked to sign off on redirecting some tax revenue -- regarding funds ranging from sales tax to hotel-occupancy tax to car rental tax -- to begin paying for the new facility.

Colleyville: Voters will weigh in on five proposals that would create term limits, allow electronic voting by the City Council, require that some appointments receive City Council approval, eliminate an aging provision of the charter and address personal financial interests.

Everman: On the ballot is whether to continue the city's Crime Control and Prevention District, and the tax that goes along with it.

Flower Mound: Voters here have eight propositions to weigh in on, including amending the Town Council's charter to set council terms at three years, determining when a council member forfeits his or her office and deleting old parts of the town's charter.

Grand Prairie: Voters will decide whether the city may sell 24 acres of land within Central Park.

Grapevine: Voters have one proposal to weigh in on, whether it should be legal to sell alcohol beverages for off-premise consumption only.

Richland Hills: On the ballot is the issue of whether the Fort Worth Transportation Authority should continue servicing the city of Richland Hills.



Roanoke: Voters in parts of the city will weigh in on whether alcoholic beverages, including mixed beverages, should be sold there.

Special local elections

Tarrant County Justice of the Peace Precinct 1: This would allow "the legal sale of all alcoholic beverages for off-premise consumption only."

White Settlement: Voters will decide two City Council races: Place 2, pitting Evelyn J. Spurlock and Elzie Clements; and Place 3, pitting George F. Klecan and Danny Anderson.

Anna Tinsley: 817-390-7610, @annatinsley

Election Information For any election-related questions, call the Tarrant County Elections Office at 817-831-8683. For more information about candidates on the Nov. 8 ballot, go to the Star-Telegram website, www.star-telegram.com, to read the online Voters Guide.

Load-Date: November 4, 2016

End of Document

[2016 Voters Guide: Tarrant County local candidates on the Nov. 8 ballot](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

September 30, 2016 Friday

Copyright 2016 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: election

Length: 4465 words

Byline: Anna M. Tinsley

The Star-Telegram

Body

The Star-Telegram sent a Voters Guide questionnaire to all the candidates appearing on the Tarrant County ballot in contested races this year.

Take a look at Tarrant County's sample ballot.



And here's what the Tarrant County candidates who responded had to say.

Tax-Assessor Collector

Republican

Ron Wright (I)

Age: 63

Occupation and/or main source of income: Tarrant County Tax Assessor-Collector

City of residence and how long you've lived there: Arlington, 30 years

Campaign (public) phone number: 817-483-7997

Your campaign (public) email address: ron.wright@sbcglobal.net

Web site: www.ronwright.org

Education background, including all degrees: Azle High School, UT-Arlington, PCC Certification

Highlights of your current and past civic involvement: Leadership positions on numerous boards and commissions, including Board of Commissioners for Arlington Housing Authority, Board President for Arlington Night Shelter, Board of Directors for Mansfield Education Foundation, founding president of Arlington Tomorrow Foundation, Chairman of Tarrant County Historical Commission, Board of Directors for Arlington Historical Society, Arlington Human Service Planners, President of Arlington Republican Club, Area Leader for Tarrant County GOP, Board of Directors for Texas Conservative Forum, Board of Directors for Tarrant Co. Republican Forum, served on committees and chaired caucuses for Republican district and state conventions, delegate to numerous state GOP conventions, delegate to 2004 Republican National Convention in New York

Offices you have sought and/or held before: Served four terms on the Arlington City Council, 2000-2008; Tarrant County Tax Assessor-Collector, 2011 - Present

In 100 words or less, please explain how your background, skills and experience make you the best qualified candidate for this office. I have extensive management and problem solving experience in the private sector. I was managing people when I was 25. Combined with my civic and public policy experience, I was uniquely qualified when I became Tax Assessor-Collector. I will have been Tax Assessor for five years in May. I completed the class work and passed the tests to achieve certification as a Professional County Collector in only 2 1/2 years. Including my years as District Director and then Chief of Staff for Congressman Joe Barton, I have real world experience in all levels of government. I am committed to public service and enjoy leading one of the largest tax offices in the state, with almost 200 employees in eight offices in the county.

In 100 words or less, please outline the most critical problems facing the public office you are seeking and the solutions you propose to address them. Growth: Tarrant now has more property tax accounts than any county in Texas. The number has doubled since I assumed office in 2011 thanks to the surge in mineral accounts. We met this challenge with better technology and improved internal processes without adding clerks, but growth will continue to be a challenge. State mandates: Changes in property tax law and motor vehicle regulations such as the single sticker program always pose a challenge that county tax offices must be ready to meet. Technology: we can never stop working to find and embrace the next level of



technological advances and apply them to the tax office to better serve the people of Tarrant County, including self-serve kiosks and mobile apps.

In 100 words or less, outline the top priority you would address if elected. Work diligently and forcefully with the Tarrant Appraisal District staff and governing board to resolve the problems related to the appraisal district software and management decisions. Nothing has posed more challenges for the tax office in the past two years than the conversion by the appraisal district to a different software platform.. The remaining issues must be resolved before another tax year begins, and I am determined to help make it happen.

In 100 words or less, please add anything else you would like voters to know about you. I have been dedicated to public service in one form or another for more than 30 years and have received public recognition for my efforts, including Volunteer of the Year award, Man of the Year for Community Service award from the Star-Telegram, service award from the Arlington Historical Society, the Partnership Award from the Fort Worth Builders Assoc., Hero of the Homeless award, Friend of Education award, and Republican of the Year award. Leading one of the busiest tax offices in Texas requires a steady and experienced hand.

For candidates for local offices, in 100 words or less, are local governments doing all they can to provide property tax relief? No, they are not. Local elected bodies determine how much property taxes we pay when they set the tax rate each year. This year, values rose significantly, but only a few taxing entities are lowering their rates more than a fraction of a penny. This undoubtedly invites action by the legislature to provide relief in ways local governments will not like. Just as important, however, is the need for local governments to be truthful about their tax increases and be accountable.

Democrat

Lucas Lothamer

Age: 27

Occupation and/or main source of income: Teacher

City of residence and how long you've lived there: Lived in Arlington, TX for 5 years

Your campaign (public) email address: LothamerForTarrant@gmail.com

Web site: www.facebook.com/LothamerForTarrantCounty

Education background, including all degrees: I attended the University of Texas at Arlington, earning my BA and MA in political science.

Highlights of your current and past civic involvement: I served as president of the University Democrats at UTA in 2012 and a precinct chair for the Tarrant County Democratic Party from 2014 to 2016. Since moving here in 2011, I have taken an interest in improving my community by consistently volunteering and working with local and national candidates I felt had our best interest at heart.

Offices you have sought and/or held before: None, this will be my first time seeking office.

In 100 words or less, please explain how your background, skills and experience make you the best qualified candidate for this office. In addition to my time studying bureaucratic structures, rules and regulations at UTA, I also spent time in Washington, DC working for the National Association of Community Health Centers in 2014, reading and tracking legislation in Congress and assisting the non-profit association



in improving our health care system. I have experience writing and researching complex documents and am confident my education and experience will allow me to streamline the tax assessor-collector office and make the process of collecting taxes more efficient and pleasant for the people of Tarrant County.

In 100 words or less, please outline the most critical problems facing the public office you are seeking and the solutions you propose to address them. The problems facing the office are gross incompetence and over-politicization. Ron Wright has confused the responsibilities of his office and has spent his time stamping official documents with religious writing and blatantly attacking The United Way. This has led to taxes being higher than they should be by forgetting to include the homestead and other exemptions. Furthermore, Tarrant County is facing a crisis as how to pay refunds back to citizens who were overcharged this past year. I plan to make the office more efficient by sending out correct documents with all appropriate exemptions rather than waste time preaching ideology.

In 100 words or less, please outline the top priority you would address first if elected to office. Competency is the top priority with the Tax Office that needs to be addressed immediately. We should never find ourselves in a position where we are unable to pay our bills because our citizens were over taxed and must now be afforded a refund. If the correct exemptions and proper calculations had been utilized we would not be in the crisis we currently face. If elected, my first priority will be to fix the numerous errors that have caused our current financial problems.

In 100 words or less, please add anything else you would like voters to know about you. Government is for the people, by the people. It is the duty of all public servants to ensure that government functions as smoothly as possible. That is exactly what you can expect from me. I am passionate about serving my community and I want us all to have a prosperous future.

For local and legislative candidates, in 100 words or less, are local governments doing all they can to provide property tax relief? If so, how? If not, what should be done? In short, yes. The current property tax rates have been established to provide for our local schools, roads, police, and other public services. Our reason for the high property taxes faced this year are largely due to erroneous errors made in the Tax Office which, if elected, will be my first priority to fix.

Libertarian

Cindy Stanford

Did not respond to Star-Telegram request for information.

Sheriff

Republican

Bill E. Waybourn

Age: 57 Years Old

Occupation/Income: Retired Chief of Public Safety, Dalworthington Gardens

City of Residence: Dalworthington Gardens, Texas

Campaign Phone Number: (682) 231-3150

Campaign Address: P.O. Box 151305, Arlington, Texas 76015



Campaign Email Address: Info@billwaybourn.com

Web Site: www.billwaybourn.com

Cell Phone: 817-825-0193

Education, Background, including all degrees: a. Bachelors Degree in Criminal Justice, Dallas Baptist University; b. Masters Degree in Conflict Management, Trinity Seminary & College; c. FBI National Academy - 2007; d. U.S. Air Force Active Duty and Reserves; e. Texas A&M Police Academy - September 1980; f. 35 Years Law Enforcement; g. Chief of Police Dalworthington Gardens- 31 years; h. Master's Police Officer Certification - March 1997; i. 5,179 TCOLE Training Hours; j. Black Belt in Tae Kwon Do

Highlights of your current and past civic involvement: a. Peace Officer's Angel Foundation - Board Member; b. Founder of Texas' DWI No Refusal Program; c. Texas Police Chief's Association Member; d. Former Church Trustee; e. Little League baseball Coach; f. Sunday School Teacher; g. Bible Study Leader

Offices you have sought and/or held in the past: Tarrant County Sheriff

Please explain your background, skills and experience that make you the best-qualified candidate for this office. 31 years as Chief, has given me the skillset required to be Sheriff. I have consistently maintained excellent services in Police, Fire and EMS while creating one of the safest cities in the state; all done while keeping one of the lowest tax rates in Texas. I have a record of creating future leaders, who have gone on to be successful in Chiefs throughout the country. I have helped coordinate emergency responses for national disasters such as Hurricane Katrina. I've created relationships with groups from all areas, which allows me to anticipate incidents and resolve them prior to escalation.

Please outline the three most critical problems facing the public office you are seeking and the solutions you propose to address them. a. Leadership: The lack of leadership in the current administration has lead to broken relationships with departments such as Fort Worth P.D. and county Constables, as well as created a high attrition rate in the Sheriff's Department. I have a history of building relationships with agencies, which leads to successful outcomes for all. I also have a history of leading departments from the front, working to inspire and empower the men and women under my command. b. Terrorism: The FBI has said they are overwhelmed with this, and it is up to local agencies to pick up the mantle. The Sheriff's Department can coordinate intelligence solutions while protecting all citizens' Constitutional rights. Between open sources and the county jail there is ample information that can be collected to give us the ability to connect the dots and properly respond. c. Jail Management: There is a broken relationship between the Sheriff's Dept. and the city of Fort Worth; which has lead to lost revenue of at least 7 million a year for the county. The solution is to reconcile this relationship with Fort Worth bringing that money back into the county, benefiting all the residents.

In 100 words or less, please outline the top priority you would address first if elected to office. The first issue that needs to be addressed is employee moral. Currently moral is at an all time low in the Sheriff's Department. It isn't simply making people happy and excited about coming to work at the Sheriff's Dept. thought. It has to be a complete culture change, where the leaders and command staff in the department lead from the front and come along side all members of the department to let them know they have the support they need to do their duty to the best of their ability.

Please add anything else you would like voters to know about you. I have been a conservative Christian my entire life, always serving my country, my constituents and my family. I have been continuously serving in uniform since I was 18 years old. I am proud to have been indorsed by Governor Rick Perry, the past



two former Police Chiefs of Fort Worth, the Tarrant County Law Enforcement Association, the Fort Worth POA, the Arlington POA, and five of the county's republican constables.

Libertarian

Max W. Koch III

Age: 48

Occupation and/or main source of income: VP of Arlington Cable

City of residence and how long you've lived there: Mansfield, TX 25 years

Campaign (public) phone number: No answer

Your campaign (public) email address: No answer

Campaign website: No answer

Education background, including all degrees: No answer

Highlights of your current and past civic involvement: No answer

Offices you have sought and/or held before: No answer

In 100 words or less, please explain how your background, skills and experience make you the best qualified candidate for this office. No answer

In 100 words or less, please outline the most critical problems facing the public office you are seeking and the solutions you propose to address them. No answer

In 100 words or less, please outline the top priority you would address first if elected to office. No answer

In 100 words or less, please add anything else you would like voters to know about you. No answer

County Commissioner Precinct 1

Democrat

Roy Charles Brooks (I)

Age: 67

Occupation and/or main source of income: Tarrant County Commissioner, Precinct One

City of Residence and how long you've lived there: Roy Charles Brooks has lived in Tarrant County Commissioner Precinct 1 for 64 years

Campaign (public) phone number: 817-682-2982

Campaign e-mail: Roybrookscampaign@gmail.com

Website: www.roycharlesbrooks.com



Education background, including all degrees: Columbia University, 1971; University of Dallas Graduate School of Management, 1978; Texas Wesleyan University, Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters, 2015

Highlights of your current and past civic involvement: First Vice President, Executive Committee, National Association of Counties (NACo); Member, NACo Board of Directors; Chairman, National Organization of Black County Officials; Member, Statewide Leadership Board for the Texas Nurse Family Partnership; Founder, Tarrant County Ex-Offender Re-Entry Initiative; Board of Directors of the Community Hospice of North Texas; Trinity River Vision Board of Directors; Advisory Board Member, Trinity Habitat for Humanity; Fort Worth/Tarrant County Minority Leaders and Citizens Council, Past President; Past Member, UNT Health Science Center Board of Visitors; Past Board of Trustees, Texas Wesleyan University; Past Chair, Tarrant County Obesity Council

Offices you have sought and/or held before. Tarrant County Commissioner, Precinct One (3rd term as Commissioner) 2005 to Present- 12 Years. City Councilperson - City of Forest Hill - 1982 to 1988 (6 Years). Candidate for Texas State Representative (1972 and 1978)

In 100 words or less, please explain how your background, skills and experience make you the best qualified candidate for this office. I have represented Precinct 1 as a Commissioner since 2005, and have served the residents of Precinct 1 since 1991. I am the only candidate with 25 years of experience in county government, and with deep knowledge of the needs of our residents. During my years of service, I have fought to bring real improvements to Precinct 1, from expanding health care access to strengthening our local roads and infrastructure. I have years of proven ability to work with leaders from diverse communities to achieve results. No other candidate has a similar record of results.

In 100 words or less, please outline the most critical problems facing the public office you are seeking and the solutions you propose to address them. The most critical issue facing Tarrant County is growth. The exponential growth of Tarrant County is quickly overloading the capacity of our roads, bridges, mental health services, justice system, health care and child protection infrastructures. It is critical that we invest in both human resources and capital improvements to meet the needs of our current and future citizens. These essential and fiscally sound investments will increase the quality of life for the families who call Tarrant County home and secure a bright and prosperous economic future for our community and our children.

In 100 words or less, please outline the top priority you would address first if elected to office. I have held a consistent priority throughout my tenure of office, and it will not change if I am reelected. I am first and foremost concerned with making the critically important strategic investments in our county systems and infrastructure that will support the continued healthy growth of this region.

In 100 words or less, please add anything else you would like voters to know about you. I believe in and will work toward a Tarrant County where all people are safe; all people are healthy; all people are self-sufficient; all people have economic opportunities; all people are culturally and recreationally enriched; and all people believe that government is efficient, effective and transparent.

For candidates for local offices, in 100 words or less, are local governments doing all they can to provide property tax relief? If so, how? If not, what should be done? Property values here in Tarrant County are rising, and as a result, so are our property taxes. There are residents, especially those on fixed incomes, who are becoming in danger of being priced out of their homes because of high property tax assessments. That is why I supported last year's successful ballot measure to increase the homestead exemption for local families. It's a commonsense solution that eases pressure on Tarrant County residents while stimulating our economy. Voters agreed, and I am pleased that that measure has taken effect and is currently providing some necessary relief to Tarrant County families.



Republican

Roy E. Lozano

Age: 44

Occupation and/or main source of income: Full time accountant in the mortgage banking industry

City of residence and how long you've lived there: Fort Worth, far north east HEB area. My family and I have been part of the Euless community for around 10 years.

Campaign (public) phone number: Please contact by email or via www.facebook.com/votelozano

Your campaign (public) email address: votelozano@gmail.com

Campaign website: www.votelozano.com

Education background, including all degrees: Currently taking classes for a B.S. in Business Management IT.

Highlights of your current and past civic involvement: Delegate to SD10 Convention 2016, Delegate to state CD24 2016

Offices you have sought and/or held before: I am not a politician nor have I ever thought of actually running for any public office previously. I was briefly appointed to precinct chair of 1175 last year, but stepped down to run for Tarrant County Commissioner.

In 100 words or less, please explain how your background, skills and experience make you the best qualified candidate for this office. I have been a licensed real estate salesman in the state of Texas since November 1992. Since coming to DFW in 2001, I have successfully moved up the corporate ladder with hard work, determination, and the ability to learn which has taken me as high as a Senior Accounting Officer within the banking industry. I have a proven track record that shows I meet deadlines, balance financial reports, reconcile custodial accounts, work well within a team, and achieve goals. My financial and real estate skill sets will be a huge asset to the commissioner's court when I am elected.

In 100 words or less, please outline the most critical problems facing the public office you are seeking and the solutions you propose to address them. Unchecked rising county property taxes needs to stop. The commissioner's court is raising county taxes by an estimated 9% this year alone. Taxes DO NOT have to increase with property values. The state dictated to Judge Whitley that property values must come up to increase tax revenues. He and the commissioners have failed the people of Tarrant County by not standing up for their constituents. With increased revenues, county debt has only increased. A financial downturn is coming soon and Tarrant has not used the added revenues to prepare, but rather spent more and borrowed more. It has to stop.

In 100 words or less, please outline the top priority you would address first if elected to office. I plan to tackle rising property values and taxes and implement a standard practice of zero-baseline budgeting for Tarrant County. I will help the people of precinct one, especially the Latino and Black communities which have the highest unemployment rates in the county, find training and work. This is achieved by creating an environment that is safe to live and work in. I will work with local municipalities and our new sheriff to find solutions to lower crime and help precinct one prosper.



In 100 words or less, please add anything else you would like voters to know about you. I am a first generation Texan and American on my father's side. My Tejano heritage has given me a strong sense of family values including those Texas values such as hard work, being polite, helping and protecting others, and understanding "what goes around comes around". I believe in our liberty and protecting that liberty. Love of God, Family, Country, and especially Texas are the main priorities of my life. I may be mistaken, but I believe that I would be the 1st person of Mexican heritage to serve on the Tarrant County Commissioner's Court if elected.

Constable Precinct 6

Republican

Jon Siegel (I)

Age: 59

Occupation and/or main source of income: Tarrant County Constable

City of residence and how long you've lived there: I was born and raised in Fort Worth. I have lived and worked here my entire life.

Campaign (public) phone number: 817-291-4781

Your campaign (public) email address: jon@siegelforconstable.com

Campaign website: <http://www.siegelforconstable.com>

Education background, including all degrees: I earned my Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from Dallas Baptist University and a Master's degree in Public Administration from the University of Texas at Arlington. I have been involved in Texas law enforcement for more than 22 years. I earned my Master Peace Office License in 2002 while serving as a full-time patrol officer with the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office. I have served 16 years with the Tarrant County Constables Office. I am also a certified police and firearms instructor and a graduate of the FBI's LEEDA Trilogy Award for advanced law enforcement executive management.

Highlights of your current and past civic involvement: I spent numerous years working on environmental issues regarding Tarrant County. A few of these events include the Annual Eagle Mountain Clean-up and The Trinity River Bash. I also participate in several county sponsored events including the Tarrant County Senior Fair and the Tarrant County Back to School Program. I currently sit on the board for the Fort Worth Tennis Association and am vice-president for the Southwest Republican Club. I also participate yearly in Fort Worth's Annual Cowtown Bicycling Event.

Offices you have sought and/or held before: I ran for this office in 2012 winning in both the primary and general election. I have not run or considered running for any other elected position.

In 100 words or less, please explain how your background, skills and experience make you the best qualified candidate for this office. I am a Master Peace Officer with over 22 years of law enforcement experience. I have served 16 of those years in the Tarrant County Constables Office with the last four as the incumbent for this position. I have a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from Dallas Baptist University and hold a Master's Degree in Public Administration from the University of Texas at Arlington.



In 100 words or less, please outline the most critical problems facing the public office you are seeking and the solutions you propose to address them. One of the most critical issues facing law enforcement offices today is the negative atmosphere between the public and law enforcement. Trust and citizenry approval ratings are at an all time low due to police misconduct or conduct perceived as prejudiced or unfair. To earn the public's trust we must maintain a true sense of credibility and to do this we must treat every person with respect and dignity. Having increased transparency and accountability will help establish better community relationships and put us back on the track of working together to provide our citizens with a better place to live.

In 100 words or less, please outline the top priority you would address first if elected to office. No reply

In 100 words or less, please add anything else you would like voters to know about you. Improved Public Safety: I implemented a reserve officer program to provide a higher level of law enforcement service that saves tax dollars. Saving Tax Dollars: I reformed the overtime pay system resulting in a nearly 65% reduction in taxpayer funded overtime pay. Implemented Accountability Measures: I instituted accountability reforms that resulted in enhanced performance, as well as increased productivity and accountability to taxpayers. Improved Officer Training: I increased and diversified annual training to better prepared. This training allows officers to be familiar with responding to a variety of situations and results in safer neighborhoods for you and your family.

Democrat

Kelicia L. Lyons

Did not respond to Star-Telegram request for information.

Anna Tinsley: 817-390-7610, @annatinsley

Load-Date: September 30, 2016

End of Document

[**Singer Coffey Anderson wants to build a bridge between black and blue**](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

September 28, 2016 Wednesday

Copyright 2016 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram
Found on DFW.com

Section: living

Length: 1569 words



Byline: Cary Darling

The Star-Telegram

Body

On July 7, singer-songwriter Coffey Anderson found himself squarely in the bright, hot glare of the media spotlight.

But it wasn't related at all to any of the Texas-reared Nashville Star competitor's songs, such as the good-time country-rock song I Wanna Be Your Cowboy, the backwoods rap Hillbilly Gangster, the love song Better Today, or even one of his more solemn spiritual and patriotic tracks like Mr. Red White and Blue.

Instead, it had everything to do with a non-music video that Anderson had posted on Facebook that day called the Stop the Violence Safety Video -- aka What To Do When You Get Pulled Over. It was made in response to the deaths of Philando Castile in St. Paul, Minn., and Alton Sterling in Baton Rouge, La., both black motorists who were killed by police in traffic stops. Their deaths sparked national controversy and protests over the summer.

His video instructing drivers, specifically black men, on how to act when dealing with the police -- for example, keep your hands on the steering wheel with fingers pointed out -- went viral. It quickly racked up more than 30 million views, earning Anderson a spot on ABC-TV's The President and the People Town Hall in which the singer posed a question to President Barack Obama: "Have you ever been pulled over and what was your experience like as a driver?"

```
.mcclatchy-embed{position:relative;padding:40px 0 56.25%;height:0;overflow:hidden;max-width:100%}.mcclatchy-embed iframe{position:absolute;top:0;left:0;width:100%;height:100%}
```

Anderson, who is biracial and whose father was a corrections officer, says he just wanted to offer advice that would get both sides of an encounter, citizen and cop, home alive. Certainly, the video has its fans. "This video has nothing to do with black or white this is great advice when being pulled over period!," Da-Mad Modler wrote on YouTube.

But it also sparked anger, spawning stories in a variety of media, ranging from The Huffington Post to Inside Edition, about backlash to his teachable moment.

"Nobody should have to practice being pulled over so they won't die over a routine traffic stop," wrote Laura Petty Blessing on Facebook. "Maybe the police should practice how not to kill people."

A video viewer named Ruth Mesfun was so angered by Anderson's approach that she recorded her own YouTube response in which she said he needed to "stop the victim blaming."

Anderson, who is appearing in North Texas with a week's worth of shows at this year's State Fair of Texas, from Sept. 30 to Oct. 6, says he was surprised by how quickly his video exploded across the internet; he says it had hit 500,000 views by 11 p.m. on its first day.

But he took time to respond to some of the most critical reactions.



"A lot of them felt 'Why do I have to have a blueprint as a person of color when I get pulled over?' If [the cop] is uncomfortable, that's his problem," Anderson said in a phone interview not long after the video went live.

"Confrontation doesn't bother me. I've done ministry, sung in churches and witnessed in college. So being able to listen to people without the same opinion as me doesn't offend me ... I welcome that conversation."

Now, with the more recent deaths of Terence Crutcher in Tulsa and Keith Lamont Scott in Charlotte, N.C., two black men shot and killed by police earlier this month, Anderson says he's having a difficult time processing the latest tragic news.

"I'm just as heartbroken as I think everyone else is," he said recently by phone. "I'm extremely frustrated and trying to find solutions is the hardest thing.

"When citizens are doing the right thing and bad things happen, it's very frustrating," said Anderson. "Because it could be any of us."

A little bit country, a little bit rock 'n' roll

Anderson, 37, brings a unique perspective to racial issues, being a country singer who grew up as the son of a white father and black mother in Bangs, a town of around 1,600 in Brown County, roughly 160 miles southwest of Fort Worth.

"What's funny is the record labels seem to have more problems with [race]," he says. "In Texas, high school football is everything. So you're stuck with Mexicans, you're stuck with black kids, you're stuck with white kids. After awhile, you're like, 'Man, we played on teams together.' It ain't about nothing else.

'Coming from that culture, as long as you're country, people don't care."

But Anderson sort of backed into country music, first being turned on to classic rock by a high school classmate.

"I wasn't allowed to have anything but Christian music in my house growing up," said Anderson who began singing in church as a child. "I had to sneak anything I wanted to hear.

"I had a guy named Chad who brought me to his house one day, during football two-a-days. And he played Pink Floyd's Wish You Were Here and Mary Jane's Last Dance by Tom Petty. And I fell in love with classic rock.

"I started branching out. And you know the Texas country music scene hit with Pat Green and Cross Canadian Ragweed and I was listening to these guys sing about these little dirt towns that I knew. They became rock stars to me and that's what I wanted to do."

Though he was also adept at basketball -- he played for Howard Payne University in Brownwood -- he moved to L.A. in the early 2000s to pursue music. He managed to make it briefly onto American Idol's second season in 2003.

"[American Idol] was such a blessing because you realize that it's not just about music," said Anderson who, after a short stint in Nashville, still lives with his family in Los Angeles. "It's about your story, how you connect with people.

"There were a lot of great singers but a lot of them didn't have a story that America wanted to hear ... You have to be relatable and American Idol taught me that."



He didn't get too far on Idol, a fact he blames on not being focused.

"My oldest daughter was born then, and I just had too much going on," he said.

In 2008, he had better luck with Nashville Star, where he finished third runner-up. But the exposure didn't lead to a record deal so Anderson began making YouTube videos for his fans.

"[Record labels] were like 'You're a little too beige for us; you've got a little too much soul.' Motown was like, 'You're too John Mellencamp for us,' " he said. "And it's just been a blessing that the videos have opened up so many opportunities for me musically."

Since then, he has self-released 10 albums, five of them secular-oriented -- including This Is Me earlier this year -- and five for the Christian/gospel market. An 11th album, Coffey Anderson from 2010, came out on the Dream label.

Keeping politics, music separate

It was his success with music videos that led him to think about making a video about police encounters that go wrong.

"After seeing the Castile video, I actually called the sheriff-to-be of Tarrant County, **Bill Waybourn** -- I raised money for his campaign -- and said if I get pulled over this is what I do and tell me if I'm wrong. And I outlined what I would do," Anderson recalled.

"He said you're absolutely right. If people would do that, it would de-escalate a lot of tension."

(It should be noted that Anderson has not had any particularly notable interactions with cops himself. "I've had some that were pleasant and some that were not, but that's anybody," he said.)

In addition to riling some who claimed that Anderson was placing the blame on the victims, his wading into turbulent racial waters also is a disconnect for some of the singer's more conservative, white country-music fans.

"I feel like the conversation has to be started," he said. "Coming from a biracial home and playing country music, I have a lot of fans who typically don't know a lot about black culture. I'm not saying they're all ignorant because that's not true."

But don't expect to Anderson to launch into a political diatribe at the State Fair, where he's performing five, 20-minute sets every afternoon for seven days.

"When people hire me to entertain their crowd, I'm not there to tell my political views," he said. "There's so much I want to say, the song would be 17 minutes [long]. And I'm not sure it would be the happy-go-lucky song that people are used to hearing."

Still, his upbeat and sometimes humorous attitude -- "My old-school color was John Deere green, there ain't a Hee-Haw episode that I ain't seen," he raps in Hillbilly Gangster -- can turn to something more downcast and pensive when talking about the situation with police.

"I am a citizen. I am a father, and I am a husband. And I am a man of color in the United States. It's a lot to take," he said.

He says he gets choked up when watching some of the videos.



"I tried to make a video that can really help my fans get home," he said, and then referred to the Charles Kinsey case in North Miami, in which a black caretaker for an autistic man was shot by police in July. "And ... you see people laying down on their back with their arms up get shot or you see [in Tulsa] someone that has car trouble [who] is dead in the street and his children have to see that."

Despite it all, he remains optimistic.

"I have to hope," he said. "I believe in my heart that there are enough people who want to have all this mess resolved enough to make a difference."

Cary Darling: 817-390-7571, @carydar

Coffey Anderson Sept. 30-Oct. 6 (He'll play five sets each afternoon) State Fair of Texas, 3921 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Dallas \$18 general admission; \$16 online bigtex.com

Load-Date: September 28, 2016

End of Document

[Philando Castile shooting hits home with Texas gun owners](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

July 9, 2016 Saturday

Copyright 2016 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: bud_kennedy

Length: 480 words

Byline: Bud Kennedy

The Star-Telegram

Body

Maybe you think you know exactly how to behave during a police traffic stop.

Maybe you even have a bossy lecture about how people of another race wouldn't get shot "if they'd just act right."

Maybe you'd still get shot.

Police and handgun groups don't even agree how licensees ought to react. And when an officer gets surprised, it's the gun owner who gets shot.



Tarrant County's presumptive next sheriff, firearms instructor **Bill Waybourn**, surprised me.

Keep both hands in sight, he said -- no matter what.

"Avoid reaching where the officer cannot see your hands," the 31-year suburban police chief wrote by email last week.

Even if the officer asks.

"If the officer asks for your weapon, tell the officer where it is and ask if he [or she] would get it," Waybourn wrote.

(Waybourn, a Republican, will face Mansfield Libertarian Max Koch III in the November election.)

"Once a person's hands disappear," he wrote, "a threat could be coming."

That's advice that might have saved Minnesota handgun licensee Philando Castile, shot to death last week by a nervous officer in a St. Paul suburb.

On video after the shooting, Castile's fiance said he had told the officer he was licensed and was reaching for his wallet and paperwork.

A lawyer for the officer, Jeronimo Yanez of St. Anthony, said Saturday that he reacted to the "presence and display" of a gun.

On Twitter, state Rep. Drew Springer, R-Gainesville, agreed with those upset at Castile's death.

"He identifies himself," Springer wrote: "He has a gun, daylight, family in car, broken tail light. This is so wrong!"

The National Rifle Association and its state affiliate were slower to respond. The NRA issued a statement saying only that "reports" are "troubling." Alice Tripp of the Texas State Rifle Association said she didn't know he was a licensee.

But Fort Worth lawyer Justin Sparks, an attorney for gun owners through his Sparks Law Firm and Houston-based Texas Law Shield, did not hesitate.

"If [Castile] were a middle-aged white male, the officer would never have shot," Sparks wrote by email.

"He made the mistake of trusting the young officer by reaching for his license."

Officers are supposed to tell licensees to keep their hands on the steering wheel, Sparks wrote: "Gun owners need to ask permission before doing anything, even reaching for your license."

Former Army Master Sgt C.J. Grisham, founder of Temple-based Open Carry Texas, was even more emphatic.

Castile was "killed in cold blood, in my opinion," he wrote by email.

Grisham, convicted in a 2013 case when he refused to surrender an AR-15 he was carrying legally, complained that officers view "gun owners as a threat rather than an ally."

Waybourn had another bit of advice.



"Do not try to hold court on the side of the road," he wrote.

It's no time for talk.

Bud Kennedy: 817-390-7538, bud@star-telegram.com, @BudKennedy. His column appears Sundays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Load-Date: July 11, 2016

End of Document

[Transgender; Waybourn win; voter ID; who's qualified?; IRS scam](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

May 27, 2016 Friday

Copyright 2016 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: letters_to_the_editor

Length: 622 words

Byline: The Star-Telegram

Body

Transgender

In the May 22 Star-Telegram, an editorial and a separate commentary proposed urgent topics for the 2017 legislative session: our broken mental healthcare system and critical needs of children, including quality early childhood education programs and human trafficking protections.

It's disheartening to know that precious time and energy will be devoted instead to efforts to further marginalize a tiny group of transgender people by banning their use of the appropriate restroom for them.

Transgender people will always use the restroom they identify with, regardless of unenforceable legislation.

Those fear-mongers who have conjured up the ridiculous image of a little boy putting on a dress in order to get a peek into the girls' restroom are totally ignorant of the nature of transgenderism.

They're using an emotionally charged non-issue to promote their true agenda, diversion of public school funds into school choice and voucher programs.

Shame on our state leaders!



Susanne Warren, Fort Worth

I liked Emma Burgher's Wednesday guest commentary about the Fort Worth school district's guidelines that would shut out parents from what is perhaps the most major decision their child or an adolescent could make -- changing to the opposite sex.

Another problem with these guidelines is that they prevent teachers or others from discussing this crucial issue with the child or teen.

I mean, you can discuss a course of study, which has some impact on a person's life, but not whether they should live life as male or female, affecting almost everything?

It is just wrongheaded to say that this "silence" is best because it is "acceptance."

Quite conversely, helping students work through such emotions with a view toward what is ultimately best for them in life shows just how much you care about them and their best interests.

Thomas F. Harkins Jr., Fort Worth

Waybourn win

Congratulations to the former police chief of Dalworthington Gardens, **Bill Waybourn**, on winning a runoff election for sheriff of Tarrant County!

Do us proud, sir!

Barry D. Wilson, North Richland Hills

Voter ID

U.S. Rep. Marc Veasey should put his efforts to better use by forming a caucus to see that all voters are assisted in obtaining one or more of the seven personal photo identifications required by the state. (See Tuesday news story "Veasey to announce that he's forming Voting Rights Caucus.")

Everyone could benefit from having a copy of their birth certificate on hand.

With that document they can obtain a free photo ID card from the Department of Motor Vehicles.

All responsible citizens should be able to prove who they are.

Connie Cranford, Burleson

Who's qualified?

Donald Trump says Hillary Clinton is not qualified to be president, and Hillary says Donald is not qualified to be president.

They're both right!

Connie Lefler, Fort Worth

Medicare



Just one question to Republican seniors: Would you vote Republican if you knew for sure you would lose your Medicare?

Remember, Republicans have been against Medicare since it started under President Lyndon Johnson, and now, they want to give you a dollar-amount voucher for your doctor and hospital.

But don't take my word for this. Just look at the Republican platform and the Paul Ryan budget.

So, let me ask again: Would you give up your Medicare to vote for the GOP?

For me, the answer is an emphatic no!

Herman I. Morris, Plano

IRS scam

I have received several phone calls with a message along these lines: "This is the IRS, Internal Revenue Service, and you are being prosecuted."

How many people fall for this?

I was told by the Southlake police that these scammers get \$4,300 for every person who calls them back.

Do not fall for it. The IRS does not call people.

Garnet Murphey, Southlake

Load-Date: May 27, 2016

End of Document

[**Texas Senate gives preliminary approval to anti-'sanctuary' legislation**](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

February 7, 2017 Tuesday

Copyright 2017 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram
Found on DFW.com

Section: texas

Length: 1344 words

Byline: Julián Aguilar

The Star-Telegram

Dateline: AUSTIN



Body

The Texas Senate late Tuesday gave preliminary approval to a controversial immigration measure to ban "sanctuary" jurisdictions in the state.

Senate Bill 4, filed by state Sen. Charles Perry, R-Lubbock, would punish local and state government entities and college campuses that refuse to cooperate with federal immigration officials or enforce immigration laws. The vote was 20-11 along party lines.

It would also punish local governments if their law enforcement agencies fail to honor requests, known as detainers, from federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement officers to hand over immigrants in custody for possible deportation. The punishment would be a denial of state grant funds. The bill doesn't apply to victims of or witnesses to crimes, public schools or hospital districts.

The legislation was listed last month as one of Gov. Greg Abbott's emergency items, which allows lawmakers to vote on the issue before the traditional 60-day waiting period to hear bills on the floor of either chamber. Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick also deemed the bill a legislative priority.

The issue garnered national attention after Abbott made good on his promise this month to cut state funding for Travis County after that county's sheriff, Sally Hernandez, enacted a policy that greatly rolls back her department's cooperation with ICE.

As he did during a 16-hour committee hearing on the bill last week, Perry held his ground and pushed back against accusations that his bill was a "deportation" bill after Democrats insisted the policy would cast a wide net and snare people in the country illegally but who are otherwise law abiding.

Perry said it was about the rule of law and making sure every law enforcement agency follows the same procedures. He added that even if a person is in the country illegally, he or she would not have a reason to fear his legislation if they didn't commit crimes.

"This bill ensures that there is predictability that our laws are applied without prejudice" no matter who is in custody, he said. He also added that if a local government loses money because it adopted a "sanctuary" policy, the blame is on them.

The vote came after Perry added tough civil and criminal penalties for entities that don't comply with the bill's provisions. One amendment would make a department head whose agency violates the provisions of SB 4 subject to criminal prosecution in the form of a class A misdemeanor. Another added a provision that would subject the local agency to civil penalties, including a fine of at least \$1,000 for the first offense and \$25,000 for each subsequent violation.

The severity of the proposals prompted state Sen. Sylvia Garcia, D-Houston, to ask Perry how far he was willing to go.

"What's the next [amendment] going to do? Take their first born?" she asked.

The upper chamber also predictably shot down by party-line votes several amendments Democrats offered to make the bill more palatable to their constituents, including a measure by state Sen. Judith Zaffirini, D-Laredo, that would have excluded college campuses. An amendment by state Sen. José Menéndez, D-San Antonio, which sought to require peace officers to learn immigration law was also voted down, as was



another by state Sen. Eddie Lucio Jr. that would have prohibited the arrest of a person only because he or she was in the country illegally.

Garcia also asked Perry to remove a section of the bill that would punish a local entity for "endorsing" a policy that prohibits or discourages enforcing immigration law. Garcia said that section could be a violation of an elected official's right to free speech and could be interpreted broadly.

Court challenges

Before the chamber began voting on the amendments, senators debated certain aspects of the bill for more than three hours. Republicans used the time to reiterate that the bill, as filed, would stand up to court challenges that might be brought over questions of constitutionality.

That debate was preceded by a memo Attorney General Ken Paxton sent Perry, Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick and State Affairs Committee Chair Joan Huffman, R-Houston, in which Paxton said concerns over the bill's legal standing were overblown.

"Our review of the law concludes CSSB 4 is constitutional, there are viable methods for covered entities to avoid liability regarding invalid detainers, and the remainder of the legal concerns are unfounded," he said in the letter. "CSSB 4 would make great strides to keep communities secure by requiring state and local law enforcement to cooperate with federal agencies as they take care to faithfully execute the immigration laws of the United States."

During the debate, Perry also said that the measure would be the first legislation to codify protections for victims of or witnesses to crimes that agree to cooperate with law enforcement. That came after Democratic lawmakers said that even though the protections are in place, the immigrant communities would still operate under a blanket of fear if they reached out to law enforcement for any reason, including reporting a crime.

Perry said that the misinformation being peddled about the bill might actually make it more difficult for police to get witnesses or victims to cooperate. But he said that left the door open for a "golden opportunity" for law enforcement to explain to the immigrant community what the bill actually does.

State Sen. John Whitmire, D-Houston, said that although lawmakers might be familiar with the nuances of the bill, the general public isn't and law enforcement officers from across the state have said repeatedly that hinders their efforts to investigate crimes and keep the streets safe.

"It may be a shame that people are afraid. But it doesn't change the fact that people are afraid," Whitmire said. "I am listening to the experts. It may be a shame they feel that way, but it's absolutely true."

After the vote, Abbott praised SB 4 in a statement.

"Today's action in the Senate helps ensure that Sheriffs and officials across Texas comply with federal immigration laws and honor Immigration and Customs Enforcement detainer requests that keep dangerous criminals off of our streets," the statement read in part. "I want to thank Senator Perry for his leadership on this issue and look forward to final passage in the Senate tomorrow."

Upon final passage, the bill will head to the Texas House, though whether the lower chamber accepts the bill as it's currently presented isn't clear. State Rep. Charlie Geren, R-Fort Worth, filed a companion bill to Perry's original proposal, but the Texas House hasn't yet named committees and isn't moving as fast on this -- or any other legislation -- as the Senate is.



'Welcoming communities'

Also Tuesday in Dallas, immigrant advocates packed a Dallas County commissioners meeting, turning a vote welcoming unauthorized immigrants into hours of emotional, sometimes tense debate over so-called sanctuary cities.

The "Welcoming Communities" resolution, which is not legally binding, passed 4-1. The commission's sole Republican, Commissioner Mike Cantrell, voted against it.

The symbolic resolution says that unauthorized immigrants are "integral members to our community." It calls for local law enforcement to "end nonessential collaborations" with Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

Cantrell said that language "paints a bull's-eye on Dallas County" for President Donald Trump and Abbott to take away federal and state funding that the county needs. Both Trump and Abbott have called for punishing sanctuary cities, a loose term that they have used to describe jurisdictions that don't fully cooperate with ICE.

This report contains material from The Dallas Morning News.

The Texas Tribune is a nonpartisan, nonprofit media organization that informs Texans -- and engages with them -- about public policy, politics, government and statewide issues.

YOU MAY ALSO BE INTERESTED IN

Sheriff **Bill Waybourn**, Tarrant Co. deputies to ID illegal immigrants Tarrant County Sheriff **Bill Waybourn** discusses his plan to have jail deputies identify illegal immigrants when booked into jail.

Load-Date: February 8, 2017

End of Document

[**Tarrant County Sheriff Dee Anderson loses Republican primary runoff**](#)

The Dallas Morning News: Blogs

May 25, 2016 Wednesday

Copyright 2016 The Dallas Morning News
Distributed by Newsbank, Inc. All Rights Reserved

Section: TRAIL BLAZERS

Length: 794 words

Byline: Hannah Wise

Body



Longtime Tarrant County Sheriff Dee Anderson has lost the Republican primary runoff to opponent **Bill E. Waybourn**, 17,684 votes to 14,521 votes, according to unofficial returns.

"I am absolutely thrilled," Waybourn told the Fort Worth Star-Telegram. "I am so humbled. I will try to bring out the vision that we promised to voters."

Waybourn arrives thunderous applause at watch party @wfaachannel8 pic.twitter.com/NuoT11CfmW

— Todd Unger (@ToddWFAA8) May 25, 2016

Wayborn, the 56-year-old former Dalworthington Gardens police chief, will face Libertarian candidate Max Koch III, of Mansfield, in November. No Democrats are on the ballot for the seat.

Waybourn primarily argued that staff morale was the county 's primary issue.

"Priority one is going to be the people down there and letting them know we got their back and support," Waybourn said. "We've got to start turning around those morale issues."

He boasts endorsements from the Tarrant County Law Enforcement Association, the Fort Worth Police Officers Association and the Arlington Police Association.

Anderson began the race behind by more than 1,600 votes after early voting totals were reported.

The runoff is a reverse of the March 1 primary when Waybourn trailed Anderson by 13,000 votes. He but told the Star-Telegram that the runoff would help his cause.

"It will be the people who truly care about **sheriff**," **Waybourn** told the Star-Telegram on Monday. "It won't be about name recognition this time."

Anderson, 60, has been sheriff since 2001 and is seeking his fifth term. He has argued that the sheriff's attention should be on operating the jail, managing the more than 1,600 employees and keeping an eye on the \$120 million annual budget.

Anderson has been accused of promoting the case of Ethan Couch, the "affluenza teen," to help his re-election campaign. He addressed the accusations of grandstanding in a February televised debate saying Couch "represents the worst case I've had in the 15 years as sheriff. I'm going to be upfront, very vocal. I'm speaking for those families and those four victims."

Taya Kyle, the widow of famed "American Sniper" Chris Kyle, has worked as Waybourn's campaign treasurer.

Waybourn had unsuccessfully challenged Anderson in the 2008 GOP primary, Anderson won with 61 percent of the vote to Waybourn's 39 percent.

Dallas County sheriff, Republicans

Kirk Launius held a solid lead with more than half the precincts reporting over Aaron Meek in the Dallas County Republican runoff for sheriff.

Meek, 38, is a Dallas County sheriff's deputy who's been a jailer, a street cop and now a court bailiff in 15 years on the force.

Launius, 50, a businessman who served as a Dallas police officer from 2002 to 2006, spending two of those years as a volunteer reserve officer. He left to deploy with the U.S. Navy in South Korea and Japan.



He's now a co-owner of a security alarm and surveillance company called Vulnerability Assessment and Resolution Inc.

Launius' license went inactive in 2013, when he stopped keeping up with Texas Commission on Law Enforcement education requirements.

Both candidates have criticized Sheriff Lupe Valdez, who won her primary without opposition, saying she doesn't defend her officers enough, doesn't fight for officer raises and mismanages the department's spending.

Valdez is likely to cruise to a fourth term in the Nov. 8 general election.

Read more:

In Republican runoff for Dallas sheriff, a battle emerges over who's qualified

Dallas County tax assessor

John Ames, the incumbent tax assessor has been re-elected based on unofficial returns. Ames stayed well ahead of his his opponent in the Democratic runoff, Bennie "Elenora" Brown, all night and ended the race with 10,064 votes to 5,041 votes.

Ames was elected in 2008 after winning an runoff and eight years later found himself on defense fighting to retain his seat.

Early voting results showed him leading 5,821 votes to 3,076 votes.

Brown who has run for various county offices before under just her first and last name, added "Elenora" this year as a nod to female voters, particularly those who may not be well-versed in the obscure politics of becoming the tax assessor.

The runoff was expected to test whether a woman who is an underdog candidate can beat a male opponent in a Democratic primary runoff primarily because the Democratic primary electorate skews heavily female.

Ames led the first round of balloting with 42 percent; he needed more than 50 percent to avoid a runoff. Brown was second with 25 percent, besting two other women on the primary ballot.

With no Republican on the ballot, the winner of the runoff was all but certain to take the seat.

Read more:

Bennie Brown couldn't win primaries, but Bennie 'Elenora' Brown is in a runoff for tax assessor

Load-Date: May 25, 2016

End of Document

[**Tarrant County sheriff loses**](#)

THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

May 25, 2016 Wednesday, 1 EDITION



DallasNews.com

Section: METRO & STATE; Pg. NEWS_B05

Length: 481 words

Byline: HANNAH WISE HWISE@DALLASNEWS.COM, STAFF WRITER

Body

Tarrant County Sheriff Dee Anderson lost the Republican primary runoff to opponent **Bill E. Waybourn**.

In final results, Waybourn collected 17,684 votes to Anderson's 14,521.

Anderson began the race behind by more than 1,600 votes after early voting totals were reported.

Waybourn, the 56-year-old former Dalworthington Gardens police chief, trailed Anderson by 13,000 votes in the March 1 primary but told the Fort Worth Star-Telegram that the runoff would help his cause.

"It will be the people who truly care about **sheriff**," **Waybourn** told the Star-Telegram on Monday. "It won't be about name recognition this time."

Anderson, 60, has been sheriff since 2001 and was seeking his fifth term. He had argued that the sheriff's attention should be on operating the jail, managing the more than 1,600 employees and keeping an eye on the \$120 million annual budget.

Anderson was accused of promoting the case of Ethan Couch, the "affluenza teen," to help his re-election campaign. He addressed the accusations of grandstanding in a February televised debate saying Couch "represents the worst case I've had in the 15 years as sheriff. I'm going to be upfront, very vocal. I'm speaking for those families and those four victims."

No Democrats are running for Tarrant County sheriff, but Max Koch III of Mansfield is running as a Libertarian.

In the Dallas County Republican runoff for sheriff, early results show Kirk Launius leading Aaron Meek 4,131 to 3,165.

Meek, 38, is a Dallas County sheriff's deputy who's been a jailer, a street cop and now a court bailiff in 15 years on the force.

Launius, 50, is a businessman who served as a Dallas police officer from 2002 to 2006, spending two of those years as a volunteer reserve officer. He left to deploy with the U.S. Navy in South Korea and Japan. He's now co-owner of a security alarm and surveillance company called Vulnerability Assessment and Resolution Inc.

Launius' license went inactive in 2013, when he stopped keeping up with Texas Commission on Law Enforcement education requirements.



Both candidates have criticized Sheriff Lupe Valdez, who won her primary without opposition, saying she doesn't defend her officers enough, doesn't fight for officer raises and mismanages the department's spending.

Valdez is likely to cruise to a fourth term in the Nov. 1 general election.

Tax assessor

John Ames, the incumbent tax assessor, won re-election. With 100 percent of precincts reporting, Ames defeated his opponent, Bennie "Elenora" Brown, 10,064 votes to 5,041 votes.

Ames was elected in 2008 after winning a runoff and eight years later found himself on defense fighting to retain his seat.

Brown, who has run for various county offices before under just her first and last name, added "Elenora" this year as a nod to female voters, particularly those who may not be well-versed in the obscure politics of becoming the tax assessor.

Twitter: @hwise29

Load-Date: May 25, 2016

End of Document

[Incumbent Tarrant County Sheriff Dee Anderson loses runoff](#)

Associated Press State & Local

May 25, 2016 Wednesday 12:48 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Associated Press All Rights Reserved

Section: STATE AND REGIONAL

Length: 136 words

Dateline: FORT WORTH, Texas

Body

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) - A North Texas sheriff who has been in the spotlight following the arrest in Mexico of a teenager who used an "affluenza" defense in a 2013 fatal drunken-driving wreck has been beaten in a runoff election.

The Fort Worth Star-Telegram (<http://bit.ly/1OWj1zR>) reports that Tarrant County Sheriff Dee Anderson was defeated Tuesday by **Bill Waybourn**, a retired police chief.

Anderson had said there was no need for a change, while Waybourn argued Anderson was out of touch with employees.



Anderson, sheriff since 2001, was outspoken in the case of "affluenza" teen Ethan Couch, who was on probation when he fled to Mexico in December. Last month, a judge ordered the teen to serve nearly two years in jail.

Waybourn, a Republican, faces a Libertarian candidate in November. No Democrats are running.

Load-Date: May 26, 2016

End of Document

[Waybourn upsets Anderson in Tarrant County sheriff runoff](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

May 24, 2016 Tuesday

Copyright 2016 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: fort_worth

Length: 831 words

Byline: Bill Hanna

The Star-Telegram

Body

A jubilant **Bill Waybourn** claimed an upset victory late Tuesday night over incumbent Dee Anderson in the Republican runoff for Tarrant County Sheriff.

With all 694 precincts reporting in unofficial returns, Waybourn beat Anderson 54.91 to 45.09 percent. The raw vote count was 17,684 for Waybourn and 14,521 for Anderson.

It was a dramatic reversal from the March 1 Republican primary where Anderson nearly won outright.

"I am absolutely thrilled," Waybourn said. "I am so humbled. I will try to bring out the vision that we promised to voters."

Waybourn will face Libertarian candidate Max Koch III in November. No Democrats are on the ballot for sheriff.

"Priority one is going to be the people down there and letting them know we got their back and support," Waybourn said. "We've got to start turning around those morale issues."

As the returns rolled in earlier in the evening, the excitement grew among Waybourn's supporters.



"It looks like we're going to be back to work in a little bit," Waybourn told supporters at Saljo's Pizzeria in Pantego.

Waybourn, 56, retired last year after 31 years as Dalworthington Gardens police chief.

Anderson didn't immediately return phone calls seeking comment.

Earlier Monday, both Anderson and Waybourn had expressed confidence that the runoff would go their way.

The final totals were only a fraction of the 171,000 votes cast in the March 1 primary when Anderson had 49 percent to Waybourn's 41 percent.

Waybourn pointed to his endorsements from the Tarrant County Law Enforcement Association, the Fort Worth Police Officers Association and the Arlington Police Association as signs of Anderson's waning support. The former Dalworthington Gardens police chief trailed Anderson by more than 13,000 votes in the March 1 primary but believed the runoff favored him.

"It won't be about name recognition this time," Waybourn said before the vote.

Anderson, who has been sheriff since 2001, had been hopeful the runoff would go his way, noting the support of Fort Worth Mayor Betsy Price and Tarrant County Judge Glen Whitley, and said he was expecting a good turnout on Election Day.

But Waybourn expressed confidence since March 1 that the runoff would be different.

Throughout the campaign, Anderson, 60, had said there was no need for a change. The key issues were operating the jail, which passed 15 consecutive annual state jail inspections, overseeing more than 1,600 employees and managing an annual budget of \$120 million, he said.

Waybourn said that Anderson was out of touch with rank-and-file employees and that morale in the Sheriff's Department was the lowest in years.

"If he is not aware of the morale issues in his own department, he is even more isolated than we thought," Waybourn said earlier in the campaign. "Every law enforcement organization in Tarrant County has endorsed against him."

Anderson insisted that Waybourn was raising a bogus campaign issue.

"If there was a problem, if there was an issue, it would have bubbled to the surface a long time ago," Anderson has said. "You don't have a festering morale issue. What you've got is a small group of people that don't represent the majority of Sheriff's Department employees."

Dueling endorsements

Waybourn's endorsements included former Gov. Rick Perry, Arlington Mayor Jeff Williams, Tarrant County Commissioner Andy Nguyen, Tarrant County Tax Assessor Ron Wright, Tarrant County District Clerk Tom Wilder and Taya Kyle, the widow of Chris Kyle. She served as his campaign treasurer.

Anderson's supporters included Tarrant County District Attorney Sharen Wilson and County Commissioners J.D. Johnson and Gary Fickes.



Before the March 1 primary, the Star-Telegram detailed the 2013 accidental shooting involving Waybourn at a Tarrant County gun range.

In the June 2013 incident, Waybourn injured his hand at the shooting range while he was teaching a concealed handgun license class to an Arlington doctor.

Dalworthington Gardens' city attorney said he was on the job at the time of the shooting. That meant Waybourn qualified for workers' compensation.

The city attorney said there was an understanding between the City Council and Waybourn that allowed him to teach CHL classes during the work day. Waybourn had said the issue was raised by Anderson's campaign, which the sheriff has denied.

Anderson has been criticized for grandstanding in the case of "affluenza teen" Ethan Couch. The attorney for Ethan Couch's mother, Tonya Couch, questioned Anderson's behavior during her return to Fort Worth after fleeing to Mexico with her son.

In a February televised debate at the Star-Telegram's media partner, WFAA, Anderson said that Ethan Couch "represents the worst case I've had in the 15 years as sheriff. I'm going to be upfront, very vocal. I'm speaking for those families and those four victims."

This is the second time Waybourn has challenged Anderson. In the March 4, 2008, GOP primary, Anderson had 61 percent of the vote to Waybourn's 39 percent.

Bill Hanna: 817-390-7698, @fwhanna

Load-Date: May 25, 2016

End of Document

[Runoff pits Anderson, Waybourn for Tarrant County sheriff](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

May 23, 2016 Monday

Copyright 2016 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: state_politics

Length: 921 words

Byline: Bill Hanna

The Star-Telegram

Dateline: FORT WORTH



Body

Incumbent Dee Anderson and his challenger, **Bill Waybourn**, have laid out different visions for the Tarrant County Sheriff's Department.

On Tuesday, voters go to the polls again to decide which one will head to the November election. No Democrats are running but Max Koch III of Mansfield is running as a Libertarian candidate.

Even though Waybourn, the former Dalworthington Gardens police chief, trailed Anderson by more than 13,000 votes in the March 1 primary, he has said the runoff favors him. The smaller turnout should lead to more educated voters, Waybourn said.

"We believe it will be the people who truly care about **sheriff,**" **Waybourn** said Monday. "It won't be about name recognition this time."

Anderson, who has been sheriff since 2001, said he is encouraged by the number of voters who have already cast ballots.

"The numbers are strong," Anderson said. "I think the higher turnout is good for us. You worry that only people who have a very, very vested interest will turn out. I think this shows people are interested in the sheriff's race and certainly paying enough attention to come out and vote."

In early voting, 18,785 cast ballots in the GOP primary with 12,668 voting in person and 6,117 voting by mail. On the Democratic side, where there is only runoff for railroad commissioner, there were 4,972 early votes with 1,204 voting in person and 3,768 mail-in ballots.

The sheriff's race has been marked by a contrast in styles.

Anderson, 60, has said there's no need for a change. The sheriff's attention should be focused on operating the jail, which has passed 15 consecutive annual state jail inspections, managing more than 1,600 employees and overseeing an annual budget of \$120 million.

Waybourn, 56, who was Dalworthington Gardens police chief for 31 years, has said morale in the Sheriff's Department is the lowest in years. He points to his endorsements from the Tarrant County Law Enforcement Association, the Fort Worth Police Officers Association and the Arlington Police Association as signs of Anderson's waning support.

"The morale issue has been a big one with deputies coming out to man our phone banks and getting their neighbors to vote," Waybourn said.

Waybourn also has Taya Kyle, the widow of American Sniper Chris Kyle, as his campaign treasurer.

Anderson has insisted the issue is baseless and said Fort Worth Mayor Betsy Price and Tarrant County Judge Glen Whitley have been making calls for him.

"You don't have a festering morale issue," Anderson said this month. "What you've got is a small group of people that don't represent the majority of Sheriff's Department employees."

In February, the Star-Telegram wrote about a 2013 accidental shooting involving Waybourn at a Tarrant County gun range.



Waybourn injured his hand at the shooting range in June 2013 while he was teaching a concealed handgun license class to an Arlington doctor.

Dalworthington Gardens' city attorney determined he was on the job when the shooting occurred and was qualified for workers' compensation.

There was an understanding between the City Council and Waybourn that allowed him to teach the classes, the city attorney said. Waybourn had said Anderson's campaign turned it into an issue, which the sheriff has denied.

Anderson has been accused of grandstanding as the case of "affluenza teen" Ethan Couch unfolded. The attorney for Ethan Couch's mother, Tonya Couch, criticized Anderson's high profile during her return to Fort Worth after fleeing to Mexico with her son.

In a February televised debate at the Star-Telegram's media partner, WFAA, Anderson said that Couch "represents the worst case I've had in the 15 years as sheriff. I'm going to be upfront, very vocal. I'm speaking for those families and those four victims."

Waybourn has raised more campaign contributions than Anderson.

In the latest filing on May 16, Waybourn had contributions totaling \$112,938 and had spent \$63,286. He had \$70,235 cash on hand. Waybourn's contributions included \$19,000 from Sargent Investments Llc. of Grand Prairie, \$10,000 from John McHale of Austin, \$6,730 from SEMG Llc. of Houston, \$6,500 from James and Charla Moore of Arlington, and \$5,000 each from Empower Texans and Stephen Lockwood of Mansfield.

Anderson had contributions totaling \$27,037 and had spent \$54,757. He had \$30,045 cash on hand. Anderson's largest contributions were \$5,000 each from Robert Austin of Palmer, and Morgan Langley of Manhattan Beach, Calif., \$2,500 from Joshua Graham of Fort Worth and \$2,000 from the Blake Taylor-Keefe Group of St. Louis.

There are several other GOP runoffs on Tuesday.

The Democratic ballot has only the runoff for railroad commissioner between Grady Yarbrough and Cody Garrett.

Other races on the GOP ballot include:

348th District Court between Brooke Allen and Mike Wallach.

Railroad Commission between Wayne Christian and Gary Gates.

Court of Criminal Appeals Place 2 between Ray Wheless and Mary Lou Keel.

Court of Criminal Appeals Place 5 between Brent Webster and Scott Walker.

2nd Court of Appeals Place 3 between Dabney Bassel and Elizabeth Kerr.

Precinct Chair 3390 between Chuck Mogged and Tim Kenney.

Precinct Chair 4044 between Tim Fox and Lynne Milford.

Bill Hanna: 817-390-7698, @fwhanna



Republican and Democratic primary runoffs Tarrant County registered voters may vote at their precinct polling location from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. If you have questions about where to vote, call Tarrant County Elections 817 831 8683 or go online at <https://gisit.tarrantcounty.com/VoterLookup/>

Load-Date: May 24, 2016

End of Document

[Sheriff's race; Allen for judge; Kerr for justice; tort reform; Medicaid](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

May 20, 2016 Friday

Copyright 2016 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: letters_to_the_editor

Length: 631 words

Byline: The Star-Telegram

Body

Sheriff's race

Let's vote for a sheriff, not a celebrity wannabe!

Dee Anderson was elected 16 years ago to clean up a mess created by two previous incumbents who wanted to be celebrity crimefighters.

Not only did Anderson fix the problems and bring respect to the office, he worked with the county commissioners and the Texas Jail Commission to build a state-of-the-art maximum-security jail that has passed all inspections.

No scandals, no escapes.

The challenger's resumé includes running a tiny police department for 30 years that, some say, specializes in traffic tickets.

Tarrant County's daily jail population is about 1,000 people more than the population he protected. No qualifying experience!

Common sense says go with the Star-Telegram's recommendation and that of many local officials.

Vote for a winner, Dee Anderson.



Tim Kenehan, Mansfield

In the runoff election for Tarrant County sheriff, voters can choose a man who used the Ethan Couch case to get publicity at every opportunity, and now has moved Couch to a more comfortable jail setting,

Or they can choose **Bill Waybourn**, a proven, 30-year law enforcement leader.

Waybourn is recognized across the state and endorsed by law enforcement organizations throughout Tarrant County, city and state elected officials and former Gov. Rick Perry.

Waybourn doesn't need a jail inmate to demonstrate how to be a law enforcement leader.

His extensive record and support by professional law enforcement officers speak for him.

For strong, proven leadership, vote for **Bill Waybourn** for sheriff of Tarrant County in the runoff election.

Donald Feare, Fort Worth

Allen for judge

In my 40-plus years practicing law in Tarrant County, this is one election in which both candidates are equally capable of being very good jurists.

I give the edge to Brooke Allen for her greater variety of case experience and my knowledge of her conservative values and active history in the Tarrant County Republican Party.

Brooke Allen will make a fine choice for judge of the 348th District Court.

John White, Arlington

Kerr for justice

Tarrant County deserves a great appellate justice to join the 2nd Court of Appeals.

Elizabeth Kerr won the March 1 primary by a large margin in a field of five, but is now in a runoff.

She has the education, experience and character, plus the correct temperament, to serve on the court. Her recognized writing talent makes her that perfect justice.

Please join with me and vote for Elizabeth Kerr.

Sharon Dale, Benbrook

Tort reform

I received a campaign mailer for Mike Wallach, Republican candidate for judge in the 348th District Court. In the flier, Wallach touts his support of "tort reform" and claims it has helped Texans.

While tort reform may have had some benefits, I know first-hand the serious negative effects it has had on victims of physician negligence, who, as a result of the "reform" championed by Wallach, have no recourse in our court system.



In 2014, my daughter was the victim of malpractice by an orthopedic surgeon in Fort Worth. Her knee replacement operation was badly botched and, as a direct result, she lost her ability to work and remains in constant pain.

My daughter has been told by every lawyer she's spoken to that, as a direct result of "tort reform," there's no chance for her to succeed in filing a suit to hold the doctor who committed this malpractice accountable.

This is the other side of the tort reform coin that Wallach doesn't want voters to know about.

Beatrice Barr, Fort Worth

Medicaid

It's time for Texas to stop treating its poor like we're still on the plantation.

Texas should expand Medicaid similar to the way the program is run in California and New York.

We shouldn't have to depend on waivers to receive the services that we're entitled to.

Pedro Baez, North Richland Hills

Load-Date: May 20, 2016

End of Document

[**Tarrant County sheriff runoff to settle bitter battle**](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

May 14, 2016 Saturday

Copyright 2016 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: politics_government

Length: 1834 words

Byline: Bill Hanna

The Star-Telegram

Body

In the March 1 primary, Tarrant County Sheriff Dee Anderson came close to winning outright against his challenger, former Dalworthington Gardens Police Chief **Bill Waybourn**.



Both candidates know those results mean little in the upcoming Republican primary runoff.

Early voting begins Monday for the May 24 runoff.

Turnout for the runoff is expected to be a fraction of the March 1 totals when 215,386, or 21 percent of registered voters, cast ballots in the GOP primary.

This time, there won't be Donald Trump or Ted Cruz at the top of the GOP ticket to attract voters.

"I would agree with your expectation that it will be dramatically lower than the March primary; mainly due to the absence of the Presidential candidates," said Tarrant County Elections Administrator Frank W. Phillips.

Historically, primary election runoffs have seen a dropoff in the number of voters during presidential election years.

Four years ago, 9.72 percent of eligible voters went to the polls in the May 29, 2012 Republican primary and 8.22 percent returned for the runoff when Ted Cruz and David Dewhurst were battling for a Senate seat at the top of the ballot.

In the 2008 GOP primary runoff, only 1.19 percent of eligible Tarrant County voters showed up.

In this runoff, the battle for sheriff is the marquee race. The winner will be the next sheriff since no candidates ran in the Democrat primary.

Tarrant County Republicans also have runoffs for 348th District Judge, Texas Railroad Commission, Texas Court of Criminal Appeals Place 2 and 5 and the Second Court of Appeals, Place 3.

Tarrant County Democrats will have a runoff for Texas Railroad Commission.

Anderson won big in primary

Both Waybourn, 56, and Anderson, 60, believe they will succeed in getting their supporters to the polls.

"We feel real confident about the runoff," Waybourn said. "We feel that those who turn out for runoffs will vote for us."

Anderson, who had 48.59 percent to Waybourn's 40.67 percent in the March 1 primary, knows many who voted in March won't participate this time. A third candidate, John Garris, who had dropped out and thrown his support to Waybourn, captured 10.73 percent.

"We can't take anything for granted," Anderson said. "Historically, turnout in these runoffs has been very, very low. You had people who voted in the Republican primary who never voted in Republican primary before and may never vote in one again. We're reaching out to those baseline Republicans who appreciate the job we've been doing for the last 16 years."

The campaign has presented two dramatically different visions for sheriff.

Anderson, who has been sheriff since 2001, has spotlighted his record, insisting the main focus should be on operating the jail, which has passed 15 consecutive annual state jail inspections, managing more than 1,600 employees and overseeing an annual budget of \$120 million.

"I've brought it from a department that was a laughingstock to one that is respected and admired," Anderson said. "We've had zero scandals, zero negative headlines. You're looking at proven track record."



Anderson's endorsements include Tarrant County Judge Glen Whitley, Fort Worth Mayor Betsy Price, Tarrant County District Attorney Sharen Wilson, along with county commissioners J.D. Johnson and Gary Fickes.

Yet Waybourn, who Dalworthington Gardens police chief for 31 years, said Anderson has lost touch with employees. He points to his endorsements of two former Fort Worth police chiefs, the Tarrant County Law Enforcement Association, the Fort Worth Police Officers Association and the Arlington Police Association as signs of Anderson's waning support.

"If he is not aware of the morale issues in his own department, he is even more isolated than we thought," Waybourn said in response to written questions. "Every law enforcement organization in Tarrant County has endorsed against him."

Anderson has said those law enforcement associations represent a vocal minority and that a sheriff can't win a popularity contest while also overseeing the jail and that many employees.

"If there was a problem, if there was an issue, it would have bubbled to the surface a long time ago," Anderson said. "You don't have a festering morale issue. What you've got is a small group of people that don't represent the majority of sheriff's department employees."

Waybourn says it's time for change

Waybourn insists Anderson's time has passed.

"During the course of this campaign, we have set forth a vision of bold leadership from the front, collaborating with all agencies in an effort to reduce inefficiencies and create a more effective government saving taxpayer's money," Waybourn said. "The sheriff has openly said nothing will change. Why continue bad policy and complacency?"

Waybourn has also touted his pioneering DWI no-refusals in Dalworthington Gardens since 2005, where court orders for blood draws are obtained for suspected drunken drivers if they refuse a Breathalyzer

Waybourn's endorsements also include former Gov. Rick Perry, Arlington Mayor Jeff Williams, Tarrant County Commissioner Andy Nguyen, Tarrant County Tax Assessor Ron Wright, Tarrant County District Clerk Tom Wilder and Taya Kyle, the widow of Chris Kyle. She is serving as his campaign treasurer.

Both candidates have seen controversy

Waybourn's tenure as police chief came under scrutiny in February when the Star-Telegram wrote about a 2013 accidental shooting at a Tarrant County gun range.

In June 2013, Waybourn injured his hand while teaching a concealed handgun license class to an Arlington doctor.

Dalworthington Gardens' city attorney determined he was on the job when the shooting occurred and was qualified for workers' compensation.

The city attorney said there was an understanding between the City Council and Waybourn that allowed him to teach CHL classes. Waybourn had said the allegations came from Anderson's campaign, which the sheriff has denied.



Anderson, meanwhile, has been accused of grandstanding for being out in front of the cameras during the case of affluenza teen Ethan Couch. The attorney for Ethan Couch's mother, Tonya Couch, criticized Anderson's high profile during her return to Fort Worth after fleeing to Mexico with her son.

During a February debate with the Star-Telegram's media partner, WFAA, Anderson said that Couch "represents the worst case I've had in the 15 years as sheriff. I'm going to be upfront, very vocal. I'm speaking for those families and those four victims."

No new campaign finance reports have filed since the primary was held but Waybourn was dramatically outspending Anderson earlier in the campaign.

As of the Feb. 22 campaign finance report filings, Waybourn had \$37,925.68 to Anderson's \$26,813.30.

In the previous two filing periods, Waybourn raised \$178,680.12 to Anderson's \$24,812.90. Both candidates have continued to raise money with Waybourn holding a fund-raiser that included singer Randy Travis while Anderson said his fund-raising has increased with the impending runoff.

Bill Hanna: 817-390-7698, @fwhanna

Early voting sites 7 a.m to 7 p.m., Monday through Friday

- Bob Duncan Center 2800 S Center Street Arlington 76014
- Elzie Odom Athletic Center 1601 NE Green Oaks Boulevard Arlington 76006
- Center for Community Service Junior League of Arlington 4002 W Pioneer Parkway Arlington 76013
- South Service Center 1100 SW Green Oaks Boulevard Arlington 76017
- Tarrant County Sub Courthouse in Arlington 700 E Abram Street Arlington 76010
- Tarrant County College Southeast Campus EMB C Portable Building 2100 Southeast Parkway Arlington 76018
- B J Clark Annex Room 4 603 Southeast Parkway Azle 76020
- Bedford Public Library 2424 Forest Ridge Drive Bedford 76021
- Benbrook Community Center 228 San Angelo Avenue Benbrook 76126
- Colleyville City Hall 100 Main Street Colleyville 76034
- Crowley Community Center 900 E Glendale Street Crowley 76036
- Eules Public Library 201 N Ector Drive Eules 76039
- Forest Hill Civic and Convention Center 6901 Wichita Street Forest Hill 76140
- All Saints Catholic Church Parish Hall 200 NW 20th Street Fort Worth 76164
- Diamond Hill/Jarvis Branch Library 1300 NE 35th Street Fort Worth 76106
- Griffin Sub Courthouse 3212 Miller Avenue Fort Worth 76119
- Handley Meadowbrook Community Center 6201 Beaty Street Fort Worth 76112
- James Avenue Service Center 5001 James Avenue Fort Worth 76115
- JPS Health Center Viola M. Pitts/Como Lower Level - Suite 100 4701 Bryant Irvin Road N Fort Worth 76107
- Southside Community Center 959 E Rosedale Street Fort Worth 76104
- Southwest Community Center 6300 Welch Avenue Fort Worth 76133
- Southwest Sub Courthouse 6551 Granbury Road Fort Worth 76133
- Summerglen Branch Library 4205 Basswood Boulevard Fort Worth 76137
- Tarrant County Elections Center Main Early Voting Site 2700 Premier Street Fort Worth 76111
- Tarrant County Plaza Building 201 Burnett Street Fort Worth 76102
- Villages of Woodland Springs Amenity Center 12209 Timberland Boulevard Fort Worth 76244
- Worth Heights Community Center 3551 New York Avenue Fort Worth 76110
- Asia Times Square 2615 W Pioneer Parkway Grand Prairie 75051
- Lake Park Operations Center 5610 Lake Ridge Parkway Grand Prairie 75052
- The REC of Grapevine 1175 Municipal Way Grapevine 76051
- Haltom City Northeast Center 3201 Friendly Lane Haltom City 76117
- Hurst Recreation Center 700 Mary Drive Hurst 76053
- Northeast Courthouse Bear Creek Community Room 645 Grapevine Highway Hurst 76054
- Keller Town Hall 1100 Bear Creek Parkway Keller 76248
- Kennedale Community Center 316 W 3rd Street Kennedale 76060
- Sheriff's Office North Patrol Division 6651 Lake Worth Boulevard Lake Worth 76135
- Mansfield Sub Courthouse 1100 E Broad Street Mansfield 76063
- Dan Echols Center 6801 Glenview Drive N Richland Hills 76180
- Eagle Mountain Saginaw ISD Administration Building 6 - Training Room 1200 Old Decatur Road Saginaw 76179
- Southlake Town Hall 1400 Main Street Southlake 76092
- White Settlement Public Library 8215 White Settlement Road White Settlement 76108

Temporary locations Tuesday through Thursday, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

- UTA - University of Texas at Arlington
- Maverick Activities



Center 500 W. Nedderman Drive Arlington 76019 Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary Naylor Student Center 1900 West Boyce Avenue Fort Worth 76115 Tarrant County College Northwest Campus Student Union WSTU 1303/05 4801 Marine Creek Parkway Fort Worth 76179 Tarrant County College South Campus 5301 Campus Drive Fort Worth 76119 TCU - Texas Christian University Brown Lupton University Union 2901 Stadium Drive Fort Worth 76129 Texas Wesleyan University Brown Lupton Student Center 1108 South Collard Street Fort Worth 76105 UNT - Health Science Center Carl E. Everett Education and Administration Building 3500 Camp Bowie Boulevard Fort Worth 76107 Tarrant County College Northeast Campus Student Center NSTU 1506 828 W. Harwood Road Hurst 76054 Information: access.tarrantcounty.com; 817 831 8683.

Load-Date: May 14, 2016

End of Document

[No need to change: Anderson for sheriff](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

May 13, 2016 Friday

Copyright 2016 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: editorials

Length: 362 words

Byline: THE EDITORIAL BOARD

The Star-Telegram

Body

We know Dee Anderson.

After 15 years, we know what kind of office he runs as Tarrant County sheriff and what to expect from the Kennedale Republican: a no-nonsense county jail operation that leaves most police work to cities.

We don't know **Bill Waybourn** at all. For 31 years, he has been police chief and chief of public safety in Dalworthington Gardens, a tiny Arlington suburb with fewer residents than the Tarrant County Jail.

We know Waybourn has built a reputation for innovative DWI enforcement in a city where police mostly work traffic and speed zones. But he is also known for filing a questionable workers' comp claim over a 2013 accident during a private handgun lesson.



We don't know whether he would expect to file the same kind of claim if injured teaching handgun lessons during a term as county sheriff, or what he means when he says the detention agency should take on more of a law enforcement role.

Waybourn comes with recommendations from many police labor organizations, Gov. Rick Perry, Arlington Mayor Jeff Williams and Mansfield Mayor David Cook. He says he can build employee morale and slow the office's perpetually high turnover rate. But his experience remains small-town.

Anderson followed two sheriffs who promised to be "tough on crime." But they were tougher on taxpayers, running agencies that were expensive and redundant.

He is a low-profile public official, so much so that he probably waited too long to let staff and the public know he would be running for another term.

But he has taken public roles in deputies' raids on rural eight-liner gambling halls, and in the 2013 DWI arrest and investigation of then-juvenile delinquent drunken driver Ethan Couch.

Notably, his endorsements include two of the officials who work with him most closely, County Judge Glen Whitley and District Attorney Sharen Wilson.

Waybourn is a popular and flamboyant figure in his part of the county, but we don't know what kind of sheriff's office he would run.

For 15 years, we've known what we get from Anderson, and there is no reason to change.

The Star-Telegram Editorial Board recommends Dee Anderson in the Republican primary runoff for Tarrant County sheriff.

Load-Date: May 13, 2016

End of Document

[**Tarrant sheriff; Parker judge; Johnny Football; Letters to the editor**](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

May 9, 2016 Monday

Copyright 2016 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram
Found on DFW.com

Section: letters_to_the_editor

Length: 318 words

Byline: The Star-Telegram

Body



Tarrant sheriff

In the runoff election for Tarrant County sheriff, vote for Dee Anderson for continued integrity, honesty and fiscal conservatism.

He runs the department under budget every year, with no scandals or jail breaks.

He's endorsed by the mayor, the county judge and the Star-Telegram.

He's passionate about protecting the citizens and their wallets.

Opponent **Bill Waybourn** represents dishonesty, lack of integrity and fiscal irresponsibility.

He will increase spending of the taxpayers' money, just as the sheriff previous to Sheriff Anderson did.

Debbie Anderson, Fort Worth

Judge runoff

I support Curtis Jenkins for re-election as judge for Parker County Court at Law 2.

I've known Curtis since he came to Parker County in the early 1990s as a young law school graduate, and I have watched him serve with distinction as a prosecutor, a private practice attorney, a staff attorney with the 2nd Court of Appeals and as a judge.

Curtis is a very conservative, serious-minded and honorable man who has always pursued justice relentlessly, both as a prosecutor and as a judge.

His decision-making is sound and is always rooted in conservative principles.

He has great discernment and can ferret out the truth in situations when others can't.

He has a perfect combination of intellect, conservative values and character to be a judge.

I strongly support his re-election to a position he has served in so well, and I urge you to vote for Curtis in the runoff election on May 24.

Kenneth L. Davis, Weatherford

Johnny Football

Poor Johnny Manziel. He might go from Johnny Football to Johnny Jailbird. (See Thursday story "Manziel is booked on misdemeanor.")

Of course he can always use a version of the "influenza" defense called "football-star-itis."

He can claim in court that because he was a football star, his behavior was always enabled by others and that he never learned how to behave.

Robert Kai, Keller

Load-Date: May 9, 2016



End of Document

[Sheriff ties terrorism to Arlington, UTA during forum](#)

The Shorthorn: University of Texas - Arlington

April 29, 2016 Friday

University Wire
Copyright 2016 UWIRE via U-Wire All Rights Reserved

Section: NEWS; Pg. 1

Length: 327 words

Byline: Anthony Musselman

Body

Tarrant County Sheriff Dee Anderson suggested Arlington is a source of terrorist activity because of UTA in a video posted Thursday on Facebook. "We certainly recognize that no place in the country is immune to that problem. I don't think it's any secret for anybody who's lived here very long to know that in Tarrant County, the hot bed of that kind of activity is Arlington because of UTA and what that brings to that world," Anderson said in the video. "We are certainly mindful of what's going on.

We participate in every type of organization designed to monitor and prevent terrorism." Anderson, who is the incumbent in the current race for Tarrant County Sheriff, made the remarks at a Mansfield Chamber of Commerce Candidates Forum on Thursday. It is unclear what provoked the remarks. The Shorthorn reached out to Anderson's campaign for context at noon Friday through email, social media and by phone but did not receive a response by press time. President Vistasp Karbhari spoke with Anderson who assured him that his words lacked context and were not directed at UTA, according to an email sent to the university community Friday. "He has the highest respect for the university," Karbhari said in the email. Students' safety and well-being are important to university leadership, according to the email. UTA Police Department is committed to serving the community and cited a 40 percent drop in reported crime between 2014 and 2015, according to the email. "We are exceptionally proud of the positive impact UTA has on our communities," Karbhari said in the email. "The diversity of our student population, and the international engagement we bring as a top national research university, strengthens the North Texas region and drives our economy." The runoff election for Tarrant County Sheriff is May 24. Anderson is running against **Bill Waybourn**, retired chief of public safety for Dalworthington Gardens police department.@antmuss76news-editor.shorthorn@uta.edu

Load-Date: April 29, 2016

End of Document

[Is record Republican turnout a sign of things to come?](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)



March 2, 2016 Wednesday

Copyright 2016 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: election

Length: 1245 words

Byline: Anna M. Tinsley

The Star-Telegram

Body

There's been one constant so far in this year's highly unusual presidential election: more Republicans are voting. A lot more.

In direct contrast to the 2008 presidential contest, which swept Democrat Barack Obama into the White House, Republicans are turning out in larger numbers -- sometimes by a two-to-one margin, such as in Texas -- during this year's primary election season.

Republican candidates and officials tout the surge as evidence of the party's prospects in November. "The Republicans have tremendous energy. The Democrats don't," Donald Trump told reporters Tuesday night as he celebrated another seven victories in Super Tuesday primaries.

But does that mean that the GOP presidential nominee will find the path to the presidency a cake walk?

No, political observers say.

"I don't think the higher Republican turnout can be seen by the GOP as any type of silver lining foreshadowing more robust Republican turnout in the fall," said Mark P. Jones, a political science professor at Rice University in Houston. "In fact, if Trump is the nominee, he may cause as many voters to stay home than to turn out."

Super Tuesday did move Trump, the former reality TV star and New York businessman that is propelling voters to the polls, closer to the number of delegates needed to claim the GOP presidential nomination, even though Texas Sen. Ted Cruz won Texas and Oklahoma.

Even with a smaller Democratic turnout, Hillary Clinton on Tuesday also claimed a number of primary victories, including Texas, moving her closer to claiming the Democratic presidential nomination.

"The big challenge for the Republicans is to keep up the momentum seen in primaries," said Allan Saxe, an associate political science professor at the University of Texas at Arlington. "But if those who had backed the eventual losers get too mad it could mean that once again, 'the Republicans will pull defeat from the jaws of victory.' "



Some experts contend that record GOP turnouts are a clear sign of momentum going into the general election.

"I think it's a harbinger of things to come," David Yepsen, director of the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute at Southern Illinois University, recently told The Washington Times. "All those people who line up for Donald Trump rallies and also lining up at the ballot box and the caucus site. Trump's winning and nothing succeeds like success."

Red Texas

Texas was expected to go red, just as it has for years.

So it was no surprise when more than 2.8 million voters here cast ballots in the Republican primary, compared with the 1.4 million voters weighing in on the Democratic primary.

Observers say the Democratic turnout wasn't shabby, it was just eclipsed by the GOP response.

"Republicans have a major headwind of voter turnout nationwide that is breaking records by turning out traditional Republican voters as well as new voters," said Brandon Rottinghaus, an associate political science professor at the University of Houston. "The competitive race and the Trump factor have Republicans excited about voting."

However, "given the fracturing of the Republican Party, there is a worry that those not on the winning team may not turn out in November and this hurts the party nominee," he said. "High turnout now is not a guarantee of high turnout in Republican areas in the fall."

Texans have supported Republican presidential candidates in the general election for more than 35 years.

A majority of Texans voting in the general election chose Mitt Romney in 2012, John McCain in 2008, George W. Bush in 2004 and 2000, Bob Dole in 1996, George H.W. Bush in 1992 and 1988 and Ronald Reagan in 1984 and 1980.

The last Democratic presidential candidate to claim Texans' vote was Jimmy Carter in 1976, state election records show.

Other states

A pattern was established when this year's presidential primary season kicked off -- more Republicans than Democrats were casting ballots.

It happened in Iowa and New Hampshire, then in South Carolina.

Nevada went counter to the trend, as did Massachusetts and Vermont on Tuesday.

But at least eight states on Super Tuesday saw more Republican voters heading to the polls -- Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Minnesota, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia among them.

In Alabama, Republicans turned out in a more than two-to-one margin for their presidential candidates even as Minnesota saw Republicans barely edge out Democrats, 111,253 to 108,658, their state election records show.

Observers note that Republicans, like Democrats in 2008, are being drawn to the polls by a competitive and contentious race for the presidential nomination.



"The Republicans are really energized," Saxe said. "The face [is] that there were 17 Republican candidates [who] energized the Republicans from the start.

"I have rarely seen Republicans so energized in the primary and the big question is: will it hold for a while or wither away?"

In November, when everything is on the line for both parties in the effort to claim the White House, that's when turnout is most important.

"If the dynamics of the race come down to Trump versus Clinton, and the race is as ugly as expected, voter turnout will be high to participate in the fight," Rottinghaus said. "A higher turnout benefits the Democrats, especially in swing states.

"There's no doubt Republicans have the wind at their back right now, but the general election is still nine months away. And it's hard to sustain enthusiasm for that length of time."

Anna Tinsley: 817-390-7610, @annatinsley

Heading to a runoff Here's a look at races that will be heading to a May 24 primary runoff because no candidate earned a majority of the votes in Tuesday's primary election. Early voting in that election will run May 16-20. Tarrant County Sheriff -- Tarrant County Sheriff Dee Anderson and former Dalworthington Gardens Police Chief **Bill Waybourn** are headed to a runoff in the GOP primary. On Tuesday, Anderson claimed 48.59 percent of the vote to Waybourn's 40.67 percent. A third candidate, John Garris, a Tarrant County sheriff's confinement officer who had dropped out of the race to support Waybourn, drew 10.74 percent of the vote. "The game has gone to overtime and it's no time to give up," Anderson posted on Facebook. Waybourn was equally as confident. "We have a lot of work left ahead of us as we are on the path to victory." Texas Railroad Commission -- Gary Gates, who claimed 28.35 percent of the vote, and Wayne Christian, who drew 19.76 percent, will be in the Republican runoff for this state commission. Meanwhile, Grady Yarbrough, who earned 39.95 percent, and Cody Garrett, who picked up 35.15 percent of the vote, will head to the Democratic party's runoff for this post. Texas Court of Criminal Appeals Place 2 -- Mary Lou Keel, who garnered 39.42 percent of the vote, and Ray Wheless, who accrued 25.42 percent of the vote, will head to a GOP runoff. Texas Court of Criminal Appeals Place 5 -- Republicans Scott Walker, who picked up 41.48 percent of the vote, and Brent Webster, who earned 20.44 percent, will square off in a runoff. Second Court of Appeals, Place 3 -- Elizabeth Kerr, who drew 33.15 percent of the vote, and Dabney Bassel, who garnered 18.81 percent of the vote, appear headed to the Republican runoff election. 348 District Judge -- Mike Wallach, who picked up 45.77 percent of the vote, and Brooke Allen, who earned 29.1 percent, will head to the Republican runoff. Star-Telegram reporters Bill Hanna and Anna M. Tinsley contributed to this report.

Load-Date: March 3, 2016

End of Document

[Voters psyched, but not so much for runoffs](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

March 2, 2016 Wednesday

Copyright 2016 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: editorials

Length: 283 words

Byline: THE EDITORIAL BOARD

The Star-Telegram

Body

Texans were fired up about making their voices heard in the presidential nominating process and other races in Super Tuesday's party primary elections.

Almost 4.3 million voters cast ballots, according to preliminary figures from the Secretary of State's office. That's slightly more than the 4.2 million in the 2008 primaries, which featured a contest between Democrats Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama.

This year's numbers included almost 2.9 million Republican ballots and a little more 1.4 million for the Democrats.

A handful of races will go to May 24 runoffs, when turnout can be expected to drop sharply. Voters will be focused on other things by then, plus municipal and school elections on May 7 may lead to voter fatigue.

There will be a runoff in the high-profile race for Tarrant County sheriff, plus some statewide and judicial races.

Longtime Sheriff Dee Anderson is in a runoff with Dalworthington Gardens Police Chief **Bill Waybourn**. Anderson got 48.59 percent of Tuesday's vote; Waybourn got 40.67 percent.

Republicans Elizabeth Kerr and Dabney Bassel are in a runoff for the 2nd Court of Appeals, based in Fort Worth.

Republican and Democratic candidates for a seat on the Railroad Commission will face runoffs, but longtime Fort Worth legislator Lon Burnam won't be among them. The commission regulates the Texas oil and gas industry.

Burnam was eliminated from the Democratic race on Tuesday. It now goes to a runoff between former San Antonio schoolteacher Grady Yarbrough and Austin political operative Cody Garrett.

More hotly contested will be the Republican race for the commission seat between Rosenberg real estate investor Gary Gates and former state Rep. Wayne Christian of Center.

Load-Date: March 2, 2016

End of Document

'American Sniper' widow is campaigning for Republican opponent of Texas sheriff who hunted 'affluenza' teen

MailOnline

March 1, 2016 Tuesday 4:53 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Associated Newspapers Ltd. All Rights Reserved

MailOnline

Section: NEWS

Length: 577 words

Byline: REUTERS

Body

- Taya Kyle, the wife of Chris Kyle, is campaign treasurer for **Bill Waybourn**
- Waybourn is a Republican opponent of longtime Tarrant County Sheriff Dee Anderson
- She is also in a dispute with her husband's ex- business partner Bo French
- French, a Republican, is running for a Texas House of Representatives seat

The widow of a slain Navy SEAL whose story was immortalized in 'American Sniper' is campaigning for the Republican opponent of the Texas sheriff who hunted 'affluenza' teen Ethan Couch.

Taya Kyle, the wife of Chris Kyle, is campaign treasurer for **Bill Waybourn**, a Republican opponent of longtime Tarrant County Sheriff Dee Anderson, who was seen as the face of the manhunt for Couch.

Anderson, also a Republican, is running for his fifth and final term as Sheriff in a race that will be decided by voters on Tuesday.

Scroll down for video

Kyle's endorsement of Waybourn for Sheriff is on his website, in which she says: 'I endorse **Bill Waybourn** for Sheriff, because he is the only man Chris wanted to work for, and because he is a good man who serves those who serve us.'

Kyle, 41, is also in a dispute with her late husband's former business partner Bo French, who is running as a Republican for a Texas House of Representatives seat from the same county.

Lawyers for Kyle sent a cease-and-desist letter to the French camp last week calling on it to stop using her husband's name and likeness in campaign materials.



'Bo (is) abusing the name of my late husband, a beloved Son of Texas, and a hero to the nation, in an attempt to manipulate voters,' Kyle said in a statement on social media. She did not respond to requests to speak about her political activism.

'Her experience with public exposure and scrutiny has taught her not to let her guard down,' said Republican political strategist Bill Miller. 'She's become a very formidable woman.'

Chris and Taya Kyle have become stars of the state's Republican establishment, with Governor Greg Abbott setting up a day to honor the memory of Chris Kyle, who was killed in 2013 by a troubled veteran he was trying to mentor.

Taya Kyle last year endorsed former Governor Rick Perry in his unsuccessful bid for the Republican presidential nomination. She now endorses U.S. Senator Ted Cruz of Texas.

In the sheriff's race, she may be the difference in the campaign of Waybourn, a former suburban Fort Worth police chief, analysts said.

Waybourn, backed by the conservative Tea Party movement, is challenging Anderson, a fellow Republican, who gained national attention in calling for the apprehension of Couch.

The teen, whose lawyer said his wealth distorted his moral compass, fled to Mexico in December apparently to avoid apprehension for violating the probation deal that kept him out of jail for a drunken driving wreck in 2013 that killed four people.

Kyle has not indicated any intention to seek elective office, but analysts said that should not be ruled out.

'Once someone gets involved and gets their hands wet in politics, it's hard to get out,' Miller said.

Last month, she posted a heartfelt tribute to her late husband on the third anniversary of his death.

Kyle and his friend Chat Littlefield were gunned down by fellow war veteran Eddie Ray Routh at a shooting range in Rough Creek, Texas, on February 2, 2013.

His story was captured in 2014 film 'American Sniper', starring Bradley Cooper. The film earned numerous Academy Award nominations, including Best Picture and Best Actor for Cooper's portrayal of Kyle.

Load-Date: March 1, 2016

End of Document

[Anderson, Waybourn headed to runoff for Tarrant County sheriff](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

March 1, 2016 Tuesday

Copyright 2016 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram
Found on DFW.com



Section: election

Length: 737 words

Byline: Bill Hanna

The Star-Telegram

Body

In a race that was tight all night long, Tarrant County Sheriff Dee Anderson is headed toward a runoff against **Bill Waybourn**.

Anderson, 59, of Kennedale has been sheriff since 2001 and was facing a strong challenge from Waybourn, the former Dalworthington Gardens police chief.

With all precincts reporting, Anderson had 83,400 votes (48.59 percent) to Waybourn's 69,801 votes (40.71 percent) in complete but unofficial returns.

With neither candidate getting more than 50 percent of the vote, Anderson and Waybourn will square off in a May 24 runoff.

With no Democrat running, the winner of the GOP primary will be the next sheriff.

"It's just a process of keeping people enthused and getting the vote out," Anderson said early Wednesday morning. "I'm still beating him by about 13,000 votes. I think that speaks volumes with the amount of money he spent."

At his watch party in Pantego, Waybourn greeted supporters and expressed optimism.

His spokesman, David McClelland, said they feel they have an advantage in the runoff.

"I think we've got the momentum and we got people willing to get out and vote," McClelland said. "We've already started campaigning."

A third candidate, John Garris, who dropped out of the race and threw his support to Waybourn, had 18,426 votes (10.74 percent.)

During the campaign, Anderson has touted his drama-free tenure as sheriff.

The Tarrant County Jail has passed 15 consecutive annual inspections. Rather than being out in the public, Anderson has said his time has been spent overseeing more than 1,600 employees and managing an annual budget of \$120 million.

Waybourn, 56, who retired last September as police chief of Dalworthington Gardens after 31 years, said Anderson has been too distant with rank-and-file staff.

Waybourn said his raising more campaign dollars and receiving numerous endorsements, including from former Gov. Rick Perry, two former Fort Worth police chiefs, the Tarrant County Law Enforcement Association, the Fort Worth Police Officers Association and the Arlington Police Association, were signs of Anderson being out of touch.



He also said the sheriff needs to be taking a lead role in coordinating with Tarrant County police departments on issues like terrorism and drug enforcement.

"If he was out there in the community, I wouldn't have the endorsements I have," Waybourn said earlier in the campaign.

Waybourn's time as police chief came under scrutiny during the campaign when the Star-Telegram reported last month about a 2013 accidental shooting at a Tarrant County gun range.

In the June 2013, Waybourn injured his hand while teaching a concealed handgun license class to an Arlington doctor.

Dalworthington Gardens' city attorney determined he was on the job when the shooting occurred and was qualified for workers' compensation.

The city attorney said there was an understanding between the City Council and Waybourn that allowed him to teach CHL classes. Waybourn had said the allegation came from Anderson's camp, which the sheriff denied.

Anderson, who had endorsements from Fort Worth Mayor Betsy Price and District Attorney Sharen Wilson, has also disputed Waybourn's assertion that he was isolated, saying he was accessible to police chiefs throughout Tarrant County.

"He thinks being out in the community and being out of the office every day is the way to go," Anderson said earlier in the campaign. "He has no idea about the demands of a \$120 million operation and managing 1,600 people. He's never managed a department anywhere near the size of this office."

Anderson has been accused of grandstanding for being out in front of the cameras during the Ethan Couch case. The attorney for Ethan Couch's mother, Tonya Couch, had criticized Anderson's high profile during her return to Fort Worth.

Couch, 18, and his mother fled to Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, in December after he skipped a meeting with his probation officer. He's serving 10 years of probation for killing four people in a 2013 DWI wreck.

"Ethan Couch represents the worst case I've had in the 15 years as sheriff," Anderson said during the WFAA debate last month. "I'm going to be upfront, very vocal. I'm speaking for those families and those four victims."

Waybourn has said he is most proud of pioneering DWI no-refusals in Dalworthington Gardens since 2005, where court orders for blood draws are obtained for suspected drunken drivers if they refuse a Breathalyzer.

Bill Hanna: 817-390-7698, @fwhanna

Load-Date: March 2, 2016

End of Document

[Cruz rallies Texans, says no other candidates can win in November](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

February 29, 2016 Monday





Section: election

Length: 1132 words

Byline: Anna M. Tinsley

The Star-Telegram

Dateline: DALLAS

Body

Desperate to derail Donald Trump's momentum in the Republican presidential primary going into Super Tuesday, Sen. Ted Cruz told Texas voters Monday that he's their only viable choice.

"Donald Trump is not the right candidate to go head to head against Hillary Clinton," Cruz told a crowd of around 1,000 gathered at Gilley's, a well-known Dallas bar. "The only campaign that has beaten Donald Trump and the only campaign that can beat Donald Trump is us."

The bitter battle for the Republican and Democratic presidential nominations are driving most of the already high turnout for today's election, but there's a slew of hotly contested state and local races on the ballot.

Among them: the heated GOP battle for Tarrant County sheriff between incumbent Dee Anderson and challenger **Bill Waybourn** and high-dollar GOP legislative races between state Rep. Jonathan Stickland of Bedford and Scott Fisher, state Rep. Tony Tinderholt of Arlington and Andrew Piel and state Rep. Charlie Geren of Fort Worth and Bo French.

There are other contested races up and down the ballot -- for statewide posts such as Texas Railroad Commission, local congressional and judicial seats and constable posts. There also are contested races to determine who will lead the local Republican and Democratic parties.

Cruz was among a parade of candidates and surrogates barnstorming the state Monday, hoping to claim as many as possible of the Lone Star State's votes and generous number of delegates that can help make or break a candidate's hopes of making it to the White House.

Trump has won three primary elections in a row, but Texas' junior senator said he believes he will have a "very good Super Tuesday."

When asked, after his politically star-studded rally that included Gov. Greg Abbott and former Gov. Rick Perry, how big his win needs to be, Cruz said "a win in Texas is a win in Texas."

He predicted that at the end of Super Tuesday, "Donald Trump is likely to have a big chunk of delegates. I think we will have a big chunk of delegates."



Then, he said, the battle for the Republican Party's nomination will become a two-man race.

Cruz threw a few verbal punches at the New York businessman and former reality TV star, saying, among other things, that Trump helped elect senators who supported a plan that would have given those illegally in the country a path to citizenship.

And Cruz promised, if elected, to do everything from defeat radical Islamic terrorists and rebuild the military to rip up the "catastrophic Iranian nuclear deal" and end the health care system known as Obamacare.

"It is Texans who will stand and lead and fight," he said. "Standing together, we are going to win the Republican" nomination.

Polls are open Tuesday from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Texas' turn

Texas, a large state that generally has a small voice in the presidential election, is in the unique position of making a significant impact in the race this year.

Political observers have long predicted that Texans could turn out in record numbers for this election, not just for the presidential race but also for the high-profile Tarrant County races.

Tarrant County voters already set new records for voting early in this race, topping the historically high numbers set in the 2008 presidential battle.

Statewide, early voting came close to the 2008 turnout, but didn't match the large numbers: 1.1 million Texans voted early this primary, compared with 1.9 million Texans in 2008.

Tarrant County voters broke the historic turnout from eight years ago here, with 139,396 voters -- 95,088 Republicans and 44,308 Democrats -- heading to the polls early this year. In 2008, 123,343 local voters -- 36,759 Republicans and 86,584 Democrats -- casting early votes, according to state election records.

'We can trust him'

Kelly Hughes, a 56-year-old Dallas woman at Cruz's rally, said she's torn on who should get her vote Tuesday.

"I believe Cruz is more conservative than Trump but I believe Trump can get things done," she said. "Cruz has been fighting but he gets blocked a lot."

Abbott was among those appealing to Texas voters Monday for Cruz.

"America today is at a crossroads," he said. "We need a leader to take us down the right path. That leader is Ted Cruz.

"This is our time to have a Texas-size impact on the (presidential race)," he said. "We can alter the course of this presidential primary and chart a course for a better America."

Cruz, who said it was good to be home "with the greatest people on the face of the earth," said much is at stake in this year's presidential election.

"Our country is in crisis," he said. "Our rights are under assault. The debt is drowning our children."

And a weak America, he said, "is dangerous."



If elected, he said he will put people back to work again and make this country safer.

Cruz said he will pass a simple flat tax, protect religious freedom and Second Amendment rights, abolish the IRS and end illegal immigration.

And, he said, he will "stand, unapologetic, with Israel."

In November, he said, the general election will come down to "jobs, freedom and security."

For now, Cruz called on Texans to help push his campaign farther to help give him steam to gain the Republican Party's nomination.

State Sen. Konni Burton, R-Colleyville, was among those in the crowd cheering on Cruz.

She said Texans put their faith in Cruz when they elected him to the U.S. Senate. And they should do so again now.

"Texans know Ted like no one else does," said Burton, a longtime Cruz supporter. "He campaigned on issues, he went to Washington and he fought for those issues.

"We trusted him with our vote then," she said. "He did what he said he would do. We can trust him with our vote again."

Ted Cruz predicts Super Tuesday: Rubio, others will be "way behind." Sen. Ted Cruz predicted he and Donald J. Trump will emerge after Super Tuesday and that he would eventually beat Trump 60-40.

Anna Tinsley: 817-390-7610, @annatinsley

Texas' March 1 primary To learn more about candidates on the March 1 ballot, check out the online Star-Telegram Voter Guide.

Heading to the polls? Anyone heading to the polls Tuesday should make sure to bring their photo IDs with them. Acceptable IDs include a driver's license, a state-issued personal ID card, concealed handgun license, military ID card, citizenship certificate with photo or a passport. Any license that's expired must not be expired for more than 60 days. Anyone who shows up at the polls to vote without a photo ID will be given a chance to go home and bring the ID back. If they don't, they may cast a provisional ballot. But to make sure that vote is counted, they'll have to take a valid photo ID to the elections office within six days of the election. Otherwise the ballot will not be counted. Source: Texas Secretary of State's Office; Tarrant County Elections Office

Load-Date: February 29, 2016

End of Document

[Trump's rise; GOP chair; sheriff; Texas Supreme Court; district court; House District 94; Rubio or Kasich; Pope and Trump](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

February 24, 2016 Wednesday





Section: letters_to_the_editor

Length: 1017 words

Byline: The Star-Telegram

Body

Trump's rise

In her Friday column ("Trump's political rise is mostly about what he is not"), Cynthia Allen missed the reason for Donald Trump's rise in the presidential race, just like most pundits who don't get it.

On immigration, he's the only candidate who will control our borders, something that most Americans believe will not happen without him.

The national debt is a threat to our way of life. Trump knows how the financial system works and will use it to our advantage. We'll not be outsmarted again on financial deals. His plan brings manufacturing jobs back to the U.S.

He believes in strength through the power of our military. He will replace Obamacare with a better system, making insurance more competitive across state lines.

On education, he'll return control to the local school districts. And political correctness will be gone and dead with Trump!

Paula Scoggin, Benbrook

Although Trump is my fourth choice for president, I feel that the Friday article by Patrick Healy of The New York Times had it wrong.

Healy accused Trump of "his most audacious attack yet on a revered public figure" after Trump called "disgraceful" the pope's suggestion that Trump "is not a Christian."

As I recall, God is the only one who's supposed to pass judgment.

The pope first attacked Trump. Trump was only defending himself. Doesn't he have that right?

Trump saying the pope is "disgraceful" and "unbelievable" is not an attack but a defense.

Also the pope hypocritically said we should not build walls but bridges. Isn't the Vatican surrounded by tall walls with heavy security and surveillance?

We must understand that the pope is a human, a highly religious Christian leader, but not a saint.



Sal Zambrano, Crowley

GOP chair

I fully support David Wylie for chairman of the Tarrant County Republican Party.

David Wylie has been very helpful to me in obtaining filtered walk lists for my precinct (3384). He has always responded to my questions in a timely and efficient way.

It's my opinion that he will make an outstanding Republican county chairman.

Katherine Lavery, Grapevine

Please join me in voting for my friend and fellow Southlake resident Tim O'Hare for Tarrant County Republican Party chairman.

I know Tim personally through his involvement in our community, and professionally, as we are both attorneys. I believe that Tim will be an excellent leader for the Tarrant County Republican Party.

Tim's experience in local government and his track record as a city leader demonstrate his qualifications and abilities to lead the Tarrant County Republican Party.

Early voting has started and continues through Friday. Election day is March 1. Vote Tim O'Hare for Tarrant County Republican Party chair.

Shawn McCaskill, Southlake City Council member

Sheriff

Tarrant County sheriff candidate **Bill Waybourn** says he has taught concealed-handgun license classes to more than 20,000 people.

The Texas Department of Public Safety reports 937,419 licensees.

Waybourn taught more than 2 percent of all licensees, or better than one out of 50?

Um -- really?

Gary Roach, Azle

Texas Supreme Court

Voters should look for experienced Texas Supreme Court candidates who will uphold precedent and maintain a hardworking court. That is my friend, Justice Debra Lehrmann, who was appointed to the court by Gov. Rick Perry.

She is a hardworking and respected justice with impeccable credentials. She's written two legal treatises used regularly by judges and attorneys as guides for understanding the law.

A graduate of the University of Texas School of Law, she spent 22 years as a Tarrant County family court judge. She is a legal scholar who does not bring political activism to her decisions.



Col. (ret.) Bill T. Bailey, North Richland Hills

District court

District Judge R.H. Wallace has just received the highest rating from the Tarrant County Bar Association.

As the district clerk, I have a unique view of judges from inside. I have no obligation to support any incumbent judge, but I strongly urge Republican primary voters to re-elect Wallace.

Not only is Wallace a fair judge, but he has distinguished himself in the legal community since he was appointed by the governor.

Please vote for Judge R.H. Wallace.

Tom Wilder, Bedford

House District 94

Tony Tinderholt is more than a conservative.

He knows he has an obligation to represent the people. I admire his intellect and firm grasp of issues. He is urbane and polished without sinking to a boorish level.

Tinderholt will continue to earn respect, and his past military bearing is evident.

I am glad he is willing to serve as state representative in Arlington's District 94.

Jerry Pikulinski, Arlington

Rubio or Kasich

The first president I voted for was Dwight Eisenhower. I'm one of the old guys.

I've voted in every election since, and have been proud to live in a country where even my vote is counted.

This year, for the first time, I may have to sit it out. With a pathological liar and a bombastic fool as the top runners who might end up being the only two choices, that leaves me with no choice.

On Super Tuesday, I will cast my vote either for Marco Rubio or John Kasich, who seem to be the only Republican candidates who make any pretense of sticking to issues.

That vote will probably be lost, but we continue to soldier on.

Wanda Conlin, Fort Worth

Pope and Trump

I was disappointed to see the news using only Pope Francis' contentious comment during his Mexico trip.

I am not Roman Catholic. I am, however, a Christian who is concerned when words are taken out of context to make them sound controversial. The media is destroying civility.

As for Donald Trump, his plan to build a 25-foot concrete wall along our borders is laughable and a waste of funds.



Carolyn A. Johnson, Fort Worth

Letters should be no longer than 200 words and must have a full name, home street address, city of residence and both a home and daytime telephone number for verification. E-mail (preferred): letters@star-telegram.com; Fax: 817-390-7688 Regular mail: Letters to the Editor, Box 1870, Fort Worth TX 76101 More letters and discussions atstar-telegram.com/opinion/letters-to-the-editor

Load-Date: February 24, 2016

End of Document

[Sheriff race; Texas House District 92; family court; Trump and Hillary; ignoring Carson; Sanders on education; Proposition 3; GOP chair](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

February 23, 2016 Tuesday

Copyright 2016 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: letters_to_the_editor

Length: 1000 words

Byline: The Star-Telegram

Body

Sheriff race

Sheriff Dee Anderson runs a tight ship: under budget, no jail breaks, no corruption, no scandals, no accidental shootings.

With 1,600 deputies and other employees, his department is the largest in Tarrant County government. Morale is high. His staff likes and supports him.

Anderson cooperates with all law enforcement agencies: local, state and federal.

Inmates released from his jail and wanted for crimes elsewhere are turned over to appropriate law enforcement agencies, including Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

He is not a sanctuary sheriff.

Anderson's opponent says if he's elected he'll get out of the office more to meet with other lawmen around the county.



Otherwise he hasn't found anything to improve or reform in the Tarrant County Sheriff's Department.

Dee Anderson is your conservative, down-to-earth, no-frills, law-and-order sheriff.

Let's keep him.

Jim Pitts, Fort Worth

The current sheriff is an honorable man but it is time for a change in leadership.

Bill Waybourn has outlined ways the sheriff's department can and should work more efficiently for the residents and cities of Tarrant County.

Elected officials often serve longer than they should. Revitalization is often needed.

When a qualified, dynamic candidate challenges a well-respected but long-term incumbent, we should not fear change.

It's time to bring new eyes and fresh ideas to the sheriff's office.

Kerry Gonzalez, Arlington

House District 92

On Feb. 16, I participated in a live question-and-answer telephone call with Texas Rep. Jonathan Stickland.

After several softball questions, I asked how Stickland would represent the more mainstream conservative voters in District 92, not just those of the ultra-right-wing Tea Party and Empower Texans donors funding his campaign.

I was cut off "due to technical difficulties."

District 92 needs a representative who listens to all citizens.

Ralph Gray, Bedford

Family court

Having practiced family law in Tarrant County for more than 40 years and as a former judge, I know both Mike Sinha and Patricia Bennett.

I endorse Patricia Bennett for judge of the 360th Judicial District Court.

She's a board-certified family law specialist, and she received recognition from the Tarrant County Family Law Bar Association.

She also is endorsed by numerous Republican precinct chairs, conservative Republican activists and Republican clubs and organizations.

I'm confident that Patricia Bennett is the constitutional conservative who will honor and respect her oath to support and obey the U.S and Texas constitutions.

John White, Arlington

Trump and Hillary



Robert Kai's Feb. 11 letter about Donald Trump shows how some readers tout their self-proclaimed superior intelligence and deem those who don't share their world view too dumb to comprehend.

Like the readers who recognize Hillary Clinton as untrustworthy and untruthful but plan to vote for her anyway.

Burt E. Ballentine, Keller

Ignoring Carson?

I don't understand why the media are ignoring Republican presidential candidate Dr. Ben Carson.

Maybe you don't realize what a big following he has, especially in Texas.

Maybe you don't understand that he's the one candidate that many people are inspired by, and the candidate who brings hope for America.

I know he refuses to be drawn into this down-and-dirty and totally silly mess. But, really, wake up!

Eileen Tidwell, Azle

Sanders, education

The "free higher education for everyone" Bernie Sanders promotes is not equitable.

Public universities cost far more than community colleges (80 semester hours at Tarrant County College costs about the same as one semester at UT Austin). Flagship universities like UT Austin and Oklahoma accept the academic cream, the majority of whom come from families that have afforded them excellent advantages.

That will not change, meaning struggling students would receive far less investment and their degrees would mean less than the students who already begin life with privilege.

My American Dream is that the most in need get the most help, the privileged carry some of the load, and we ensure upward mobility for those who work hard, regardless of where they begin. Affordable, accessible and equitable education and training for all.

Linda Walsh Jenkins, Fort Worth

Proposition 3

John Riddle's Feb. 17 column opposing Proposition 3 in the Republican primary accuses supporters of the proposition of making false statements. However, nowhere could he list a single harm that would befall public worker unions or union members should the proposal become state law.

The proposition's complete text is "Texas should prohibit governmental entities from collecting dues for labor unions through deductions from the public employee paychecks."

That does not outlaw public employee unions or prevent anyone from joining such a union if they choose. It doesn't stop members from paying dues. It only says that governmental entities shouldn't be bill collectors for the unions.



It would change the dynamic relative to dues from having to opt out if you don't want to pay, making it opt in if you do want to pay. That better assures that those who pay dues are willingly joining the union and paying dues.

Stanley Poynor, Mansfield

GOP chair

I know Tim O'Hare and am confident he will be a strong, conservative leader for the Tarrant County Republican Party.

As mayor of Farmers Branch, he has a track record of leadership. His experience dealing with the media as a radio guest host allows him to be a clear voice for party causes.

Tim will ensure Tarrant County stays red and will also expand our tent to reach all ages and demographics.

Laura Hill, Southlake

Letters should be no longer than 200 words and must have a full name, home street address, city of residence and both a home and daytime telephone number for verification. E-mail (preferred): letters@star-telegram.com; Fax: 817-390-7688 Regular mail: Letters to the Editor, Box 1870, Fort Worth TX 76101 More letters and discussions at star-telegram.com/opinion/letters-to-the-editor

Load-Date: February 23, 2016

End of Document

[Accidental shooting, workers' comp claim emerge in Tarrant County sheriff's race](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

February 18, 2016 Thursday

Copyright 2016 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: fort_worth

Length: 1813 words

Byline: Bill Hanna

The Star-Telegram

Body



Former Dalworthington Gardens Police Chief **Bill Waybourn** boasts he has taught concealed handgun license classes to more than 20,000 people since it became law in 1996.

In some instances he taught "outreach" classes in his official capacity as police chief.

During one class in June 2013, Waybourn was accidentally shot in the right hand while teaching an Arlington doctor at a Tarrant County gun range. His injury required surgery that was paid for through a workers' comp claim, a decision that city officials made.

"I took myself completely out of that decision-making," Waybourn said in a recent interview. "I wasn't involved with it and said, 'Whatever is right, we'll do.' "

News of the shooting flew mostly under the radar but has surfaced as Waybourn makes a run for Tarrant County sheriff against incumbent Dee Anderson.

An anonymous letter that was sent to numerous media organizations, including the Star-Telegram, raised ethical questions about the workers' comp claim. Waybourn has said he believes that the letter came out of "Anderson's camp" -- an assertion that Anderson denied Thursday.

"We've always run a positive campaign and will continue to do so," Anderson said.

Waybourn told the Star-Telegram that the accidental discharge occurred as he trained the doctor under a city-approved outreach program.

Two days after the shooting, in which his right hand was injured, Waybourn checked "yes" on a city form that asked if he was doing his regular job. The form, called Employers First Report of Injury or Illness, is the first step toward filing a workers' comp claim.

Dalworthington Gardens City Attorney Jim Jeffrey confirmed that there had been an understanding -- but no written policy -- between the City Council and Waybourn that the chief could provide concealed handgun classes as a community service.

"When the report of injury came in, the question of whether he was covered under workers' compensation came up," Jeffrey said. "My position is if he was on an approved city activity and this was reported to the workers' comp carrier, it would be up to the carrier to decide whether to provide workers' comp coverage."

On Wednesday night, after weeks of dodging calls from the Star-Telegram, Dalworthington Gardens Mayor Mike Tedder invited reporters who had made inquiries about Waybourn to a City Council meeting to address their questions.

Dalworthington Gardens mayor responds to questions about Bill WaybournAt a Dalworthington Gardens' City Council meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 17, 2016, Mayor Mike Tedder responds to reporters' questions about the city's former police chief **Bill Waybourn**. Waybourn is running for Tarrant County sheriff. Video by pmoseley@star-te

Asked about Waybourn and the outreach program, Tedder said, "I do not believe we had a policy referring to that at this time."

On Thursday, Dalworthington Gardens Alderman Ed Motley told the Star-Telegram that if a written policy existed, it preceded the roughly half a dozen years that he's been on the council.

Still, Motley said, the council was aware that Waybourn was conducting the classes and permitted him to use city facilities for the classroom training.



"I don't know that I would characterize it as city-sanctioned," Motley said. "We allowed Bill to conduct the classes and we allowed him to use our facility. ... It wasn't done under the city's name."

Motley said that if the city attorney considered the time Waybourn spent on the class as on-duty, "then I'm OK with it."

'Close to 1,000 people'

Waybourn said that the outreach program was a public relations effort made by the city and that the outreach classes were separate from other concealed handgun license programs that he has conducted for profit.

"Nobody was charged for them," he said.

He said he's taught "probably close to 1,000 people" over the last 15 to 20 years under the city's outreach efforts. Some, he said, have been taught in large class settings and others, like with the Arlington doctor, were one on one.

Those selected for the outreach program often include people doing business in Dalworthington Gardens, residents and specialty groups like teachers or police officers' wives, he said.

Dalworthington Gardens is a city of 2,300 that sits north of Interstate 20, next to Pantego and Arlington.

Cindy Simmons, the doctor whom Waybourn had been training the day he was shot, told the Star-Telegram she had sought his help.

"I've known Bill for many years. We have a professional relationship though public service duties and activities. I knew that he would teach classes so I sought his assistance in getting my concealed handgun license," Simmons said.

Waybourn said Simmons served as medical director for Arlington and handled protocols for AMR, Dalworthington Garden's ambulance service.

Simmons said that while she has no knowledge of whether the city approved her training, she did not pay Waybourn for it nor was payment ever discussed. She completed the classroom portion of the training at the city's Public Safety building.

"He has offered this as a service to multiple groups and individuals to my knowledge," Simmons said.

Waybourn said that if elected, he would "still be open" to teaching the "outreach" classes as sheriff, though likely not as frequently.

While a spokeswoman with the Texas Police Chiefs Association said there is no list of departments that offer free concealed handgun classes, Dalworthington Gardens does not appear to be alone. For example, the coastal city of Aransas Pass and the small Central Texas town of Thrall have offered classes to residents.

'Thought the gun had blown up'

Waybourn said the shooting occurred after the doctor's gun "stovepiped" -- a term used for when a round does not completely eject, as the two trained at the Firearms Training Fort Worth gun range, south of Kennedale.



He said he was preparing to demonstrate how to clear the gun when a brass piece suddenly popped out on its own and the gun's slide slammed forward, loading a live round and discharging it.

"I thought the gun had blown up in my hand because my hand was nowhere near the trigger," Waybourn recalled.

Simmons notified gun range owner Bill Carlton about the shooting. The pair then administered first aid to Waybourn before Simmons drove him to Arlington MCA hospital for further treatment.

Waybourn said he notified his wife, and a corporal and the department's deputy chief about what had occurred.

He said the deputy chief, in turn, notified the mayor and the city attorney.

He said an incident report was made but was unsure if it was still in Dalworthington Garden's computer system.

He said he ultimately underwent two surgeries as a result of his injury but does not know the medical costs associated with those surgeries.

A spokesman for the Texas Insurance Department said the agency could not confirm whether such a claim was made and how much was paid, citing confidentiality laws.

Jeffrey said he has no knowledge of the city requiring concealed handgun trainees to sign liability waivers and wouldn't speculate if the city's sovereign immunity would have been in jeopardy if the student had been shot rather than Waybourn.

He said the policy of allowing Waybourn to teach concealed handgun classes wasn't questioned after the accidental shooting.

Motley said he had not previously considered, nor had the council discussed in his presence, whether Waybourn's classes could have posed a liability to the city.

"In retrospect, maybe so. It never occurred to me before," Motley said.

He said that if the city's new police chief expressed interest in holding such classes on city time, "it might be something we'd want to talk about."

Simmons said she believes that allegations that Waybourn may have committed some type of fraud in filing for workers' comp "is an attempted assault on **Bill Waybourn.**"

'Every day was a holiday'

Waybourn retired as chief of Dalworthington Gardens in September.

The Star-Telegram filed public information requests with the city seeking information about the workers' comp claim, his separation agreement with the city and a consulting contract he was given after retiring.

The city, in turn, requested an opinion from the state attorney general but turned over two of the documents -- the separation agreement and consulting contract -- on Tuesday.

The Star-Telegram also obtained copies of all three documents from a source familiar with Dalworthington Gardens and Waybourn. The source is not being identified for fear of retaliation.



At Wednesday night's council meeting, Tedder stated before a packed City Council meeting that "our city has been inundated with open records requests regarding things that are not appropriate or are not within our scope."

As part of his separation agreement, Dalworthington Gardens agreed to pay Waybourn \$117,000 as "full and final payment for any accumulated sick leave, vacation time or personal compensatory leave."

Dalworthington Gardens also agreed to pay Waybourn a \$75,000 consulting fee in three \$25,000 installments, with the last payment paid on Monday.

"When I was leaving the mayor came to me and said, 'Listen, you are leaving with 31 years as chief; you've got a lot of institutional knowledge and we want to keep you for the next 18 months around,' " Waybourn said.

Waybourn said he believes he left Dalworthington Gardens under good terms.

"Every day was a holiday and every meal was a banquet," he said.

Tedder would not answer questions about whether Waybourn had ever been the subject of an internal investigation or external investigation.

"When allegations have been received, whether involving current or former employees, such matters have been appropriately evaluated or investigated," Tedder said. "To the extent these matters could have been handled internally, the city has addressed them. To the matters that need to be handled externally, with the help of counsel, we've turned information over to the appropriate authorities based on the jurisdictions. These agencies include the sheriff's office, the district attorney's office or Texas Rangers."

Councilman Guy Snodgrass clarified later in the meeting Wednesday that "there has not been any internal investigation of Chief Waybourn."

"Any rumors or accusations against the chief -- you can take it to the bank that they are from people who don't want him to be elected," Snodgrass said.

Motley also said Thursday that to his knowledge, no internal or external investigations have been conducted, or called for, against Waybourn.

Motley praised Waybourn for his leadership, including being in the forefront of DWI "no-refusals" campaigns, where court orders for blood draws are obtained for suspected drunken drivers if they refuse a breath test.

"I've always been an advocate for **Bill Waybourn**," Motley said. "I've not heard other council members say anything to the contrary."

Bill Hanna: 817-390-7698, @fwhanna Deanna Boyd: 817-390-7655, @deannaboyd

Load-Date: February 18, 2016

End of Document

[**Sheriff's race; Texas high court; party chairman; district judge**](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)



February 18, 2016 Thursday

Copyright 2016 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: letters_to_the_editor

Length: 385 words

Byline: The Star-Telegram

Body

Sheriff's race

Dee Anderson has been a vast improvement over his predecessor as Tarrant County sheriff.

I served with **Bill Waybourn** as chief of police in Dalworthington Gardens for 18 years as a councilman, 12 of those as mayor pro tem. It was my privilege to work with Bill on a weekly, often daily, basis during those 18 years.

I could write a book recounting incidents of his integrity, professionalism, leadership skills and ability to handle complex administrative issues. He maintained the highest ethical standards always.

There is nobody I trust more with lives on the line than **Bill Waybourn**.

A lifetime of experience has prepared him.

Dennis Barnes, Dalworthington Gardens

Texas high court

We are fortunate to have Justice Debra Lehrmann of Tarrant County on the Texas Supreme Court.

Justice Lehrmann is a person of high integrity with more than 27 years of judicial experience. She has a proven conservative record as a strict constructionist who applies the law as written and does not legislate from the bench.

Debra's outstanding reputation as a competent jurist with high integrity has earned her the support of Gov. Greg Abbott, 12 former Texas Supreme Court justices and hundreds of other party officials, precinct chairs and party activists.

Bob Stewart, Bedford

Party chairman

David W. Wylie is the only long-term resident with the experience to be elected Tarrant County Republican Party chairman.



He has been doing the same general work for 28 years, all within the county. He also has been a precinct chairman for 25 straight years.

Even the last two state conventions had him working as chairman of the registration committee.

His county and state party work experience is surpassed by no one else in this race.

Dale Attebery, Arlington

District judge

Mike Wallach has presented extremely complex cases, mostly on behalf of physicians and businesses, to juries in counties throughout north central Texas for 35 years.

Tarrant County needs judges with jury trial experience. Mike Wallach has more than three times the jury trial experience as his worthy opponents combined.

As a Fort Worth native, Eastern Hills High School and Texas Christian University graduate, Mike knows Tarrant County. I encourage voters to elect Republican Mike Wallach to the 348th District Court.

James Stouffer, Fort Worth

Load-Date: February 18, 2016

End of Document

[Establishment, or Tea Party? Tough to tell Texas GOP sides](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

February 13, 2016 Saturday

Copyright 2016 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: bud_kennedy

Length: 504 words

Byline: Bud Kennedy

The Star-Telegram

Body

Texas Republicans come in almost as many flavors as Blue Bell, with some political swirls mixing in as party primary voting begins Tuesday.



For example, former Gov. Rick Perry is a Tea Party insurgent in the Tarrant County sheriff's race, backing pistol-packin', Stetson-wearin' suburban challenger **Bill Waybourn**.

(Sheriff Dee Anderson's dry reply: "When you're running for a law enforcement job, you want to think twice" about Perry, under felony indictment, "being an endorsement.")

Yet in the Texas House race in Northeast Tarrant County, Perry is being called Mr. Establishment and Crony Rick.

"Perry's support, and other Austin insiders' lining up to help Scott Fisher, simply shows how independent Jonathan Stickland is," said Stickland's campaign consultant, Luke Macias.

With the national race for the Republican presidential nomination muddled, the confusion extends down the ballot.

At the top, newspapers in Texas' three largest cities endorsed Jeb Bush (in Houston, Ted Cruz's hometown, and San Antonio) and John Kasich (The Dallas Morning News).

Underneath, campaigners sometimes seem criss-crossed.

Police labor groups, usually derided by Tea Party Republicans as "liberal" and "pro-union," staunchly support Fisher against unlicensed-carry gun activist Stickland, but side with Waybourn over Anderson.

In East Texas, some faith-and-values conservatives are campaigning alongside Ron Paul liberty activists for Cruz, but dividing bitterly over state and local races. And nobody knows how Donald Trump's followers will vote.

"It's certainly a twilight zone," said Fort Worth political consultant Bryan Epstein.

Arlington Republican Wayne Ogle, a former city councilman and school trustee, described the current state of Texas Republicans: "The popular notion is that the party is some highly organized freeway with each clearly defined group driving in a distinct lane. But it's more chaotic than that. Think Lewisville Lake on July 4 -- ski boats, speedboats, wakeboarders, Jet Skis, a lot of people with a different idea about where to go, all criss-crossing each other."

For Perry's part, former political director Wayne Hamilton said the former governor endorses based on relationships and loyalty.

"You've definitely got some people out there endorsing on all sides," he said by phone, adding that much of the confusion is over "the question, what is the 'Tea Party'? I'm still waiting for a strong definition."

If an opponent labels a candidate the "establishment," Hamilton said he asks, "Who is 'the establishment'?"

He mentioned former state party chairwoman Cathie Adams of Plano: "She's running around the state saying she's going to 'Take back our party.' Who's she taking it back from?"

"It's a very tough time to figure out whether a candidate is 'the establishment,' or an 'insurgent,'" Hamilton said: "The insurgents are now apparently the establishment."

But they all campaign as conservative.

Bud Kennedy: 817-390-7538, bud@star-telegram.com, @BudKennedy. His column appears Sundays, Wednesdays and Fridays.



Load-Date: February 13, 2016

End of Document

[H-E-B House seat; sheriff's race; horse racing; abortion rights](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

February 11, 2016 Thursday

Copyright 2016 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: letters_to_the_editor

Length: 413 words

Byline: The Star-Telegram

Body

H-E-B House seat

At this time 22 years ago, Scott Fisher was being introduced around Bedford as the mayor-to-be. He was supported by local politicians. The voters didn't agree.

He came with some baggage. Because of his connection with the Christian Coalition, a PAC opposed his candidacy and put up 4-by-8-foot signs saying, "Don't let Pat Robertson take over our city."

State Rep. Jonathan Stickland won't sit quietly in his District 92 seat and vote the way the professional politicians in Austin want him to. So a group of good-ol'-boy professional politicians endorsed Fisher.

You have a choice: Continue to be represented or let professional politicians decide what's best for you.

John Hogg, Bedford

Sheriff's race

Bill Waybourn in an honorable person.

But his qualifications as sheriff of Tarrant County are like those of somebody who has sold ice cream from a vending cart in downtown Fort Worth for 10 years. That doesn't make him eligible to be CEO of Ben & Jerry's.

Dalworthington Gardens most likely has the most enforced speed limit of any city in Tarrant County. If a police department generates a large amount of the city budget, the chief's job is safe.



As for his celebrity endorsements, those and \$1.69 will get you a cup of coffee almost anywhere.

Sheriff Dee Anderson has done an excellent job managing his budget and running a jail with hundreds of inmates. He deserves another four years.

Walter Degner, Arlington

Horse racing

It seems very confusing to me that Texans are able to carry handguns openly, but have to drive to Oklahoma or Louisiana to go to a casino.

And now all the hoopla about historical horse racing.

Why not allow casino gambling in Texas and lower everyone's property taxes?

Why not improve the public schools? Build better roads, and update our infrastructure with the proceeds?

Lee S. Anderson, Fort Worth

Abortion rights

The decision by a grand jury in Houston vindicating Planned Parenthood and instead indicting the people who fraudulently tried to defame it is reassuring to those of us who still retain hope for nonpartisan justice.

Unfortunately, this will not stop the opponents of reproductive rights from braying for Planned Parenthood's destruction, as they have for the 100 years of its existence.

Those of us who believe in the right of women to participate in spheres of life in addition to that of motherhood will continue to support their work of providing health and contraceptive care to all who need it.

Frances Lyle, Fort Worth

Load-Date: February 11, 2016

End of Document

[2016 Voters Guide: Local races](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

February 5, 2016 Friday

Copyright 2016 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: politics_government



Length: 12929 words

Byline: Anna M. Tinsley

The Star-Telegram

Body

The Star-Telegram sent a Voters Guide questionnaire to all the candidates appearing on the Tarrant County ballot in contested primary races this year. Take a look at Tarrant County's sample ballots. And here's what the local candidates who responded had to say.

Tax assessor-collector

Republican

Ron Wright (incumbent)

Age: 62

Occupation and/or main source of income: Tarrant County Tax Assessor-Collector

City of residence and how long you've lived there: Arlington, 30 years

Campaign (public) phone number: 817-483-7997

Your campaign (public) email address: ron.wright@sbcglobal.net

Web site: Under construction

Education background, including all degrees: Azle High School, UT-Arlington, PCC Certification

Highlights of your current and past civic involvement: Leadership positions on numerous boards and commissions, including Board of Commissioners for Arlington Housing Authority, Board President for Arlington Night Shelter, Board of Directors for Mansfield Education Foundation, founding president of Arlington Tomorrow Foundation, Chairman of Tarrant County Historical Commission, Board of Directors for Arlington Historical Society, Arlington Human Service Planners, President of Arlington Republican Club, Area Leader for Tarrant County GOP, Board of Directors for Texas Conservative Forum, Board of Directors for Tarrant Co. Republican Forum, served on committees and chaired caucuses for Republican district and state conventions, delegate to numerous state GOP conventions, delegate to 2004 Republican National Convention in New York

Offices you have sought and/or held before: Served four terms on the Arlington City Council, 2000-2008; Tarrant County Tax Assessor-Collector, 2011 - Present

In 100 words or less, please explain how your background, skills and experience make you the best qualified candidate for this office. I have extensive management and problem solving experience in the private sector. I was managing people when I was 25. Combined with my civic and public policy experience, I was uniquely qualified when I became Tax Assessor-Collector. I will have been Tax Assessor for five years in May. I completed the class work and passed the tests to achieve certification as a Professional County Collector in only 2 1/2 years. Including my years as District Director and then Chief of Staff for



Congressman Joe Barton, I have real world experience in all levels of government. I am committed to public service and enjoy leading one of the largest tax offices in the state, with almost 200 employees in eight offices in the county.

In 100 words or less, please outline the three most critical problems facing the public office you are seeking and the solutions you propose to address them. Growth: Tarrant now has more property tax accounts than any county in Texas. The number has doubled since I assumed office in 2011 thanks to the surge in mineral accounts. We met this challenge with better technology and improved internal processes without adding clerks, but growth will continue to be a challenge. State mandates: Changes in property tax law and motor vehicle regulations such as the single sticker program always pose a challenge that county tax offices must be ready to meet. Technology: we can never stop working to find and embrace the next level of technological advances and apply them to the tax office to better serve the people of Tarrant County.

In 100 words or less, please add anything else you would like voters to know about you. I have been dedicated to public service in one form or another for more than 30 years and have received public recognition for my efforts, including Volunteer of the Year award, Man of the Year for Community Service award from the Star-Telegram, service award from the Arlington Historical Society, the Partnership Award from the Fort Worth Builders Assoc., Hero of the Homeless award, Friend of Education award, and Republican of the Year award. Leading one of the busiest tax offices in Texas requires a steady and experienced hand.

For candidates for local offices, in 100 words or less, should local governments allow gun shows on public property they control? If not, are any new regulations warranted? Yes.

Democrat

Lucas Lothamer

Age: 27

Occupation and/or main source of income: Teacher

City of residence and how long you've lived there: Lived in Arlington, TX for 5 years

Your campaign (public) email address: LothamerForTarrant@gmail.com

Web site: www.facebook.com/LothamerForTarrantCounty

Education background, including all degrees: "I attended the University of Texas at Arlington, earning my BA and MA in political science."

Highlights of your current and past civic involvement: "I served as president of the University Democrats at UTA in 2012 and a precinct chair for the Tarrant County Democratic Party from 2014 to 2016. Since moving here in 2011, I have taken an interest in improving my community by consistently volunteering and working with local and national candidates I felt had our best interest at heart."

Offices you have sought and/or held before: None, this will be my first time seeking office.

In 100 words or less, please explain how your background, skills and experience make you the best qualified candidate for this office. "In addition to my time studying bureaucratic structures, rules and regulations at UTA, I also spent time in Washington, DC working for the National Association of Community Health Centers in 2014, reading and tracking legislation in Congress and assisting the non-profit association



in improving our health care system. I have experience writing and researching complex documents and am confident my education and experience will allow me to streamline the tax assessor-collector office and make the process of collecting taxes more efficient and pleasant for the people of Tarrant County."

In 100 words or less, please outline the three most critical problems facing the public office you are seeking and the solutions you propose to address them. "The problems facing the office are gross incompetence and over-politicization. Ron Wright has consistently confused the responsibilities of his office and has spent the majority of his time stamping official documents with religious writing and blatantly attacking The United Way. This has led to taxes being higher than they should be by forgetting to include the homestead and other exemptions and in some cases sending multiple documents to the wrong people and places. I plan to make the office more efficient by sending out correct documents with all appropriate exemptions and in a single document rather than waste time preaching ideology."

In 100 words or less, please add anything else you would like voters to know about you. "Government is for the people, by the people. It is the duty of all public servants to ensure that government functions as smoothly as possible. That is exactly what you can expect from me. I am passionate about serving my community and I want us all to have a prosperous future."

For candidates for local offices, in 100 words or less, should local governments allow gun shows on public property they control? If not, are any new regulations warranted? "No, I do not. We should fix the gun show loopholes before allowing them on public property. At the very least, we should ensure only licensed sellers are allowed to sell guns at gun shows and make background checks for all gun sales mandatory. I believe every law-abiding citizen has the right to own a gun. However, I do think we should have safety measures in place on gun sales to prevent felons and mentally unstable people from obtaining firearms."

Sheriff

Republican

Dee Anderson (incumbent)

Age: No answer

Occupation and/or main source of income: Sheriff

City of residence and how long you've lived there: Kennedale, Tx., 21 years

Campaign phone number: 817-888-4525

Your campaign (public) email address: sheriffanderson2016@gmail.com

Web site: <http://www.sheriffanderson2016.com/>

Education background, including all degrees: Fort Worth Eastern Hills High School, Tarrant County Junior College, University of Texas -- Austin. - Major -- Journalism

Highlights of your current and past civic involvement: Member and Deacon at Rush Creek Christian Church, numerous civic groups, Lifetime Member of the National Sheriff's Association, Member of Fort Worth Football Officials' Association, College Football Officials West.

Offices you have sought and/or held in the past: Tarrant County Sheriff is only office sought or held.



Please explain your background, skills and experience that make you the best-qualified candidate for this office. My 15-years of experience as Sheriff is unequaled in this race. I have 36 years total law enforcement experience. I have received numerous accolades as Sheriff including Sheriff of the Year by the Texas Association, Life-saving award by TCSO, host of the 2014 National Sheriff's Association convention. Under my guidance have passed 15 straight annual state jail inspections. Built the state's first and only maximum security county jail. For 15 straight years I have run the department under budget while increasing professionalism, standards and policies. The Sheriff's Office is now recognized as a top-flight, professional law enforcement organization.

Please outline the three most critical problems facing the public office you are seeking and the solutions you propose to address them. Critical problems include immigration issues. We will continue our policy of maximum accountability assuring illegal immigrants are fully prosecuted and only then deported. Fiscal accountability and responsibility must continue. Running the largest segment of Tarrant County government with over 1,600 employees and an annual budget of \$120 million and consistently saving the taxpayers millions of dollars annually must continue. We must stay involved with all law enforcement agencies to continue to keep Tarrant County Safe from terrorism and all threats to safety.

Please add anything else you would like voters to know about you. I recently celebrated my 30th wedding anniversary with my wonderful wife who retired after 30 years as a public school teacher and now teaches part-time at our church school. We have raised three wonderful children into young adults who are making us proud. We have now been blessed with two grandsons who are the light of our lives.

For candidates for local offices, in 100 words or less, should local governments allow gun shows on public property they control? If not, are any new regulations warranted? I have no problems with gun shows on any property. They are regulated and monitored. My long-held belief is armed law-abiding citizens are not a threat to public safety. All lawful citizens should have the right to protect themselves at any time or place.

John M. Garris

Note: John Garris has suspended his campaign, and endorsed **Bill Waybourn** in the race, but here are the answers he provided to the Star-Telegram before doing that.

Age: 59

Occupation and/or main source of income: Confinement Officer with the Tarrant County Sheriff's Department

City of residence and how long you've lived there: Fort Worth, 15 years

Campaign (public) phone number: (817) 729 - 7408

Your campaign (public) email address: jmgarris@usa.com

Web site: votegarris.com

Education background, including all degrees: Graduate of Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, 1990; B.S, Business-Management, minoring in advanced mathematics

Highlights of your current and past civic involvement: None

Offices you have sought and/or held before: None



In 100 words or less, please explain how your background, skills and experience make you the best qualified candidate for this office. My military background, experience, and training give me the edge. I received my formal training as a manager and leader from the U.S. Air Force during my 21 year career. As an Airfield Operations Manager/Airport Manager I was responsible for the daily operations of the environment we worked in. I indirectly supervised over 3,500 personnel daily, managed multi-million dollar budgets and contracts, all facilities, vehicles, equipment, and aircraft operations on the airfield facilities daily. My nine years of hands-on practical experience as a confinement officer within the sheriff's Department give me the advantage. I know first-hand the issues affecting the department and where we are over spending and wasting taxpayer dollars. I developed positive relationships with the officers and they trust me and my decisions. I know exactly what needs to be done to fix the problems and how to redirect the department's energies to improve the moral and the work environment problems.

In 100 words or less, please outline the three most critical problems facing the public office you are seeking and the solutions you propose to address them. a. Officer Moral: Over 100 of our experienced confinement officers have resigned since Oct 2015 due to the current administration's "Shift Bid" policy where officers were moved to different facilities and duties. This new policy has affected the personal life and quality-of-life of over 40% of the confinement officer work force. To demonstrate my concern for the officer's welfare/safety, I would immediately eliminate the shift bid policy and reverse all personal movements to their original positions/facilities. I would also coordinate a letter with all officers who resigned due to the policy to inform them of my decision and to welcome them back to the department without any penalty or loss of seniority/benefits. c. Budget: I studied the department's budget for over two years and identified areas (utilities) we are over spending. By implementing aggressive conservation plans/policies we can reduce the annual utilities cost by 15-20% saving the department \$85,000+ per year. Additionally, if we use the department's private contractor "profit sharing revenues" for the purposes they were intended for we can reduce the county's funding responsibilities for inmate care by \$450,000+ per year. Those funds (savings) would remain in the county's general fund for other county priorities/projects. Do you think the county could use an extra \$500,000+ a year? b. Staffing: Staffing within the department is below minimum as an effort to reduce cost by the current administration's fiscal responsibility image. The fact is every department is suffering especially in confinement where officer's safety is a major concern. We need to conduct a staffing review of all departments and officer's primary duties and additional duties to determine staffing shortages. We need to develop a plan and justification to present to the Commissioners Court to request additional staffing for officer safety.

In 100 words or less, please add anything else you would like voters to know about you. As a confinement officer with the sheriff's department for over nine years I have the hands-on practical experience and in-depth knowledge my opponent are missing. I know the officers, the issues affecting the department, and what we need to do to correct these issues/problems. I have developed the relationships we need to move forward and I'm willing to do what is necessary to protect our communities and the officers who serve the department. As a military veteran with over 21 years of service I understand discipline, professionalism and the need to communicate and listen to those around me who offer advice, suggestions, and words of wisdom. As a military veteran/law enforcement officer I have very strong professional work ethics and value my personal integrity. I also value every life and believe strongly in our religious foundations and prayer.

For candidates for local offices, in 100 words or less, should local governments allow gun shows on public property they control? If not, are any new regulations warranted? I agree with allowing access to areas where this kind of event is acceptable and designed for, i.e. civic centers, convention centers, areas, fair grounds, etc. The second amendment is very clear and Texas is a strong advocate of that right as am I. I support gun shows but we need to ensure we are vetting/investigating those vendors who are actively involved in selling weapons in our county at these events. We also need to ensure the vendors are complying with every



requirement (federal/state) concerning background checks and sales documentation. I also advocate a strong law enforcement presence during all shows to deter questionable sales and criminal activities.

Bill E. Waybourn

Age: 56 Years Old

Occupation/Income: Retired Chief of Public Safety, Dalworthington

City of Residence: Dalworthington Gardens, Texas

Campaign Phone Number: (682) 218-1655

Campaign Address: P.O. Box 151305, Arlington, Texas 76015

Campaign Email Address: Info@billwaybourn.com

Web Site: www.billwaybourn.com

Education, Background, including all degrees: Bachelors Degree in Criminal Justice, Dallas Baptist University; Masters Degree in Conflict Management, Trinity Seminary & College; FBI National Academy - 2007; U.S. Air Force Active Duty and Reserves; Texas A&M Police Academy - September 1980; 35 Years Law Enforcement; Chief of Police Dalworthington Gardens- 31 years; Master's Police Officer Certification - March 1997; 5,179 TCOLE Training Hours; Black Belt in Tae Kwon Do

Highlights of your current and past civic involvement: Peace Officer's Angel Foundation - Board Member; Founder of Texas' DWI No Refusal Program; Texas Police Chief's Association Member; Former Church Trustee; Little League baseball Coach; Sunday School Teacher

Offices you have sought and/or held in the past: Tarrant County Sheriff

Please explain your background, skills and experience that make you the best-qualified candidate for this office. 31 years as Chief, has given me the skillset required to be Sheriff. I have consistently maintained excellent services in Police, Fire and EMS while creating one of the safest cities in the state; all done while keeping one of the lowest tax rates in Texas. I have a record of creating future leaders, who have gone on to be successful in Chiefs throughout the country. I have helped coordinate emergency responses for national disasters such as Hurricane Katrina. I've created relationships with groups from all areas, which allows me to anticipate incidents and resolve them prior to escalation.

Please outline the three most critical problems facing the public office you are seeking and the solutions you propose to address them. Leadership: The lack of leadership in the current administration has lead to broken relationships with departments such as Fort Worth P.D. and county Constables, as well as created a high attrition rate in the Sheriff's Department. I have a history of building relationships with agencies, which leads to successful outcomes for all. I also have a history of leading departments from the front, working to inspire and empower the men and women under my command. Terrorism: The FBI has said they are overwhelmed with this, and it is up to local agencies to pick up the mantle. The Sheriff's Department can coordinate intelligence solutions while protecting all citizens' Constitutional rights. Between open sources and the county jail there is ample information that can be collected to give us the ability to connect the dots and properly respond. Jail Management: There is a broken relationship between the Sheriff's Dept. and the city of Fort Worth; which has lead to lost revenue of at least 7 million a year for the county. The solution is to reconcile this relationship with Fort Worth bringing that money back into the county, benefiting all the residents.



Please add anything else you would like voters to know about you. a. I have been a conservative Christian my entire life, always serving my country, my constituents and my family. I have been continuously serving in uniform since I was 18 years old. I am proud to have been indorsed by Governor Rick Perry, the past two former Police Chiefs of Fort Worth, the Tarrant County Law Enforcement Association, the Fort Worth POA, the Arlington POA, and five of the county's republican constables.

County Commissioner Precinct 1

Democrat

Roy Charles Brooks (incumbent)

Occupation and/or main source of income: Tarrant County Commissioner, Precinct One

City of Residence and how long you've lived there: Roy Charles Brooks has lived in Tarrant County Commissioner Precinct 1 for 63 years

Campaign (public) phone number: 817-682-2982

Campaign e-mail: Roycbrookscampaign@gmail.com

Website: www.roycharlesbrooks.com

Education background, including all degrees: Columbia University, 1971; University of Dallas Graduate School of Management, 1978; Texas Wesleyan University, Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters, 2015

Highlights of your current and past civic involvement: Second Vice President, Executive Committee, National Association of Counties (NACo); Member, NACo Board of Directors Chairman, National Organization of Black County Officials; Member, Statewide Leadership Board for the Texas Nurse Family Partnership; Founder, Tarrant County Ex-Offender Re-Entry Initiative' Board of Directors of the Community Hospice of North Texas; Trinity River Vision Board of Directors; Advisory Board Member, Trinity Habitat for Humanity; Fort Worth/Tarrant County Minority Leaders and Citizens Council, Past President; Past Member, UNT Health Science Center Board of Visitors; Past Board of Trustees, Texas Wesleyan University; Past Chair, Tarrant County Obesity Council

Offices you have sought and/or held before. Tarrant County Commissioner, Precinct One (3rd term as Commissioner) 2005 to present (12 years); City Councilperson - City of Forest Hill - 1982 to 1988 (6 Years); Candidate for Texas State Representative (1972 and 1978)

In 100 words or less, please explain how your background, skills and experience make you the best qualified candidate for this office. I have represented Precinct 1 as a Commissioner since 2005, and have served the residents of Precinct 1 since 1991. I am the only candidate with 25 years of experience in county government, and with deep knowledge of the needs of our residents. During my years of service, I have fought to bring real improvements to Precinct 1, from expanding health care access to strengthening our local roads and infrastructure. I have years of proven ability to work with leaders from diverse communities to achieve results. No other candidate has a similar record of results.

In 100 words or less, please outline the three most critical problems facing the public office you are seeking and the solutions you propose to address them. The three most critical issues facing Tarrant County are growth, growth and growth. The exponential growth of Tarrant County is quickly overloading the capacity of our roads, bridges, mental health services, justice system, health care and child protection infrastructures. It is critical that we invest in both human resources and capital improvements to meet the



needs of our current and future citizens. These essential and fiscally sound investments will increase the quality of life for the families who call Tarrant County home and secure a bright and prosperous economic future for our community and our children.

In 100 words or less, please add anything else you would like voters to know about you. I believe in and will work toward a Tarrant County where all people are safe; all people are healthy; all people are self-sufficient; all people have economic opportunities; all people are culturally and recreationally enriched; and all people believe that government is efficient, effective and transparent.

For candidates for local offices, in 100 words or less, should local governments allow gun shows on public property they control? If not, are any new regulations warranted? Tarrant County is not in the exhibition/show business. Consequently, we own no facilities where an event of that type could take place.

Republican

Roy E. Lozano

Age: 43

Occupation and/or main source of income: Full time as an accounting analyst in the mortgage banking industry

City of residence and how long you've lived there: My family and I live in the part of Fort Worth that is in and part of HEB. We have been a part of the Euless community for nearly 10 years now.

Campaign (public) phone number: No answer

Your campaign (public) email address: votelozano@gmail.com

Web site: www.votelozano.com

Education background, including all degrees: I returned to college to complete a B.S. in Business Management IT. I have a little over 2 years until graduation.

Highlights of your current and past civic involvement: No answer

Offices you have sought and/or held before: None, I am not a politician nor have I ever thought of actually running for any public office previously. I believe that our government was supposed to be a citizenry government. Yet we have very few regular citizens stepping up to serve our communities. Our government at all levels is full of career politicians. It is time for We the People to step up and do our duty to make our government what our founders intended it to be.

In 100 words or less, please explain how your background, skills and experience make you the best qualified candidate for this office. I have been a licensed real estate salesman in the state of Texas since November 1992. Since coming to DFW in 2001, I have successfully moved up the corporate ladder with hard work, determination, and the ability to learn which has taken me as high as a Senior Accounting Officer within the banking industry. I have a proven track record that shows I meet deadlines, balance financial reports, reconcile custodial accounts, work well within a team, and achieve goals. My financial and real estate skillsets will be a huge asset to the commissioner's court when I am elected.

In 100 words or less, please outline the three most critical problems facing the public office you are seeking and the solutions you propose to address them. 1. County bond packages and rising county debt - If the economy slumps and home prices fall, will new county tax rates be increased to pay for these bonds? We



need to be thoroughly cautious whenever an increase to the debt is being considered. 2. Fiscal responsibility and balanced budgets - The people of Tarrant County have to live within their budgets and it is only right and proper that our government does as well. 3. Country program viability - We must ensure that our programs are efficient, accomplish the goals they were designed to achieve, and stay within budget.

In 100 words or less, please add anything else you would like voters to know about you. My family on my mother's side has been in the Rio Grande Valley of Texas since the 1750's. I am a first generation Texan and American on my father's side. My Latino heritage has given me a strong sense of family values. I have been raised with strong Texan values such as hard work, being polite, helping and protecting those in need, and understanding "what goes around comes around". I believe in our liberty and protecting that liberty. Love of God, Family, Country, and especially Texas are the main priorities of my life.

For candidates for local offices, in 100 words or less, should local governments allow gun shows on public property they control? If not, are any new regulations warranted? I believe in the 2nd Amendment and the right of the people to own and bear arms.

Constable Precinct 1

Republican

Dale Clark (incumbent)

Age: 68

Occupation and/or main source of income: Tarrant County Constable Precinct 1

City of residence and how long you've lived there: Haltom City since 1999

Campaign (public) phone number: 817-888-0248

Your campaign (public) email address: dale-clark@charter.net

Web site: www.daleclark.org

Education background, including all degrees: Texas Commission Law Enforcement Master Peace Officer, Texas Commission Fire Protection Standards and Education Advanced Fire Fighter, Texas Department of Health Emergency Medical Technician, Police Field Training Officer, Fire Apparatus Field Training Officer, attended Richland Jr. College, attended Eastland Jr. College, completed Texas Commission On Law Enforcement 3035 training hours.

Highlights of your current and past civic involvement: former Haltom City Mayor Pro Tem for 2 terms, former Haltom City Councilman, former Haltom City Precinct Chair, former DFW Airport Public Safety Officers Association Ambassador of Good Will in the HEB ISD, former Combined Law Enforcement Association of Texas member, a Senior Citizen Volunteer, member in the Ft. Worth Symphony League and Opera Guild, serving on the Tarrant County Veterans Council as Board Director, member in the Ft. Worth Air Power Council, Republican National Committee Life Member, Texas Justice of the Peace and Constable Association (JPCA) Life Member, JPCA District 6 Director, Texas Commissioned Law Enforcement Master Peace Officer, member of numerous Republican clubs having served as Vice-President of Membership in the Republican Forum.

Offices you have sought and/or held before: I was one of the original Founding Fathers of the Arlington Police Association, worked as a Narcotics Undercover Officer, an elected President of the DFW



International Airport Public Safety Officers Association, an appointed Combined Law Enforcement Association of Texas Director, a selected Police Field Training Officer, and a selected Fire Apparatus Training Officer. I served in the United States Air Force as Staff-Sergeant during the Vietnam War era as a Supervisor of three different departments. I was also a member of the Reserves.

In 100 words or less, please explain how your background, skills and experience make you the best qualified candidate for this office. My qualifications and life experiences have been in the military, law enforcement, and serving citizens of the metroplex areas as proven through my work and career experience, community and civic positions, and professional affiliations. This diversity provides me the advantage and knowledge of appreciating the value of how to successfully handle responsibilities on multi-levels and in multi-areas simultaneously in addition to understanding the importance of an administrator being a fiscal conservative.

In 100 words or less, please outline the three most critical problems facing the public office you are seeking and the solutions you propose to address them. The main problem facing the Constable today is the current attitude of a part of our society who no longer respects law enforcement. Another issue is the emphasis the public sees that is focused more on the negative rather than the positive work that our nation's finest perform every day. It is important that all citizenry, businesses, fellow agencies, and elected officials know we are dependable and available to them. All these issues can be resolved with the continued hard work of all to uphold the core values the citizenry expects of us at all times.

In 100 words or less, please add anything else you would like voters to know about you. As the incumbent Constable, my charge will be to continue to be a responsible steward of the public's trust serving as a professional, responsive, and conservative leader in continuing making our communities and county even a better and safer place to live, work, and raise a family. I also pledge all my deputies will continue to handle their responsibilities in an impartial and just manner.

For candidates for local offices, in 100 words or less, should local governments allow gun shows on public property they control? If not, are any new regulations warranted? The Tarrant County Constable's Office has no legislative authority to regulate this decision.

Tommie Hathorn

Age: 59

Occupation: Deputy Sheriff - Retired

City of Residence: Watauga, 32 Years

Phone: 817-996-7170

Email: TomHathorn59@gmail.com

Website: www.tommiehathorn.com

Education: High School, Police Academy (Salutatorian) Master Peace Office Certification, Master Jailer Certification, Police Instructor Certification, Firearms Instructor Certification, 2459 Law Enforcement Training Hours including, Specialty Training Tactical Operation and Command, Hostage Rescue, Conducting Death Investigations, Long Range Rifle Instructor, Chemical Agent Instructor, Defensive Tactics Instructor.



Civic Involvement: Supporting Fund raising efforts, Susan G Coleman Foundation, Samaritan House, Ronald MacDonald House. Arthritis Foundation, the Boys and Girls Clubs, Girl Scouts , Wounded Warriors, Salvation Army, Good Will Industries, The Human Society and several others, Coached Little League Baseball and Softball.

Prior Office Sought: Constable Precinct 1 2012

Most Qualified: My vast amount of knowledge, training and experience dealing with and teaching Law Enforcement operations including: 36 Years of Service, as a Patrol Officer, Warrant Officer, Undercover Narcotics/Vice, Police Instructor, Academy Coordinator, 20 Years of Tactical Operations and Command, 25 Years of Police Supervision. I have dealt with and investigated violation /crimes such as Parking Violations and other crimes including all types of Death Investigations. My Law Enforcement service has been continuous, not split by separate assignment as a Firefighter /Emergency Medical Technician in a crossed trained department. This is why I am the most qualified candidate for Constable.

Critical Problems: The Constable's office is responsible for civil and criminal law enforcement. Requiring that Officers' maintain a high degree of proficiency enforcing both civil and criminal law, I will make sure that each officer has and maintains a high level of proficiency through training. The public perception of Law Enforcement is at a low point in history. By using all my Law enforcement training and teaching skills to promote a more positive public perception, by meeting with and educating various groups. Budget Concerns: I will work diligently to make sure that the tax payers receive the most for their dollars.

In 100 words or less, please add anything else you would like voters to know about you. Unknown to most, on April 15th 2013 while supporting my wife's running the Boston Marathon. I witnessed a part of history that changed my outlook about my chosen profession. I had earlier walked past the site where an act of domestic terrorism would occur. I had chosen to walk past the finish line to take some pictures of my wife's long time goal. A short time after reaching the location, I witnessed the bombings and ensuing chaos, since that day I serve with a greater dedication to Law Enforcement and the people I serve.

For candidates for local offices, in 100 words or less, should local governments allow gun shows on public property they control? If not, are any new regulations warranted? Local governments should allow any lawful event on public property they control.

Constable Precinct 4

Republican

Michael Hardy

Age: 69

Occupation and/or main source of income: Cattle Raiser/Deputy Constable

City of residence and how long you've lived there: Fort Worth - 40 years

Campaign (public) phone number: 682 215 4985 817 237 2049

Your campaign (public) email address: hardy2016@yahoo.com or michael@votemichaelhardy.com

Website: Votemichaelhardy.com - should be running end of week

Education background, including all degrees: 76 hours at TCC, excess of 3,000 TCOLE hours, Master Peace Officer*, Civil Process Proficient*, Instructor license*, Expired license from National Safety Council



for Driver's Training, Texas Residential Builders License (No longer used in Texas).... *Texas Commission on Law Enforcement

Highlights of your current and past civic involvement: Member of Saginaw Area Chamber of Commerce, Master Mason, Shriner, Lions Club (No longer active)...

Offices you have sought: State Representative District 89 in 1994

Background, Skills and experience: I have served over 7 years as a deputy constable and am currently serving. The only candidate with senior supervisory/budget experience, and Civil Process Proficiency certified. Master Peace Officer and Licensed Instructor. I have served as a Sergeant and Lieutenant in the Sheriffs Dept, Lake Officer for Fort Worth, and served as contingent commander for US police forces in East Timor (80 officers) and served as District Commander of the capitol city of Dili, East Timor. Carried the rank of colonel through the State Dept. when representing the US in the mission. Committed to professionalism.

Three most critical problems and solutions: Population explosion in the northwest area will show additional strain on staff, service of civil process has not been up to par and utilization of resources seemingly needs re-examination. I would insure that figures illustrating the projected increase in work load are presented for consideration and action. I would make sure that the office re-evaluates its goal to serve the public and execute civil process in a timely manner. I would examine the usage of part time employees, reserves and regular staff to insure that the tax payers are served efficiently, promptly and professionally.

Anything the voters would like to know about you: I want the voters to know that this office is about qualifications, experience and professionalism. I am married with three daughters and a step-son not to mention three grandchildren. I have worked my life in the public sector, serving my fellow man. I am a 4 year military veteran and have over 35 years in law enforcement. I understand what it is like to need the constable's office and prompt service, since I too am a landlord. Do you want a constable or a policeman - I will be the professional constable.

Should local governments allow gun shows on public property they control: Local governments make their own laws, ordinances, and rules. The constable has no input in their decision and it would be inappropriate to intervene. After all the constable is elected to serve the Justice Court and serve civil process.

Joe D. "Jody" Johnson

Age: 53

Occupation and/or main source of income: City of Fort Worth Police Officer, (retirement February 1, 2016)

City of residence and how long you've lived there: Unincorporated Tarrant County, 15 years

Campaign (public) phone number: 817.991.0135

Your campaign (public) email address: jody4constable@yahoo.com

Web site: www.jody4constable.com

Education background, including all degrees: Boswell High School, 1980. 2 years College and University Credits. Master Peace Officer. Certified Instructor in the following areas; Basic Law Enforcement, Handgun, Patrol Rifle, Machine Gun, Advanced Sniper, and FBI Physical Fitness. Fort Worth Police Academy



Firearms Instructor 20 Years. 2370 Law Enforcement Continuing Education and Training Hours. Certified in Civil Process Service

Highlights of your current and past civic involvement: Saginaw Youth Sports coach, White Cane Day volunteer, Northwest Lion's Club

Offices you have sought and/or held before: None

In 100 words or less, please explain how your background, skills and experience make you the best qualified candidate for this office. It has been a privilege to serve our community as a Fort Worth police officer for 30 years. During that time I have received training in virtually every facet of law enforcement including the primary function of the office of the constable; civil process service. I enjoy public service and the office of the Constable is a perfect way to apply my 30 years of experience as a police officer with my passion to serve and protect the public.

In 100 words or less, please outline the three most critical problems facing the public office you are seeking and the solutions you propose to address them. I hesitate to identify "problems" that don't exist and have not existed under the experienced leadership of Constable Dub Bransom since he first took office. It is my goal to continue to operate the office in very much the same efficient and professional manner Constable Bransom has for over 15 years. There are three distinct facets of operating the office of the Constable successfully that I will place an emphasis on; first, the Constable has the primary responsibility of conducting civil process paperwork service generated by the court system. Second, the Constable provides building security for the Northwest Sub-Courthouse campus including a bailiff for the Justice of the Peace court. And third, as a steward of taxpayer money it is very important to operate an efficient and fiscally conservative office free of wasteful spending. Service to the public and public safety will always be priority number one.

In 100 words or less, please add anything else you would like voters to know about you. I have lived in Tarrant County Constable Precinct #4 for my entire adult life. My wife Jill is a school teacher in the Eagle Mountain Saginaw Independent School District and we have two sons; our youngest is a senior at Texas Tech University and our eldest is a second year law school student in Oklahoma. During my 30 years with the Fort Worth Police Department I spent 15 years in SWAT. Additional assignments included Patrol, Narcotics, Street Crimes, and Mounted Patrol.

For candidates for local offices, in 100 words or less, should local governments allow gun shows on public property they control? If not, are any new regulations warranted? Yes. I am an avid hunter and gun enthusiast as well as a strong supporter of the Second Amendment.

J.D. Sparks

Age: 51

Occupation and / or main source of income: Deputy Sheriff / Sergeant in the Patrol Division

City of Residence and how long have you lived there: Fort Worth for 9 years

Campaign phone number: 501-837-9184

Your campaign (public) email address: JDSparks4Constable@yahoo.com

Website: N/A



Education Background, including all degrees: East Texas Police Academy- Texas Peace Officer License (Master Peace Officer Certification), Arkansas Law Enforcement Training Academy - Arkansas Peace Officer Licenses (Senior Peace Officer Certification), Garland County Community College, Kennedy Western University - Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice.

Highlights of your current and past civic involvement: I actively support the Arts and Sporting activities of the Eagle Mountain Saginaw Independent School District, I am a member of Northwest Baptist Church in Fort Worth, and I have supported several charitable organizations such as United Way and the Humane Society.

Offices you have sought and / or held before: Other than Student Council in High School, I have neither sought or held any political offices before now.

In 100 words or less, please explain how your background, skills and experience makes you the best qualified candidate for this office: I began my Law Enforcement career in 1983. During my time as a Peace Officer, I have been given the opportunity to obtain several skills in all aspects of Law Enforcement and develop these skills through education and experience. I possess extensive skills and experience in working with the community, and working with other entities. I have the experience and knowledge of supervision and administration, working with an allotted budget and identifying needs for an office to operate efficiently. As a Peace Officer I have the knowledge, skills and experience to tactfully deal with difficult situations when they arise. I am familiar with what is require of a Constable and what is required by Texas Law concerning the Constable's duties.

In 100 words or less, please outline the three most critical problems facing the public office you are seeking and the solutions you propose to address them: With speaking with the general public I have found the primary issue with this office is that Processes are not served in a timely manner. I have also been informed that there are not enough personnel to serve the Processes. The last primary issue is that that the public cannot reach a Constable to discuss their cases. When elected Constable, I can assure that the Processes will be served within the outlines given by State Law. I will address the personnel issues by filling vacant Deputy positions, and the Office will have open communication to discuss issues that arises.

For candidates for local offices, in 100 words or less, should local governments allow gun shows on public property they control? If not, are any new regulations warranted? I believe that the local government needs to adhere to the general consensus of the taxpayers. The property belongs to them and if they wish to allow gun shows at these locations, then they should be allowed. I don't believe that any new regulations are needed, since there are already regulations enacted.

Constable Precinct 5

Democrats

Ruben Garcia (incumbent)

Age: 38

Occupation and/or main source of income: I am the elected Constable for Tarrant County since 2012.

City of residence and how long you've lived there: Native born, proud Fort Worth resident.

Campaign (public) phone number: 817-308-7902

Your campaign (public) email address: reelectconstablegarcia@gmail.com



Web site: www.RubenGarciaPrecinct5.com

Education background, including all degrees: I am a graduate of Paschal High School Fort Worth ISD 1997. Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (Police Academy) Peace Officer License 2001. Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training (ALERRT) 2007; Basic Hostage & Crisis Negotiation Certification 2002; Advanced Undercover Techniques and Survival Certification 2002; Drug Interdiction Certification 2002; Intermediate Crime Scene Search 2002; Bombs and Explosive Recognition 2002; Asset Forfeiture / Racial Profiling 2002; Cultural Diversity 2002; Gang Intervention Certification 2003, 2006, 2008, 2012

Highlights of your current and past civic involvement: I have been active in numerous civic and charitable organizations. I have attended and participated with dozens of Neighborhood Associations providing security at no cost for their events. Additionally I have worked with Artes de la Rosa each year for my Constable's Christmas, and we have provided hundreds of needy children toys to ensure they have a Christmas regardless of their families financial condition.

Offices you have sought and/or held before: I have only sought one office and only intend to ever seek that one position-Constable for Precinct 5. I don't believe that this position should be for those looking to launch a political career. It is not a political pit-stop, nor a stepping stone to higher office as some seem to think. It is a serious law enforcement job, best suited to a serious law enforcement professional.

In 100 words or less, please explain how your background, skills and experience make you the best qualified candidate for this office. I began my career in law enforcement after my first run-in with the criminal justice system as a 17 year-old. I grew up in a tough neighborhood and ran with a tough crowd. After being in the wrong place at the wrong time, I was charged with a misdemeanor. Although the charges were dismissed, I resolved myself to changing my life and becoming a law enforcement officer. Starting as a jailer, I later became a Sheriff's Deputy in operations-arresting criminals and learning about gangs and organized crime. Elected in 2012, I have focused on community policing and protecting or schools.

In 100 words or less, please outline the three most critical problems facing the public office you are seeking and the solutions you propose to address them. The Constable's office must first effectively perform its constitutionally mandated responsibilities to serve process and execute writs promptly and efficiently. My office also seeks to creatively serve the community. And we have a sterling record: we provide free security at countless community events and parades for neighborhood associations or churches from the Juneteenth parade to the Como 4th of July festivities. We also choose to do the difficult tasks in law enforcement: we execute high risk warrants on wanted criminals and sex offenders and have coordinated to crack down on human trafficking. Our motto is "make a difference every day."

In 100 words or less, please add anything else you would like voters to know about you. I am proud to serve as Constable for Precinct 5. And I am also proud to be a Democratic officeholder in Tarrant County. We have a way to go to make this County truly safe for elected Democrats at all levels. If we are to get there, we cannot cede local offices to opportunists and those who have no experience for the position sought. The quickest way to lose this position to a Republican would be to nominate a novice with no law enforcement experience. Leadership is earned, not inherited. Finally--proud to be endorsed by Congressman Marc Veasey, Mayor Pro Tem Sal Espino, and FWISD President Jacinto Ramos!

Richard Alfaro

Occupation: Retired

City of Residence: Fort Worth 56 years of residency

Campaign Email: votealfaro@richardalfaro.com



Website: www.RichardAlfaro.com

Education Background: H. V. Helbing Elementary, W. A. Meacham middle school, Diamond Hill-Jarvis High School class of 1974

Civic Involvement: 30 years of service as a Deputy Sheriff of Tarrant County.

Background, skills, experience and what makes me qualified: I have served 30 years to Tarrant County as a Deputy Sheriff. I have grown up in this community and experienced many different people. I've worked with 4 different elected Sheriffs and seen the department go through many changes. I've adjusted to each new Sheriff and each new face that comes along. I have experience with Tarrant County and have exemplified professionalism to its highest standard.

Gun shows on public property: First and foremost the safety of the community is at my highest regard. My position requires me to Protect and Serve, to uphold the laws of Tarrant County and the Constitution of the United States of America. I will do this diligently as I have for the past 30 years.

I want voters to know: I want voters to know that I am a family man first and foremost. I believe in Jesus Christ. I believe that if you want something in life you have to work for it to achieve your goals. I believe in doing things the right way, and taking short cuts will only hurt you in the ultimate understanding of accomplishments. I will do my best to serve my community in whatever way I can. I will do my best to have a department that is respected, and will never forget we are all paid servants of our community.

Michael "Mikey" Valdez

Age: 26

Occupation and/or main source of income: Federal and state licensed Stock Broker

City of residence and how long you've lived there: Fort Worth, born and raised for 25 years.

Campaign (public) phone number: 817-657-0108

Your campaign (public) email address: voteforvaldez@yahoo.com

Web site: www.voteforvaldez.com

Education background, including all degrees: Bachelors Degree, Texas Wesleyan University

Highlights of your current and past civic involvement: Past Aviation Advisory board member for the city of fort worth, volunteer baseball coach at North Side High School and Sabine Jarvis little league, Michael currently serves as the Treasurer of the Northside Neighborhood Association, Steer Fort Worth, NAACP, North Texas Young Latino Leaders, Pan American Golf Association, H.A.L.O.S. (Hispanic Association Lending Others Support), the Knights of Columbus, as well as a member of the Child Study Center Young Supporters. Michael has also worked with many political campaigns, which include Campaign Manager for State Representative Ramon Romero.

Offices you have sought and/or held before: N/A

In 100 words or less, please explain how your background, skills and experience make you the best qualified candidate for this office. My entire life I have grown up in the shadow of a political leader in Fort Worth. These dinner table discussions and experiences growing up helped instill into me community leadership and knowledge. I will use my experiences to make sure I help bridge the gap between the



community and law enforcement in the neighborhoods of Fort Worth. I will make sure the duties of the Constable's office are done effectively and efficiently by learning and serving the civil process in an expedited manner. As a financial professional I will make sure that the office is running in the black and not operating in a deficit. This way we will be able to implement programs with appropriated funds that will truly reward the communities in Precinct 5, Fort Worth and Tarrant County as a whole.

In 100 words or less, please outline the three most critical problems facing the public office you are seeking and the solutions you propose to address them. Effectiveness and efficiency of the office- I will make sure the office is not only operating with a revenue. But, I will make sure we do a full audit of the entire office and the current processes, this way we can see where the weaknesses and strengths are. We will also team up and work directly with the top revenue constables offices in the state to see how we can improve and what programs are effective. Presence of the Office- I will make sure the Constables office is represented all over my precinct and make sure I, as well as our team is visible in the community. Not only during election time. Community Leadership- I will make sure to be a vital part in the process to make sure the constituents voices are heard when it comes to city, county, state and federal programs. If I cannot help the constituent myself I will use my resources to direct them to the right place and not only through talk but help follow through to make sure things get done.

In 100 words or less, please add anything else you would like voters to know about you. My goal is to build relationships all across our great city and to make sure the people and concerns in our neighborhoods are listened to. Relationship building is key to any successful venture, and I promise as your Constable, I will be there by your side throughout the entire process. My goals are to ultimately help keep Fort Worth moving in the right direction, where we all have a voice and are all an important part of the process of success.

Constable Precinct 6

Republican

Jon Howard Siegel (incumbent)

Age: 58

Occupation and/or main source of income: Tarrant County Constable

City of residence and how long you've lived there: I was born and raised in Fort Worth. I have lived and worked in Fort Worth my entire life.

Campaign (public) phone number: 817-291-4781

Your campaign (public) email address: jon@siegelforconstable.com

Web site: <http://www.siegelforconstable.com>

Education background, including all degrees: I earned my Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from Dallas Baptist University and a Master's degree in Public Administration from the University of Texas at Arlington. I have been involved in Texas law enforcement for more than 22 years. I earned my Master Peace Office License in 2002 while serving as a full-time patrol officer with the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office. I have served 16 years with the Tarrant County Constables Office. I am also a certified police and firearms instructor and a graduate of the FBI's LEEDA Trilogy Award for advanced law enforcement executive management.



Highlights of your current and past civic involvement: I spent numerous years working on environmental issues regarding Tarrant County. A few of these events include the Annual Eagle Mountain Clean-up and The Trinity River Bash. I also participate in several county sponsored events including the Tarrant County Senior Fair and the Tarrant County Back to School Program. I currently sit on the board for the Fort Worth Tennis Association and am vice-president for the Southwest Republican Club. I also participate yearly in Fort Worth's Annual Cowtown Bicycling Event.

Offices you have sought and/or held before: I ran for this office in 2012 winning in both the primary and general election. I have not ran or considered running for any other elected position.

In 100 words or less, please explain how your background, skills and experience make you the best qualified candidate for this office. I am a Master Peace Officer with over 22 years of law enforcement experience. I have served 16 of those years in the Tarrant County Constables Office with the last four as the incumbent for this position. I have a Bachelors degree in Criminal Justice from Dallas Baptist University and hold a Masters Degree in Public Administration from the University of Texas at Arlington.

In 100 words or less, please outline the three most critical problems facing the public office you are seeking and the solutions you propose to address them. One of the most critical issues facing law enforcement offices today is the negative atmosphere between the public and law enforcement. Trust and citizenry approval ratings are at an all time low due to police misconduct or conduct perceived as prejudiced or unfair. To earn the public's trust we must maintain a true sense of credibility and to do this we must treat every person with respect and dignity. Having increased transparency and accountability will help establish better community relationships and put us back on the track of working together to provide our citizens with a better place to live.

In 100 words or less, please add anything else you would like voters to know about you. Improved Public Safety: I implemented a reserve officer program to provide a higher level of law enforcement service that saves tax dollars. Saving Tax Dollars: I reformed the overtime pay system resulting in a nearly 65% reduction in taxpayer funded overtime pay. Implemented Accountability Measures: I instituted accountability reforms that resulted in enhanced performance, as well as increased productivity and accountability to taxpayers. Improved Officer Training: I increased and diversified annual training to better prepared. This training allows officers to be familiar with responding to a variety of situations and results in safer neighborhoods for you and your family.

For candidates for local offices, in 100 words or less, should local governments allow gun shows on public property they control? If not, are any new regulations warranted? Yes

Glen Bucy

Age: 34

Occupation and/or main source of income: Police Officer

City of residence and how long you've lived there: Fort Worth for the past 20 years except for my time serving in the military.

Campaign (public) phone number: 817-504-9934

Your campaign (public) email address: glen.bucy@gmail.com

Web site: www.glenbucy.com



Education background, including all degrees: B.S. Political Science - TCU; Basic, Intermediate, and Advanced Peace Officer Certifications - TCOLE

Highlights of your current and past civic involvement: U.S Army Combat Veteran 2002-2010; Police Officer; Tarrant County Republican Club Board Member; Republican Precinct Chairman

Delegate to Republican Precinct, Senatorial, and State Conventions 2008-2014.

Offices you have sought and/or held before: Tarrant County Constable Precinct 6 Candidate 2012; Fort Worth City Council Precinct 6 2009

In 100 words or less, please explain how your background, skills and experience make you the best qualified candidate for this office. Having served as a leader in both the military and law enforcement, I know what it takes to inspire and complete a mission on time and within budget. I will take the leadership skills developed from the military and apply them to the Constables office. Utilizing my skills as a police training officer and having worked thousands of calls ranging from violent to non-violent, I will bring a unique and diverse skill set to the office. I have led soldiers in combat and know when to communicate and delegate authority. Precinct 6 needs a Constable who will confidently lead.

In 100 words or less, please outline the three most critical problems facing the public office you are seeking and the solutions you propose to address them. We live in a day and age of Amber Alert and Active Shooter scenarios. As a survivor of a mass shooting event and as a parent, I worry for the safety of our children. As Constable, we will place our deputies in front of all elementary and middle schools on a rotating basis within the precinct before and after school to provide a police presence in the area and to provide a first response to any critical incidents or accidents. We will also outfit our deputies with Body Cameras to protect the deputies and citizens from any notion of impropriety.

In 100 words or less, please add anything else you would like voters to know about you. On September 15, 1999 a gunman entered the Wedgwood Baptist Church, killing 7 and wounding 7 others. I lost several friends that night and there isn't a day that goes by that I don't reflect on that experience. Since the shooting, I have dedicated my life to helping others. I spent 8 years in the U.S. Army including serving in combat. I lost 11 of my friends to the war. Currently, I serve as a Police Officer. I consider the people of Precinct 6 my family and it is my goal to honor them by serving as their elected Constable.

For candidates for local offices, in 100 words or less, should local governments allow gun shows on public property they control? If not, are any new regulations warranted? Absolutely, I will let the Second Amendment speak for me: "A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed."

Democrat

Kelicia Lyons No response

Constable Precinct 8

Democrat

Michael R. Campbell (incumbent) No response

Raymond E. Williby No response

Party chairman



Republican

Tim O'Hare

Age: 46

Occupation and/or main source of income: Real Estate Investor & Attorney

City of residence and how long you've lived there: Southlake, Texas. Have owned land in Southlake 5 years, lived here 2 years.

Campaign (public) phone number: (817) 912-1431-Main or (817) 880-1278-Cell

Your campaign (public) email address: tim@electtimohare.com

Web site: www.electtimohare.com; Facebook: facebook.com/ElectTimOHare; Twitter: @TimothyOHare

Education background, including all degrees: The University of Texas at Austin, Bachelor of Business Administration (Finance), 1991; Southern Methodist University School of Law, J.D., 1995

Highlights of your current and past civic involvement: Current: Deacon and Children's Sunday School Teacher at First Baptist Grapevine; Guest Talk Show Host on Conservative Talk Station 660 AM The Answer; State Board of Dental Examiners (apptd. by Governor Perry to help clean up Medicaid fraud); Alliance Defending Freedom Honor Corps; Past: National Board Member & local Chapter President of Christian Legal Society; Delegate to multiple Republican Conventions; Rotary Club President; Volunteers of America-Texas Board Member; Meals on Wheels; blockwalker, phone banker & donor for numerous conservative candidates and officeholders; Church Budget Committee; Founding Board Member, Reclaiming America for Christ; supporter of multiple Pro-Life Charities

Offices you have sought and/or held before: Mayor, 2008-11; City Councilman, 2005-08, City of Farmers Branch, Texas

In 100 words or less, please explain how your background, skills and experience make you the best qualified candidate for this office. I'm a proven Conservative Republican - while in office, I took on illegal immigration, was the architect of term limits, cut taxes for Senior Citizens and reduced the size of government. I have run a successful private business for 15 years, have a track record of improving organizations, and have a history of bringing people together. People are sick of Washington, D.C shenanigans and fixing what is wrong with our government starts here locally. I have the support of Republicans from all factions, and have an ability to communicate and get things done.

In 100 words or less, please outline the three most critical problems facing the public office you are seeking and the solutions you propose to address them. Tarrant County is the center of Conservatism in the United States. If Tarrant County were to turn blue, Texas would soon follow and America would never again elect a Republican President or see conservative Supreme Court Justices appointed. 1) We must not only keep Tarrant County Red, but expand our lead over Democrats. Tarrant County is that important to our nation. 2) We must grow the Republican Party, reaching out to all people. 3) We must elect Conservative candidates to every office in Tarrant County, from School Board to Congress.

In 100 words or less, please add anything else you would like voters to know about you. I am married to an incredible woman, and we have 3 wonderful children. I have always been a Conservative Republican. We love Tarrant County and believe it is the best place to live in America. Tarrant County must have a strong, conservative leader as Republican Party Chair. This office often flies under the radar, but it is very important.



Conservative leaders throughout Tarrant County recognize this, which is why we won the only Straw Poll to date, from the Fort Worth 912 Project, with 78% of the vote. If elected, I will work tirelessly at the job.

For candidates for local offices, in 100 words or less, should local governments allow gun shows on public property they control? If not, are any new regulations warranted? The U.S. Constitution is crucial to our way of life. Sadly, it is barely taught anymore, and frequently not followed. The Second Amendment is clear. Despite repeated attempts by President Obama and Democrats to take away the gun rights of Texans and all Americans, we cannot give in. Yes, gun shows should be allowed on public property.

David Wylie

Age: 52

Occupation and/or main source of income: Application Developer/Consulting

City of residence and how long you've lived there: Arlington, lifelong

Campaign (public) phone number: 817-247-2237

Your campaign (public) email address: DavidWWylie@gmail.com

Web site: <https://www.facebook.com/David-Wylie-for-Chairman-Tarrant-County-Republican-Party>

Education background, including all degrees: Graduate of the Arlington ISD, Bachelor of Arts Business Administration Tarrant County College.

Highlights of your current and past civic involvement: Precinct Chair in Tarrant County since 1988. Chairman of the Senate District 10 Executive Committee. Chairman of the 2014 Senate District 10 Convention. Staffed Victory phone banks in Tarrant County in 2008, 2010 & 2012. Active member in many Tarrant County Republican Clubs. Delegate to every RPT State Convention since 1992. Served on Credentials Committee at 2008 & 2010 RPT State Convention. Served as Registration Chairman at 2012 & 2014 RPT State Convention by request of State Party Chairman. Served as Senate District 10 Caucus Chair at 2014 RPT State Convention. Currently serve on the Candidate Resource Committee of the State Republican Executive Committee.

Offices you have sought and/or held before: Ran for Arlington City Council 1995 plus multiple Republican Party positions over 25 years of political involvement.

In 100 words or less, please explain how your background, skills and experience make you the best qualified candidate for this office. Having been a part of the Tarrant County Republican Party most of my adult life, I have seen what works and what does not work when it comes to getting voters involved and candidates elected in Tarrant. My technology background has allowed me to accumulate an exceptionally large database of voter registration information that enables precinct chairs to produce neighborhood walklists and mailers to turn out the vote. I have personally recruited and trained precinct chairs county wide. For the SD10 convention we fundraised more money than any other convention in the state, I would like to do this countywide.

In 100 words or less, please outline the three most critical problems facing the public office you are seeking and the solutions you propose to address them. As the TCGOP is stronger than ever, maintaining momentum is our biggest challenge. In order to do this we must continue to recruit, train and support our precinct chairs, they are the heart and soul of the county party. Additionally we must continue to grow through including more and more interested parties in the grassroots section of the party through clubs and



organizations. The combination of these two elements are our ground game. Finally we must recruit and develop quality candidates our voters like and will support, this makes the county stronger. And those Candidates must be true Conservatives.

In 100 words or less, please add anything else you would like voters to know about you. I have long worked the political trenches in Tarrant County, I fully understand what makes Tarrant special and I know how to work with interested Republicans so we may continue to lead the State and Country. We see more pressure from the other side than ever, with other urban counties changing what they did before with and all of them turning Blue. Tarrant is the only one that has stayed the course and stayed Red. This is an important time for the Tarrant County Republican Party and now is not the time to change course.

For candidates for local offices, in 100 words or less, should local governments allow gun shows on public property they control? If not, are any new regulations warranted? YES to allow and NO to new regulations. It is wrong to assume that everyone in the country is a bad person. Why not assume that most everyone is a good and decent and honest individual who simply wants to go to work in the morning and arrive back home to find his/her family in one piece, without harm. The fact remains that bad people will do harm to us all if they are given the opportunity. What is wrong with allowing good people to defend themselves, and others, if forced, no matter the location?

Democrats

Deborah Peoples (incumbent)

Age: 63

Occupation and/or main source of income: Retired/pension

City of residence and how long you've lived there: Fort Worth, Texas. Total 25 years 21 years then left with my job and got back here as soon as I could 4 years ago

Campaign (public) phone number: 682-331-9714

Your campaign (public) email address: debpeoples2016@gmail.com

Web site: none

Education background, including all degrees: B.S. Texas Womans University; MBA Texas Womans University

Highlights of your current and past civic involvement: Board member, The American Red Cross of North Texas; Board Member, The Arts council of Fort Worth and Tarrant County; Board member, Sickle Cell Disease association Tarrant County; Board member, Fort Worth Sister Cities International; Member, A Phillip Randolph Institute; Member, Black women Lawyers of Tarrant County; Life Member, NAACP; Member, The Links, Inc; Member, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc; Member Tarrant County Stonewall Democrat; Member, Tarrant County Democratic Women; Member, Greater Arlington Mansfield Democratic Women; Member, Coalition of Black Democrats; Member, Tejano Democrats

Offices you have sought and/or held before: Current Chairwoman Tarrant County Democratic Party

In 100 words or less, please explain how your background, skills and experience make you the best qualified candidate for this office. As a single parent who raised and educated two daughters I understand issues that impact working people like education, equal pay, and Health Care. As a member of the



workforce I have 35 years in building and managing teams. I have extensive experience working with diverse cultural constituencies. I am adept at putting together winning teams and understand the need to build consensus. Democrats come with many different viewpoints. I want room at the table for all. In addition, I have worked to widen the party's fundraising base, grow our candidate bench, and raise the profile of our Party.

In 100 words or less, please outline the three most critical problems facing the public office you are seeking and the solutions you propose to address them. 1. Many Democratic voters stay home believing their vote does not count. We have to improve voter turnout to win elections. In my first election as Chair we increased primary votes by 33%. 2. When Democrats are not on the ballot it discourages our voters from voting. We must recruit candidates for democratic voters to support. I have established a permanent candidate recruitment committee and this election cycle we have over 30 candidates on the ballot. 3. Raising the party profile in Tarrant County. Under my leadership The Party has increased community outreach and participation.

In 100 words or less, please add anything else you would like voters to know about you. I believe as a citizen I have an obligation to be involved. I have always been committed to and involved in my community. I'm a lifelong Democrat whose first campaign was canvassing for Senator George McGovern for President. I have worked to elect many Great Democrats including the late Speaker Jim Wright, Governor Ann Richards, State Senators Hugh Parmer, Wendy Davis and many local candidates including Justice of the Court of Appeals Maryellen Hicks (my sister). I have never wavered in my support of the party either financially or by involvement.

For candidates for local offices, in 100 words or less, should local governments allow gun shows on public property they control? If not, are any new regulations warranted? My personal opinion is No but in the event gun shows are held on public property we must ensure that every seller is licensed and every buyer should be subject to a background check. Over 80% of Americans believe we should have restrictions on gun sales and our local governments should be working to ensure that guns do not fall into the wrong hands.

For legislative candidates, in 100 words or less, should the Legislature act to get the state involved in the push for a constitutional convention as Gov. Greg Abbott is urging? I know this is not my question but absolutely not. Such a convention seeks to limit the power of the federal government and override her decisions. We in Texas, while proud of who we are, are part of the United States of America and the federal government was created to give all her citizens protections and rights

Gary Livingston

Age: 66

Occupation and/or main source of income: Retired Bell Helicopter union president and dispatcher

City of residence and how long you've lived there: Fort Worth for more than 50 years

Campaign (public) phone number: 817-578-4868

Your campaign (public) email address: glivingston7@yahoo.com

Web site: <https://www.facebook.com/ElectGaryLivingston> @GaryForTarrant

Education background, including all degrees: I studied Business at The University of Wisconsin for two years during my 7 years in the U.S. Army.



Highlights of your current and past civic involvement: I was a Board of Directors member for the United Way of Tarrant County and currently the Community Learning Center for more than 15 years. For a decade, I directed Tarrant County's "Adopt-a-Child" Santa appearances and Christmas gift distribution. I managed as many as eight houses per year for more than 15 years with the Cowtown Brush-Up Program. I have been a Code Blue Member and Marine Creek Ranch HOA Pool Committee member for 10 years. I volunteer with the Eagle Mountain-Saginaw School District as needed.

Offices you have sought and/or held before: State Democratic Executive Committee Senatorial District 12 Committeeman. I was the President of UAW Texas State CAP Council, UAW Local 218 and Hood County Democrats. I was the Vice President of Texas State AFL-CIO District 8, Tarrant County LCLAA and Mid-Cities Democrats.

In 100 words or less, please explain how your background, skills and experience make you the best qualified candidate for this office. My leadership and financial expertise are unmatched. I have held numerous Democratic positions at the local, state and national level. I have been involved in grassroots efforts and all facets of operations at many levels in the state and county. I have negotiated multiple union contracts worth many millions of dollars from Bell Helicopter. During my tenure as president, I had budgets with stringent federal audits to work within, created executive teams, and managed staff while working with union membership in a "right to work" state.

In 100 words or less, please outline the three most critical problems facing the public office you are seeking and the solutions you propose to address them. To turn Tarrant County Blue again we must have boots on the ground, money in the bank, and staff our precincts with Precinct Chairs - they are the backbone of a county party. We have 694 precincts. At last count, we had 213 Chairs, leaving us 481 precincts without supervision. Too many Democrats are sitting on the sidelines, disappointed in the current administration. I have the full support of the Tarrant County Central Labor Council, with more than 60,000 households. I will bring labor back to the table and provide the leadership that Democrats will support with their time and money.

In 100 words or less, please add anything else you would like voters to know about you. I am a devoted worker who believes in fairness and inclusiveness for all. Our county party should reflect our county's diversity in staffing, committees, functions, and priorities. We should have a paid, professional office staff and consistent business operating hours. We must offer more to our candidates, not recruit them, and throw them to the wolves. When elected, I will work tirelessly to make progress in Tarrant and I will always be available to the voters of Tarrant County.

Anna Tinsley: 817-390-7610, @annatinsley

Load-Date: March 1, 2016

End of Document

[Tarrant County sheriff's race a contrast in styles](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

February 5, 2016 Friday

Copyright 2016 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: fort_worth

Length: 722 words

Byline: Bill Hanna

The Star-Telegram

Dateline: DALLAS

Body

The Republican primary for Tarrant County sheriff presents two distinct views of how the department should be run.

In a debate Friday on WFAA's , the incumbent, Dee Anderson, said the sheriff's main focus should be on operating the jail, which has passed 15 consecutive annual state jail inspections, while also managing more than 1,600 employees and overseeing an annual budget of \$120 million.

His challenger in the March 1 GOP primary, former Dalworthington Gardens Police Chief **Bill Waybourn**, said Anderson has been too remote. As **sheriff, Waybourn** said he would have more contact with the public and Tarrant County police departments than the incumbent has.

"He is more of an isolationist, and I'm more of an upfront community guy," Waybourn said. "The biggest thing is being out in the community and creating relationships."

For his part, Anderson said he's very accessible to police chiefs throughout Tarrant County and notes that 80 percent of the Sheriff's Department budget and staffing goes toward running the jail.

"He thinks being out in the community and being out of the office every day is the way to go," Anderson said. "He has no idea about the demands of \$120 million operation and managing 1,600 people. He's never managed a department anywhere near the size of this office."

A third candidate for sheriff, John Garris, a confinement officer with the Sheriff's Department, has endorsed Waybourn and suspended his campaign. No Democrat is on the ballot. Early voting starts Feb. 16.

As of the Feb. 1 campaign finance report filings, Waybourn had twice as much cash on hand with \$57,493.94 to Anderson's \$27,229.23. In the last two filing periods, Waybourn had raised \$178,680.12 to Anderson's \$24,812.90.

Anderson said he expects to raise \$50,000 by the end of the campaign, which he believes is enough to win the primary.

"I don't have to buy name ID," Anderson said. "I'm not worried about the finances. My record speaks for itself."

After the debate, Waybourn said the amount of the money he has raised and his endorsements, including Gov. Rick Perry, two former Fort Worth police chiefs, the Tarrant County Law Enforcement Association, the Fort Worth Police Officers Association and the Arlington Police Association, are signs of Anderson's waning support. He also said the sheriff needs to be coordinating with Tarrant County police departments on issues like terrorism and drug enforcement.

"If he was out there in the community, I wouldn't have the endorsements I have," Waybourn said.

Couch case impact

During the debate, Anderson was asked if being out in front of the cameras during the Ethan Couch case was an example of political grandstanding. The attorney for Ethan Couch's mother, Tonya Couch, had criticized Anderson's high profile during her return to Fort Worth.

Couch, 18, and his mother fled to Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, in December after he skipped a meeting with his probation officer. He's serving 10 years of probation for killing four people in a 2013 DWI wreck.

"Ethan Couch represents the worst case I've had in the 15 years as sheriff," Anderson said. "I'm going to be upfront, very vocal. I'm speaking for those families and those four victims."

Waybourn was also asked if it was political posturing when he escorted Taya Kyle, the widow of American Sniper author Chris Kyle, to the Stephenville murder trial of Eddie Ray Routh. Routh was convicted of killing Chris Kyle and his best friend, Chad Littlefield, at an Erath County gun range in 2013.

"I was on vacation many times if you were referring to the trial," Waybourn said. "... That was a horrible event and we wanted to see justice served."

DWI no refusals

Waybourn said he is most proud of pioneering DWI no-refusals in Dalworthington Gardens since 2005, where court orders for blood draws are obtained for suspected drunk drivers if they refuse a Breathalyzer.

"I think it saved thousands of lives," Waybourn said.

Anderson, who was co-founder of Amber Alert while he was with the Arlington Police Department, succeeded two sheriffs -- David Williams and Don Carpenter -- who were surrounded by controversy. He said his low profile is a sign that the Sheriff's Department is working.

"We had two sheriffs before that wanted to be top cops," Anderson said after the debate. "You have to keep focus on the job or you see what happens."

Bill Hanna: ,

Load-Date: February 5, 2016

End of Document

[Cruz consistent; sheriff's race; Baker vs. Barton; Letters to the editor](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

February 5, 2016 Friday





Section: letters_to_the_editor

Length: 304 words

Byline: The Star-Telegram

Body

Cruz consistent

If you're going to hire someone for a position with your company, you check the candidate's background and history.

Sen. Ted Cruz of Texas is the only consistent, proven conservative in the presidential race.

Donald Trump is all talk. His history reeks of Democratic/liberal stances.

He hasn't changed. He just wants you to think he has.

Mary Clark, Bedford

Sheriff's race

Our current sheriff has used the Ethan Couch case for photo ops because he's challenged by the best candidate Tarrant County has ever had, Republican **Bill Waybourn**.

The current sheriff's police background was as a patrol and a public information officer. **Bill Waybourn** has 35 years in law enforcement, 30 as a chief.

He holds undergraduate and postgraduate degrees, is a graduate of the FBI Academy and started the "no refusal" DWI program now used in numerous states.

Bill is endorsed by former Gov. Rick Perry; state Reps. Bill Zedler, Tony Tinderholt and Jonathan Stickland; the mayors of Arlington and Mansfield; and the Arlington, Fort Worth and Tarrant County law enforcement associations.

Don Feare, Fort Worth

Baker vs. Barton

Collin Baker is running against U.S. Rep. Joe Barton, R-Ennis, in the 6th Congressional District to expand Second Amendment rights.

That seems impossible.



Anyone including criminals can already buy unlimited quantities of military-style assault-weapons with high-capacity magazines.

I guess that means he's wanting to arm grade-schoolers and mental patients with machine guns?

Sharon Austray, Fort Worth

Letters should be no longer than 200 words and must have a full name, home street address, city of residence and both a home and daytime telephone number for verification. Letters about the March 1 primary elections should be no longer than 150 words and must be received no later than 5 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 21.

Load-Date: February 5, 2016

End of Document

[For sheriff: Anderson a success worth keeping](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

February 5, 2016 Friday

Copyright 2016 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: editorials

Length: 385 words

Byline: THE EDITORIAL BOARD

The Star-Telegram

Body

Sheriff Dee Anderson and challenger **Bill Waybourn**, a former suburban police chief, are two of the best-known local law officers of this generation.

But only one can be the Tarrant County sheriff for the next four years, and voters must choose between two Republicans with completely different missions for the office. No Democrat is running.

Anderson, 59, of Kennedale, has been sheriff since 2001, when he was elected promising to bring stability and professional jail management to an office that sadly lacked it.

Two political-minded predecessors had claimed to be "tough on crime" but wound up being tough on county taxpayers, both by stirring constant conflicts with city agencies and by costing taxpayers extra money for



equipment, staffing and legal expenses. County commissioners allot funds for jail operations and a few rural patrols, not for a redundant police agency.

Waybourn, 56, of Dalworthington Gardens, has been police chief and chief of public safety there for 31 years. He is more flamboyant, has more law enforcement training and wants the Tarrant County sheriff to become more of a crimefighter again, saying the office should take on a larger role in protecting the county against terrorism and in training city jailers to hold illegal immigrants for federal officials' review.

Waybourn is endorsed by former Gov. Rick Perry, Arlington Mayor Jeff Williams and celebrity Chuck Norris, along with three police labor organizations. He teaches handgun classes, and his allies include several Texas House members who oppose handgun licensing and support completely unlicensed open carry, which he predicts will become law "in time."

Anderson is endorsed by former Texas House Speaker Gib Lewis, District Attorney Sharen Wilson of Fort Worth, Fort Worth Mayor Betsy Price, County Judge Glen Whitley of Hurst and a majority of the Commissioners' Court. He said in a WFAA/Channel 8 debate Friday that he supports Texas' current law requiring a license to carry.

Anderson acknowledges that he was slow starting his campaign. Instead of that, voters should consider his 15 years of quiet, thrifty management of Tarrant County jails that consistently exceed state standards.

Change is not needed.

The Star-Telegram Editorial Board recommends Dee Anderson in the Republican primary for Tarrant County sheriff.

Load-Date: February 5, 2016

End of Document

[***Livestream video: Debate - Race for Tarrant County sheriff***](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

February 5, 2016 Friday

Copyright 2016 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: election

Length: 88 words

Byline: Star-Telegram

The Star-Telegram



Body

Watch the livestream video of the debate in the race for Tarrant County sheriff from our media partner .

The debate features incumbent Sheriff Dee Anderson and former Dalworthington Gardens Police Chief **Bill Waybourn**, 56.

Anderson, a former spokesman for the Arlington Police Department, was first elected in 2000.

Waybourn, who ran against Anderson in the GOP primary in 2008 and lost with about 40 percent of the vote, stepped down at the end of September after 31 years as police chief of Dalworthington Gardens to run for sheriff.

Load-Date: February 5, 2016

End of Document

[**Bank activity detailed**](#)

THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS
January 9, 2016 Saturday, 1 EDITION

Copyright 2016 THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

DallasNews.com

Section: METRO; Pg. NEWS_B01

Length: 947 words

Byline: NAHEED RAJWANI NRAJWANI@DALLASNEWS.COM, STAFF WRITER

Dateline: FORT WORTH

Body

FORT WORTH - "Affluenza" teen Ethan Couch's mother withdrew \$30,000 from a bank in early December and told his father he'd never see them again before she and her son fled to Mexico, according to an affidavit.

The release of the arrest affidavit Friday coincided with Tonya Couch's arraignment in Tarrant County on a third-degree felony charge of hindering the apprehension of a felon.

Also Friday, a county magistrate ordered the 48-year-old to undergo a mental exam, saying there's "reasonable cause" to believe she has a mental illness or is "a person with a mental retardation."



Tonya Couch is likely to be held in the Tarrant County Jail over the weekend, with bail set at \$1 million. She will have a bond reduction hearing Monday before State District Judge Wayne Salvant.

Ethan Couch, 18, remains in a Mexico City detention center as he continues to fight his extradition to the United States. He is serving a controversial sentence of 10 years' probation for killing four people in a 2013 DWI crash. He is wanted in Texas after he missed a Dec. 10 meeting with his probation officer.

He fled after a video surfaced Dec. 2 that showed him at a party where alcohol was served. The affidavit says Tonya Couch was present when a plan was devised "to lie about the video and say that it wasn't him" because Ethan Couch was apparently "scared that his probation would be violated."

The next day, Dec. 3, Ethan Couch's probation officer attempted to reach him to have him take a drug test. The teen did not respond, the affidavit said.

That same day, Tonya Couch called her husband, Fred Couch, and told him he would never see them again. Authorities later checked Tonya Couch's bank records and discovered she withdrew \$30,000 that day.

Authorities also learned Tonya Couch "was present for a discussion" about an "intent to leave Texas and travel to Mexico."

According to the affidavit, after Dec. 3 there was no more activity on Tonya Couch's bank account and phone numbers belonging to her and her son also were no longer used.

Mexican authorities arrested Tonya and Ethan Couch in a condo near Puerto Vallarta. When they were arrested, Tonya Couch was using a computer, according to the affidavit. The 48-year-old quickly waived extradition and was brought back to the United States last week.

Her son has filed motions in Mexico to block his return, a process that might take weeks to complete.

During her arraignment here Friday, Tonya Couch stood before Salvant as he read the charge against her and explained her rights. Her attorney, Stephanie K. Patten, was not at the arraignment because she was stuck in traffic. Afterward, Tarrant County Sheriff Dee Anderson briefly spoke with Couch in a holdover cell.

When Patten finally arrived at the courtroom, she told the judge she was concerned about the sheriff's discussion with her client without the attorney present.

"For law enforcement to go back there and ask questions, that's a big problem," Patten told the judge.

Salvant explained that he had asked about Couch's passport during the arraignment and that the sheriff had inquired about it later to follow up on the judge's question. Anderson confirmed that during a short meeting with reporters. He also said that Couch "expressed a slight bit of displeasure about her accommodations" in the jail, complaining that she hadn't slept much.

"I explained to her that this was a jail, not a resort," Anderson said.

On Thursday, Anderson personally helped transport Couch to the jail after she landed at Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport from Los Angeles. And Friday morning, he helped his deputies walk Couch from the jail to Salvant's courtroom - a task assigned to bailiffs who work in the justice center.

Such personal involvement with a person charged with a third-degree felony is rare for a sheriff of a large county such as Tarrant.



Anderson, who is running for re-election this year against fellow Republicans John Garris and **Bill Waybourn**, acknowledged last week that he is taking more of a personal interest in the case of Tonya and Ethan Couch than normal.

"I personally feel like justice was denied at the first juncture," Anderson said, referring to Ethan Couch's probationary sentence. "And I have everything possible invested in this to get him back. "

But Patten, both outside the courtroom and then in a joint statement later Friday with her co-counsel, Steve Gordon, blasted Anderson's heavy involvement in the case.

"We would like to thank Sheriff Dee Anderson for taking time out of his busy day serving as this county's chief law enforcement officer to personally escort a 5'1", 110-pound handcuffed and leg shackled female who was guarded by at least 2 armed deputies yesterday," the statement read. "In our collective 40-plus years of practicing criminal law here in Tarrant County, both as prosecutors or defense attorneys, we have never witnessed an elected official take such a personal interest and escort a suspect.

"It would of course be the job of the Sheriff to hold press conferences, if necessary, or supervise his or her staff on a day to day basis," the statement said. " However, during a contested election, to piggyback on a case that has drawn extensive media coverage by doing things that have never been done in recent memory on any other case is very troubling."

If Couch is released, whether on \$1 million bond or a lower amount, Salvant told her that she will have to follow several conditions, including wearing an ankle monitor and turning in her passport.

But Couch told the judge that her belongings, including her passport, were taken by authorities before her return to Texas.

KXAS-TV (NBC5) contributed to this report.

Twitter: @naheedrajwani

Load-Date: January 9, 2016

End of Document

[***Teen's mother appears in court***](#)

THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

January 9, 2016 Saturday, 1 EDITION

Copyright 2016 THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

DallasNews.com

Section: BRIEFING; Pg. 6

Length: 452 words



Body

Tonya Couch appeared in a Tarrant County courtroom Friday morning for the first time since authorities say she helped her son, Ethan, flee the country.

Couch, 48, is charged with hindering apprehension of a fugitive, after authorities say she fled to Mexico with the so-called "influenza" teenager while he was on probation for killing four people in a drunken driving crash in 2013.

Tonya Couch spent the night in the Tarrant County Jail after her return to Texas following her extradition, first from Mexico and then California.

Tarrant County Sheriff Dee Anderson, who was in the courtroom Friday with several sheriff's deputies, said Couch "expressed a slight bit of displeasure about her accommodations." She didn't sleep much, he said.

"I explained to her that this was a jail, not a resort," Anderson said.

During the arraignment in a Fort Worth courtroom, Couch stood in front of Judge Wayne Salvant in a yellow prison uniform as he read the criminal complaint against her and explained Couch's rights to her.

Her attorney, Stephanie Patten, did not make the arraignment portion of the hearing because she was stuck in traffic. But when she arrived, she told the judge she had concerns about the sheriff talking to Couch about the case without her legal counsel present.

"For law enforcement to go back there and ask questions, that's a big problem," Patten told the judge.

But Salvant didn't seem moved by Patten's concerns. He told her that he had asked about Couch's passport during the arraignment and that the sheriff had inquired about it later to follow up on the judge's question.

It is rare for a sheriff in a large county to talk to a prisoner charged with a third-degree felony, and even personally escort the individual to jail.

Anderson, who is running for re-election this year against fellow Republicans John Garris and **Bill Waybourn**, seems more involved in the Couch case than the other cases his office has overseen.

On Thursday, he rode shotgun in the van that took Couch to the Tarrant County Jail after she landed at Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport.

And Friday, he and several other sheriff's deputies walked Couch from the jail to Salvant's courtroom for her arraignment hearing - a task usually for bailiffs who work in the courthouse.

In a brief news conference with reporters after Couch's hearing, Patten took a jab at Anderson for how involved he's been in the case.

"When's the last time you've seen a sheriff escort a 5-foot- 4-inch, 110-pound woman from the airport?" she asked.

Patten said Couch plans to enter a plea of not guilty in court.

Meanwhile, Ethan Couch remains in Mexico, where he and his mother were arrested last week. Unlike his mother, he is fighting extradition. DMN



"

Load-Date: January 9, 2016

End of Document

[Affidavit: Tonya Couch withdrew \\$30,000, told Ethan's father he would never see them again, before fleeing to Mexico](#)

The Dallas Morning News: Blogs

January 8, 2016 Friday

Copyright 2016 The Dallas Morning News
Distributed by Newsbank, Inc. All Rights Reserved

Section: CRIME

Length: 953 words

Byline: Naheed Rajwani

Body

Updated at 7:09 p.m.: Revised to include details from Tonya Couch's affidavit

FORT WORTH — Tonya Couch, the mother of affluenza teen Ethan Couch, withdrew \$30,000 from her bank account in early December and that same day told Ethan's father he would never see them again, before she and her son fled to Mexico, according to an arrest warrant affidavit for Tonya Couch.

The release of the affidavit Friday coincided with Tonya Couch's arraignment in Tarrant County on a charge of hindering the apprehension of a felon, a third-degree felony. She is being held in the Tarrant County Jail in lieu of \$1 million bail but will have a bond reduction hearing on Monday before State District Judge Wayne Salvant.

Ethan Couch, 18, remains in a Mexico City detention center where he continues to fight his extradition back to the United States. He is serving a controversial sentence of 10 years probation for killing four people in a 2013 DWI crash. He is wanted back in Texas because he missed a Dec. 10 meeting with his probation officer.

He fled after a viral video surfaced Dec. 2 that showed him at a party where alcohol was served. The affidavit says that Tonya Couch was present when a plan was devised "to lie about the video and say that it wasn't him" because Ethan Couch was apparently "scared that his probation would be violated."

The next day, Dec. 3, Ethan Couch's probation officer attempted to reach him to have him take a drug test. The teen did not respond, the affidavit said. That same day Tonya Couch called her husband, Fred Couch, and told him that he would never see them. Authorities later checked Tonya Couch's bank records and discovered she withdrew \$30,000 that day. Authorities also learned that Tonya Couch "was present for a discussion" about an "intent to leave Texas and travel to Mexico."



According to the affidavit, after Dec. 3 there was no more activity on Tonya Couch's bank account and phone numbers belonging to her and her son also were no longer used.

Tonya and Ethan Couch were arrested by Mexican authorities in a condo near Puerto Vallarta. When they were arrested, Tonya Couch was using a computer, according to the affidavit. The 48-year-old quickly waived extradition and was brought back to the United States last week. Her son has filed motions in Mexico to block his return, a process that might take weeks to complete.

Sheriff's personal involvement questioned

During her arraignment here Friday, Tonya Couch stood before Salvant as he read the charge against her and explained her rights. Her attorney, Stephanie K. Patten was not at the arraignment because she was stuck in traffic. Afterward, Tarrant County Sheriff Dee Anderson briefly spoke with Couch in a holdover cell.

When Patten finally arrived at the courtroom, she told the judge she was concerned about the sheriff's discussion with her client without the attorney present.

"For law enforcement to go back there and ask questions, that's a big problem," Patten told the judge.

Salvant explained that he had asked about Couch's passport during the arraignment and that the sheriff had inquired about it later to follow up on the judge's question. Anderson confirmed that during a short meeting with reporters. He also said that Couch "expressed a slight bit of displeasure about her accommodations" in the jail, complaining that she hadn't slept much.

"I explained to her that this was a jail, not a resort," Anderson said.

On Thursday, Anderson personally helped transport Couch to the jail after she landed at Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport from Los Angeles. And Friday morning, he helped his deputies walk Couch from the jail to Salvant's courtroom — a task assigned to bailiffs who work in the justice center.

Such personal involvement with a person charged with a third-degree felony is rare for a sheriff of a large county such as Tarrant.

Anderson, who is running for re-election this year against fellow Republicans John Garris and **Bill Waybourn**, acknowledged last week that he is taking more of a personal interest in the case of Tonya and Ethan Couch than normal.

"I personally feel like justice was denied at the first juncture," Anderson said, referring to Ethan Couch's probated sentence. "And I have everything possible invested in this to get him back. "

But Patten, both outside the courtroom and then in a joint statement later Friday with her co-counsel, Steve Gordon, blasted Anderson's heavy involvement in the case.

"We would like to thank Sheriff Dee Anderson for taking time out of his busy day serving as this county's chief law enforcement officer to personally escort a 5'1", 110 pound handcuffed and leg shackled female who was guarded by at least 2 armed deputies yesterday," the statement read. "In our collective 40 plus years of practicing criminal law here in Tarrant County, both as prosecutors or defense attorneys, we have never witnessed an elected official take such a personal interest and escort a suspect.

"It would of course be the job of the Sheriff to hold press conferences, if necessary, or supervise his or her staff on a day to day basis," the statement said. " However, during a contested election, to piggyback on a case that has drawn extensive media coverage by doing things that have never been done in recent memory on any other case is very troubling."



Up next for Couch is Monday's bond reduction hearing. If she is released, whether on \$1 million bond or the lower amount, Salvant told her that she will have to follow several conditions, including wearing an ankle monitor and turning in her passport.

But Couch told the judge that her belongings, including her passport, were taken by authorities before her return to Texas.

Twitter: @naheedrajwani

Load-Date: January 11, 2016

End of Document

[Rick Perry's stamp of approval: Is it enough?](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

January 8, 2016 Friday

Copyright 2016 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: politics_government

Length: 937 words

Byline: Anna M. Tinsley

The Star-Telegram

Body

Rick Perry's name won't be on this year's primary ballot in Texas.

But the influence of the state's longest serving governor -- and former two-time presidential candidate -- may still well be felt behind the scenes.

As candidates gear up for the March 1 primary election, Perry has given four a rare gift: his political endorsement.

Now the question is: Is his stamp of approval on these candidates, which include two in Tarrant County, political gold or yesterday's news?

"Rick Perry remains very popular among Texas Republicans and his endorsement does carry weight, especially in races where primary voters don't know a great deal about the candidate being endorsed," said Mark P. Jones, a political science professor at Rice University in Houston.



"A Perry endorsement in particular provides an instant level of credibility and visibility for the candidate among many GOP primary voters," he said. "Furthermore, since Perry is very selective in who he backs, his endorsement could also aid the candidate in the crucial task of fundraising."

But the question is how much pull it will have, since Perry no longer is in office and was indicted on a charge of abuse of power, said Brandon Rottinghaus, associate political science professor at the University of Houston.

"Gov. Perry's endorsements are dated and a bit tainted," he said. "The Republican Party has moved on to new stars and the indictment and failed presidential campaign hurts Perry's image."

At the same time, Rottinghaus said Perry's continuing political influence can't be denied.

"He is the elder statesman of the Republican Party in Texas so his opinion counts," he said. "He still has considerable support in the state and is owed dozens of favors, so he has sway in many quarters."

The chosen four

So far, four candidates who will appear on the March 1 primary ballot have received the nod of approval from Perry, who served three decades in political posts.

Before becoming the state's longest serving governor, holding office from 2000 to 2015, he served stints as lieutenant governor, agriculture commissioner and state representative.

"It is unusual ... why a guy of his stature is getting involved in local races," said Bill Miller, an Austin-based political analyst. "But everything is personal with him."

"So it's either pro for the person he supports or con on the person" he's not endorsing.

Here's a look at the races he has weighed in on so far.

Tarrant County Sheriff: Perry has endorsed , a former Dalworthington Garden police chief who is challenging Sheriff Dee Anderson for this post. "I am proud to endorse Chief **Bill Waybourn** for Tarrant County Sheriff," Perry said. "Chief Waybourn is responsible for implementing the DWI NO REFUSAL Program, started in Texas which spread to 15 states and now the National Highway Transportation recommends this tool for training throughout the Nation." John M. Garris is also in the race for sheriff.

Texas House District 92: The former governor has given his backing to , a Bedford pastor and former Perry appointee who is challenging state Rep. Jonathan Stickland, R-Bedford. "Scott Fisher has an incredible record of achievement," Perry said, noting Fisher's time serving as his appointee on the Texas Ethics Commission, Texas Youth Commission and Texas Juvenile Justice Department. "Scott Fisher knows how to take strong conservative values and turn them into successful conservative policies." The winner of the Republican primary will face Democrat Kim K. Leach in November.

Texas Senate District 1: Perry has endorsed state Rep. , R-Mineola, in the race to replace Kevin Eltife, R-Tyler, in the Texas Senate. Hughes is in a four-way GOP race, facing state Rep. David Simpson of Longview, Mike Lee of Queen City and James K. Red Brown of Tyler. "Bryan Hughes is a committed conservative fighting to secure our borders from illegal immigration," Perry said. "Bryan has consistently stood to protect life and East Texas values."

Texas Senate District 24: Perry also has endorsed , an Austin ophthalmologist, in the race to replace Troy Fraser, R-Horseshoe Bay, in the Texas Senate. She is in a six-way race for the GOP nomination, against Reed Williams of Burnet, Brent Mayes of Fredericksburg, Susan King of Abilene, Jon Cobb of Lakeway and



Ryan Downton of Temple. "Dawn is a committed conservative who has a proven record of public service," Perry said. "She will take her focus on limited government, border security, standing for life and traditional values to the Texas Senate on behalf of Senate District 24." The winner of the Republican nomination faces Virginia "Jennie Lou" Leeder of Llano in November.

Looking ahead

"Any former governor's endorsements are important and nice for a candidate to have and it also may enhance the name recognition of someone who is endorsed," said Allan Saxe, an associate political science professor at the University of Texas at Arlington.

But "will this swing a race one way or the other? Probably not, unless it's ultra close," Miller added. "But his endorsement raises the profile in the race."

Now that Perry has weighed in on a handful of Texas races, will he also make an endorsement in the presidential race?

That remains to be seen.

"Given the fragmented and convoluted state of the GOP presidential primary field, a majority of Republican elites are holding back their endorsements until they have a better feel for who the truly viable candidates are," Jones said.

"Perry is not alone in that respect, in fact he is one of a large majority of Republican officeholders and recent officeholders who have not yet endorsed any presidential candidate."

Anna Tinsley: ,

Load-Date: January 9, 2016

End of Document

[Sheriff's absence at first forum unmentioned but not unnoticed](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

January 5, 2016 Tuesday

Copyright 2016 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram
Found on DFW.com

Section: bud_kennedy

Length: 480 words

Byline: Bud Kennedy

The Star-Telegram



Body

The campaign for Tarrant County sheriff began Monday night, but without the sheriff.

Fifteen-year Sheriff Dee Anderson, a Kennedale Republican, sent word at midday that he was too busy to meet with a Fort Worth-based Republican women's club hosting the first of several forums before primary voting begins Feb. 16.

Ever since the wee hours of Father's Day in 2013, much of Anderson's time and effort has gone into the ongoing morality play around former Lakeside teenager Ethan Couch and his attempts to avoid adult prison over a horrendous drunken-driving crash that killed four innocent people.

With Couch in a Mexico City immigrant detention center and his mother, Tonya, in Los Angeles awaiting her return to Texas, Anderson decided not to go to an hourlong forum with his two Republican challengers in front of the Cowtown Republican Women.

"My apologies," he wrote them on Facebook. "The Ethan Couch case is consuming all of my time right now and I am determined to bring both of them back to face Tarrant County justice."

Since both were under lock and key and other county justice officials made the forum, the Cowtown Women seemed confused by his absence.

Challengers John Garris of Fort Worth, a jailer and former Air Force airport operations chief, and **Bill Waybourn** of Dalworthington Gardens, the former police chief there, talked mostly about their own campaigns and said little about the sheriff.

Waybourn's strongest comment was that he wants to "step up the tempo" and be more involved.

"The difference between me and Dee Anderson is that he is [about] leadership by isolation," said Waybourn, endorsed by former Gov. Rick Perry and several county constables, city mayors and former Fort Worth Police Chiefs Jeff Halstead and Ralph Mendoza.

Garris was more succinct: Anderson "leads from behind a desk. I do not."

With new juvenile court Judge Timothy A. Menikos asking mostly basic questions, anything about an active or pending case was out of bounds. So there was no Couch talk, not that there would have been.

Before the forum, Waybourn said he wants to see the Couches brought to justice like everyone does and otherwise, "there's not much to say about that."

That has not kept Anderson from finding plenty to say about it on social media, where he is campaigning with new gusto while giving updates on his personal Twitter account at .

Anderson -- elected after he helped bring a Fort Worth massage therapist's idea to reality as the Amber Alert national missing-child warning -- kept the support of Fort Worth Mayor Betsy Price and County Judge Glen Whitley of Hurst.

As the son of a 1960s local sports columnist, the sheriff is media-savvy. He will always talk about Couch, crime-fighting or public safety.

For at least a few weeks, he'll also have to talk to more Republican clubs about Republicans.



Bud Kennedy: , , . His column appears Sundays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Load-Date: January 5, 2016

End of Document

[Sheriff says two-pronged Couch case is time-consuming](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

January 4, 2016 Monday

Copyright 2016 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: fort_worth

Length: 357 words

Byline: Monica S. Nagy

The Star-Telegram

Dateline: FORT WORTH

Body

Tarrant County Sheriff Dee Anderson backed out of a Republican candidate forum Monday night, saying he needed to focus on the Ethan Couch case.

Tarrant County sheriff's deputies are prepared to bring the teenage fugitive's mother, Tonya Couch, 48, back to Texas this week, depending on the outcome of an extradition hearing Tuesday in Los Angeles, Anderson said Monday.

Tonya Couch, 48, was deported from Mexico last week where she was found with her son in Puerto Vallarta. Authorities had been looking for Ethan Couch, 18, who is on probation for driving drunk and killing four people in 2013.

Tonya Couch faces a felony charge in Tarrant County accusing her of hindering the apprehension of her son.

"We won't know anything until after that hearing," Anderson said. "It'll be us this time to go and get her."



Anderson, who is running for re-election, tweeted Monday that he wouldn't be able to attend the Cowtown Republican Women's at 5:30 p.m. Anderson was scheduled to appear along with challengers **Bill Waybourn**, the Dalworthington Gardens police chief, and corrections officer John Garris of Fort Worth.

He said the Couch case was consuming his time.

"I'm sorry to miss the meeting but determined to bring both back to face TC justice," he tweeted from @SheriffAnderson.

Case of Ethan Couch consuming all of my time right now. I'm sorry to miss the meeting but determined to bring both back to face TC justice.— Dee Anderson (@SheriffAnderson) //

Anderson said if a California judge grants extradition, Tarrant County deputies will go get her.

"It's all in the hands of the people out there right now," he said.

Anderson said he didn't have a timetable on Ethan Couch's return from Mexico City, where his new attorney, Fernando Benítez, was able to get him a temporary injunction against deportation.

An evidentiary hearing in his case likely won't happen until the end of the month, Benítez told Star-Telegram media partner WFAA.

Benítez declined to answer questions Monday.

U.S. marshals have said it could be months before Ethan Couch comes back to Texas.

Monica S. Nagy: ,

Load-Date: January 5, 2016

End of Document

[Perry Endorses Fisher's Bid to Unseat Rep. Stickland in GOP Primary.](#)

The Texas Tribune

December 29, 2015

Copyright 2015 Gale Group, Inc.
All Rights Reserved
ASAP
Copyright 2015 The Texas Tribune

Section: ISSN: 0897-2710

Length: 370 words

Body

To read more, click here: <http://www.texastribune.org/2015/12/29/perry-endorses-fishers-bid-unseat->



stickland/?utm_source=texastribune.org&utm_medium=rss&utm_campaign=Tribune%20Feed:%20Main%20Feed

Editor's note: This story has been updated with a comment from state Rep. Jonathan Stickland.

Far from the presidential campaign trail he departed months ago, former Gov. Rick Perry is wading into another Texas Republican primary race.

The longest-serving governor in Texas history is endorsing Bedford pastor Scott Fisher in his bid to unseat firebrand state Rep. Jonathan Stickland, R-Bedford, Fisher's campaign announced Tuesday.

"Scott Fisher knows how to take strong conservative values and turn them into successful conservative policies," Perry said in a statement circulated by Fisher's campaign. "Scott is a conservative that can get things done."

The statement also praised Fisher's work at the Texas Ethics Commission and Texas Youth Commission - Perry had appointed him to positions on both panels.

Stickland, a polarizing figure in the Texas House, responded by calling Perry an "Austin insider," who he is not trying to represent.

"I've served my district for nearly 4 years now and have never tried to represent Austin insiders, only the conservatives in my District," he said in a written statement to the Tribune. "I'm proud to have their support in my re-election campaign."

Stickland was first elected in 2012 to represent House District 92.

It is the fourth time Perry has weighed in on a Texas race since August. His other endorsements include: state Rep. Bryan Hughes, R-Mineola, who is seeking to replace outgoing state Sen. Kevin Eltife; Austin ophthalmologist Dawn Buckingham, who is looking to succeed retiring state Sen. Troy Fraser; and **Bill Waybourn**, who is campaigning to unseat Tarrant County Sheriff Dee Anderson.

In September, a spokeswoman for Perry said he had no overarching strategy for endorsements.

"We're focused on our primary and make those decisions on a case-by-case basis at the appropriate time," Lucy Nashed, his spokesman at the time, told the Tribune.

Patrick Svitek contributed to this report.

Load-Date: December 31, 2015

End of Document

[***Clock ticking for Texas' 2016 candidate filings***](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

December 12, 2015 Saturday

Copyright 2015 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: politics_government

Length: 993 words



Byline: Anna M. Tinsley

The Star-Telegram

Body

Local politicians are running out of time to claim a spot on the 2016 ballot.

Anyone planning to run for a post in the March 1 primary must turn in paperwork by the end of business Monday. Dozens of local candidates have already filed, setting up contested races up and down the Tarrant County ballot.

And there may be a big rush of filings Monday.

"There's a lot of gamesmanship in this, obviously," said Jim Riddlesperger, a political science professor at TCU. "If you are considering running for [a position], and you don't know who else is going to run, you might wait until the last minute to see.

"A lot of these folks have been communicating with donors and parties and political donors, and they want to line up the money before they file."

Here's a look at the candidates who have filed to be on the Tarrant County ballot, according to officials with the local and state Republican and Democratic parties.

U.S. House

District 6: Republican -- incumbent Joe Barton of Ennis, Steven Fowler of Arlington; Democrat -- Don Jacquess

District 12: Republican -- incumbent Kay Granger of Fort Worth

District 24: Republican -- incumbent Kenny E. Marchant of Coppel; Democrat -- Jan McDowell of Carrollton

District 25: Republican -- incumbent Roger Williams of Austin

District 26: Republican -- incumbent Michael C. Burgess of Lewisville; Democrat -- Eric Mauck of Fort Worth

District 33: Democrat -- incumbent Marc Veasey of Fort Worth; Republican -- Bruce Chadwick of Fort Worth, M. Mark Mitchell of Fort Worth

Texas Legislature

Senate District 12: Republican -- incumbent Jane Nelson of Flower Mound

Senate District 22: Republican -- incumbent Brian Birdwell of Granbury; Democrat -- Michael Collins of Granbury

House District 90: Democrat -- incumbent Ramon Romero Jr. of Fort Worth

House District 91: Republican -- incumbent Stephanie Klick of Fort Worth



House District 92: Republican -- incumbent Jonathan Stickland of Bedford, Scott Fisher of Bedford; Democrat -- Kim Leach of Hurst

House District 93: Republican -- incumbent Matt Krause; Democrat -- Nancy Bean of Arlington

House District 94: Republican -- incumbent Tony Tinderholt of Arlington; Andrew Piel of Arlington

House District 95: Democrat -- incumbent Nicole Collier of Fort Worth

House District 96: Republican -- incumbent Bill Zedler of Arlington, Wesley Nelson; Democrat -- Sandra Lee of Kennedale

House District 97: Republican -- incumbent Craig Goldman of Fort Worth; Democrat -- Elizabeth Tarrant of Fort Worth

House District 98: Republican -- incumbent Giovanni Capriglione of Southlake

House District 99: Republican -- incumbent Charlie Geren of Fort Worth; Bo French of Fort Worth

House District 101: Democrat -- incumbent Chris Turner of Grand Prairie; Republican Carlos "Charlie" Garza of Grand Prairie

Statewide and judicial

Texas railroad commissioner: Republican -- Gary Gates of Rosenberg, John Greytok of Austin, Ron Hale of Cypress; Democrat -- Grady Yarbrough of Flint

Supreme Court Place 3: Republican -- incumbent Debra Lehrmann of Fort Worth, Michael Massengale of Houston, Mike Westergren of Corpus Christi

Supreme Court Place 5: Republican -- incumbent Paul Green of Austin; Democrat -- Dori Contreras Garza of Edinburg

Supreme Court Place 9: Republican -- incumbent Eva Guzman of Austin; Democrat -- Savannah Robinson of Danbury

Court of Criminal Appeals Place 2: Republican -- Mary Lou Keel of Houston, Ray Wheless of McKinney

Court of Criminal Appeals Place 5: Republican -- Sid Harle of San Antonio, Brent Webster of Austin

Court of Criminal Appeals Place 6: Republican -- incumbent Michael E. Keasler of Austin, Richard Davis of Burnet; Democrat -- Robert Burns of Dallas

Second Court of Appeals, Place 3: Republican -- Dabney Bassel of Fort Worth, Elizabeth Kerr of Fort Worth, Bill Ray of Fort Worth

Second Court of Appeals, Place 4: Republican -- incumbent Bonnie Sudderth of Fort Worth

17th District Court: Republican -- incumbent Melody Wilkinson of Fort Worth

48th District Court: Republican -- incumbent David Evans of Fort Worth

67th District Court: Republican -- incumbent Don Cosby of Fort Worth



96th District Court: Republican -- incumbent R.H. Wallace Jr. of North Richland Hills

153rd District Court: Republican -- incumbent Susan McCoy of Colleyville

213th District Court: Republican -- incumbent Louis E. Sturns of Fort Worth

342nd District Court: Republican -- incumbent Wade Birdwell of Mansfield

348th District Court: Republican -- Lisa Lumley of Fort Worth, Mike Wallach of Colleyville

352nd District Court: Republican -- incumbent Mark Pittman of Fort Worth

396th District Court: Republican -- incumbent George Gallagher of Arlington

Criminal District Judge Court No. 2: Republican -- incumbent Wayne Salvant of Arlington

360th Family District Court: Republican -- incumbent Mike Sinha of Hurst, Patricia Baca Bennett of Mansfield

Tarrant County

Tax assessor-collector: Republican -- incumbent Ron Wright of Arlington

Sheriff: Republican -- incumbent Dee Anderson of Fort Worth, John M. Garris of Fort Worth, **Bill Waybourn** of Arlington

Commissioner Precinct 1: Democrat -- incumbent Roy Charles Brooks of Fort Worth; Republican -- Roy Lozano of Euless

Commissioner Precinct 3: Republican -- Gary Fickes of Southlake

Constable: Democrat -- Precinct 5, Richard Alfaro of Fort Worth, Michael "Mikey" Valdez of Fort Worth; Precinct 8, incumbent Michael R. Campbell of Fort Worth, Raymond E. Williby of Fort Worth; Republican - - Precinct 1, incumbent Dale Clark of Haltom City, Tommie Hathorn of Watauga; Precinct 2, incumbent David Woodruff of Arlington; Precinct 3, incumbent Darrell Huffman of Colleyville; Precinct 4, Michael Hardy of Fort Worth, Joe D. "Jody" Johnson of Lake Worth, Johnnie Duane Sparks of Fort Worth; Precinct 6, incumbent Jon Siegel of Fort Worth; Precinct 7, incumbent Clint Burgess of Mansfield

Party chairman: Republican -- Tim O'Hare of Southlake, David Wylie of Arlington; Democrat -- incumbent Deborah Peoples of Fort Worth, Gary Livingston of Fort Worth

Anna Tinsley: ,

Load-Date: December 12, 2015

End of Document

[Tarrant County candidates rush to file for 2016 ballot](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

November 21, 2015 Saturday





Section: politics_government

Length: 567 words

Byline: Anna M. Tinsley

The Star-Telegram

Body

Tarrant County politicians haven't let any grass grow under their feet.

Dozens of local candidates already have filed for spots on the 2016 ballot, setting up high profile, costly contested races for posts ranging from state representative to sheriff to party chair.

"The election season this year is highly charged," said Allan Saxe, an associate political science professor at the University of Texas at Arlington. "There is no great advantage to but just to 'get it over with.'

"But (it also is) to show supporters and donors one is serious," he said. "It is a good sign that so many are filing, though the incumbents likely are not thrilled."

Filing began Nov. 14 and runs through Dec. 14.

Here's a look at locals who filed through Nov. 20, according to officials with the local and state Republican and Democratic parties.

U.S. House

District 6: Republican -- incumbent Joe Barton of Ennis

District 12: Democrat -- Eric Mauck of Fort Worth

District 24: Republican -- incumbent Kenny E. Marchant of Coppell

District 25: Republican -- incumbent Roger Williams of Austin

District 26: Republican -- incumbent Michael C. Burgess of Lewisville

Texas Legislature

Senate District 12: Republican -- incumbent Jane Nelson of Flower Mound

House District 91: Republican -- incumbent Stephanie Klick of Fort Worth

House District 92: Republican -- incumbent Jonathan Stickland of Bedford, challenger Scott Fisher of Bedford.



House District 93: Republican -- incumbent Matt Krause

House District 94: Republican -- incumbent Tony Tinderholt of Arlington; Andrew Piel of Arlington.

House District 95: Democrat -- incumbent Nicole Collier of Fort Worth

House District 96: Republican -- incumbent Bill Zedler of Arlington; Democrat -- challenger Sandra Lee of Kennedale

House District 97: Republican -- incumbent Craig Goldman of Fort Worth

House District 98: Republican -- incumbent Giovanni Capriglione of Southlake

House District 99: Republican -- incumbent Charlie Geren of Fort Worth; Bo French of Fort Worth

House District 101: Democrat -- incumbent Chris Turner of Grand Prairie

Other races:

Tarrant County Tax Assessor-Collector: Republican -- incumbent Ron Wright

Tarrant County Sheriff: Republican -- incumbent Dee Anderson, **Bill Waybourn**

Tarrant County Commissioner Precinct 1: Democrat -- incumbent Roy Charles Brooks.

Tarrant County Commissioner Precinct 3: Republican -- Gary Fickes

Supreme Court Place 3: Republican -- incumbent Debra Lehrmann, Michael Massengale

Second Court of Appeals, Place 4: Republican -- incumbent Bonnie Sudderth

17th District Court: Republican -- incumbent Melody Wilkinson

48th District Court: Republican -- incumbent David Evans

67th District Court: Republican -- incumbent Don Cosby

96th District Court: Republican -- incumbent R.H. Wallace Jr.

153rd District Court: Republican -- incumbent Susan McCoy

348th District Court: Republican -- Lisa Lumley

352nd District Court: Republican -- incumbent Mark Pittman

360th Family District Court: Republican -- incumbent Mike Sinha

Tarrant County constable: Democrat -- Precinct 5, Richard Alfaro; Precinct 8, incumbent Michael R. Campbell; Republican -- Precinct 1, incumbent Dale Clark; Precinct 2, incumbent David Woodruff; Precinct 3, incumbent Darrell Huffman; Precinct 4, Michael Hardy, Joe D. "Jody" Johnson, Johnnie Duane Sparks; Precinct 6, incumbent Jon Siegel

Party chair: Republican -- Tim O'Hare of Southlake, David Wylie of Arlington

Anna Tinsley: ,



Load-Date: November 21, 2015

End of Document

Perry backs Waybourn in Tarrant County sheriff's race

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

November 16, 2015 Monday

Copyright 2015 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: politics_government

Length: 287 words

Byline: Max B. Baker

The Star-Telegram

Dateline: FORT WORTH

Body

Former Texas Gov. Rick Perry is backing **Bill Waybourn's** campaign against incumbent Tarrant County Sheriff Dee Anderson, praising the former Dalworthington Gardens police chief's efforts against drunk driving.

Perry said he was "proud to endorse" Waybourn in the Republican Party primary because the DWI No Refusal program the police chief pioneered in Texas -- one that enables officers to obtain a search warrant and take blood from drunken-driving suspects -- is now used by many law enforcement agencies in Texas and across the country.

"Chief Waybourn is responsible for implementing DWI No Refusal program, started in Texas which spread to 15 states and now the National Highway Transportation (Safety Administration) recommends this tool for training throughout the nation," Perry said in a prepared statement.

Waybourn, who stepped down in September after serving as Dalworthington Garden's police chief for 31 years, is challenging Anderson, who is seeking his fifth and final term as sheriff. Anderson has served as sheriff since 2001.

Waybourn, who lost to Anderson in the 2008 GOP primary,

Waybourn's department began using the no-refusal technique in 2005 and was the first in the state to train its officers to draw DWI suspects' blood. Officials would only draw blood after motorists refused to take a breathalyzer test.



Anderson, who is endorsed by Tarrant County District Attorney Sharen Wilson, among others, expressed no concern about Perry's endorsement.

"I am proud to have endorsements from local leaders who are familiar with Tarrant County and the sheriff's office," Anderson said. "While he is a recognizable name, Governor Perry has no insight into the success of my tenure as sheriff."

Max B. Baker: ,

Load-Date: November 16, 2015

End of Document

[Tarrant County sheriff's race may be his toughest yet](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

November 12, 2015 Thursday

Copyright 2015 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: politics_government

Length: 784 words

Byline: Max B. Baker

The Star-Telegram

Dateline: FORT WORTH

Body

Tarrant County Sheriff Dee Anderson's last bid for public office may turn out to be one of his most challenging.

Anderson, 59, who is seeking his fifth and final term, will face former Dalworthington Gardens Police Chief **Bill Waybourn**, 56, who says he has raised more than \$150,000 in cash along with star-studded endorsements ranging from TV star Chuck Norris to the widow of "American sniper" Chris Kyle.

Anderson and Waybourn will be among the candidates filing for office in the local Republican Party Primary when filing begins on Saturday for the March elections. Filing for the GOP and Democratic primaries will run until Dec. 14.



"You don't take any threat lightly," said Anderson, who announced his decision to seek another term on Facebook in September. "I'm proud of my record and I think the voters have been supportive of me and we'll continue to be successful."

Waybourn, who stepped down at the end of September after 31 years as police chief, said he made the decision to run months ago and that he's built a "great grassroots movement."

"We're confident in what we are doing. We think we are off to a great start," Waybourn said.

Scandal-free department

When Anderson was first elected in 2000, the department had been rocked by scandals during the eight-year tenure of Sheriff David Williams. Williams wanted to transform the department into a crime-fighting megaforce and routinely had clashes with county leaders over his budget.

Anderson, a former spokesman for the Arlington Police Department, immediately returned the department to its core responsibility of not only patrolling the ever-more-populated unincorporated areas of the county, but of running the county jail and providing courthouse security.

He's been credited with bringing fiscal responsibility to the department and he advocated for the construction of a new maximum-security jail in downtown rather than building it in a remote location favored by some Fort Worth leaders.

"The department has been scandal-free, that hasn't always been the case," Anderson said. "We've turned it around and become a respected law enforcement agency."

Anderson, who admits that he enjoys the "sheriffing part" more than the politics, said he never considered not running for another four-year term, although he said on his Facebook page that there had been "much speculation about my intentions."

But after talking to his family, he decided to run again after also being encouraged to seek another term by other elected officials, including Fort Worth Mayor Betsy Price, District Attorney Sharen Wilson and Tarrant County Judge Glen Whitley.

Anderson said he has not started raising campaign contributions yet and that while he doesn't have a website -- he does have a Facebook and Twitter account -- they are "moving in that direction." Anderson's last campaign finance report filed in July shows \$7,200 in his accounts.

"I'd like to do it one more time and leave the door wide open for the next person," Anderson said.

Star-studded cast

Meanwhile, Waybourn, who ran against Anderson in the GOP primary in 2008 and lost with about 40 percent of the vote, is up and running.

Waybourn and has held several fundraising events, including one Oct. 30 in Kennedale that spotlighted Norris, Taya Kyle, the widow of the legendary sniper, former Dallas Cowboys great Jay Novacek and Texas Rangers pitcher Derek Holland.

While Waybourn's campaign said he's got about \$150,000 in his campaign coffers, his July campaign finance report already had him ahead of Anderson with about \$13,000.



Along the way Waybourn has snagged the endorsements of Arlington Mayor Jeff Williams, Mansfield Mayor David Cook, and a number of Texas state representatives including Bill Zedler and Tony Tinderholt of Arlington and Jonathan Stickland of Bedford.

He's also won the support of The Fort Worth Police Association, the Arlington Police Association and the Tarrant County Law Enforcement Association, along with several county constables.

Besides working with security police in the Air Force, Waybourn's entire law enforcement career was spent on the police force of Dalworthington Gardens, a small bedroom community surrounded by Arlington. He was the police chief for 31 years.

Waybourn said the sheriff's department needs "bold leadership." For example, he is opposed to any community acting as a sanctuary city and says that he would assign deputies to work with Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agents to "make a larger net" to nab illegal aliens.

Building better relationships with the cities within the county also would be a goal of his administration, he said. "I believe in creating relationships from Section 8 housing to the governor's mansion."

Max B. Baker: ,

Load-Date: November 14, 2015

End of Document

[War veteran awaits trial in killing of former Navy SEAL](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

December 19, 2013 Thursday

Copyright 2013 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram
Found on DFW.com

Length: 1068 words

Byline: Domingo Ramirez Jr.

ramirez@star-telegram.com

Body

Dalworthington Gardens Police Chief **Bill Waybourn** plans to keep tabs on the capital murder trial of Iraq veteran Eddie Routh, the man accused of gunning down the U.S. military's most lethal sniper, Chris Kyle, and his friend at an Erath County gun range in February.



Routh sits in an Erath County jail cell in Stephenville awaiting trial, which will likely begin early next year and draw national media attention.

Waybourn and Kyle were friends.

“I first got to know him back in '09,” Waybourn said. “And we stayed friends. He planned to enter the police academy and become a rookie police officer in this department.”

Those plans were shattered on Feb. 2 when, authorities say, Routh, 26, killed Kyle and his friend Chad Littlefield at a gun range at Rough Creek Lodge, an upscale resort outside of Glen Rose.

No court date has been scheduled yet as defense attorneys continue to pore over hundreds of documents and photos detailing a slaying that shocked the country, particularly since Kyle, 38, and his friend, Littlefield, 35, had taken Routh to the gun range thinking it would help him with post-traumatic stress disorder, or PTSD.

Routh was initially scheduled to go to trial on Oct. 21 in 266th District Court on a capital murder charge, but pre-trial motions filed by defense attorneys Shay Isham of Stephenville and Warren St. John of Fort Worth postponed the proceedings.

St. John told the court that the defense team was reviewing nearly 6,000 pages of discovery documents and crime scene photos.

“I expect that this will go early next year,” St. John said this week. “We’ll be ready, but we just haven’t been given a date yet.”

From the first day he was booked into jail, Routh’s stay has been rocky. Jailers had to use a stun gun to subdue him when he became combative just hours after he was placed in his cell. He’s been on suicide watch, refused to take his medications and declined to see his family or his attorneys.

In June, Routh shattered his television and flooded his cell.

His actions in jail and the testimony and evidence that will be presented in the case will be used by PTSD researchers for further study of the disorder, experts say.

“PTSD is a brain condition,” said the Rev. Rita Nakashima Brock, one of the co-directors of the Soul Repair Center at TCU’s Brite Divinity School. The program was established to understand, research and treat “moral injuries” suffered by veterans.

“At times, you may think you’re back in a war zone,” Brock said.

A history of mental problems

Area police reports documented Routh’s mental problems well before the Feb. 2 killings at the gun range, which is west of Glen Rose and about 80 miles southwest of Fort Worth.

On Jan. 19, Dallas police responded to a “major disturbance call” in the 7600 block of Churchill Way involving Routh and a 33-year-old woman that ended with the Iraq veteran being taken to Green Oaks Psychiatric Hospital for a mental health evaluation.

On Sept. 2, 2012, Lancaster police officers responded to a report of a “major disturbance” in the 200 block of West Sixth Street, where Routh was threatening to kill himself and family members. He had left the scene



and Lancaster police found him walking nearby. He smelled of alcohol and “Eddie was emotional and crying,” according to the report.

Police also noted that Routh — who told police he was a Marine and suffering from PTSD — was not wearing shoes or a shirt.

The Iraq veteran was taken to Green Oaks in Dallas for a mental evaluation.

As her son’s condition worsened, Jodi Leigh Routh, Eddie Routh’s mother, reached out to Kyle and asked him to help.

That’s when Kyle and Littlefield decided to take Routh to the gun range as a form of therapy.

At some point, authorities say Routh shot both Kyle and Littlefield. An employee found Kyle and Littlefield and attempted cardio-pulmonary resuscitation on them, according to a felony warrant. Several weapons, including semiautomatic rifles, semiautomatic handguns and revolvers, were found near the bodies.

After the shooting, Routh drove away from the range in Kyle’s truck and arrived at his sister and brother-in-law’s home in Midlothian and told them that he had killed two people, authorities said.

When questioned about the truck, Routh told his relatives that he had “traded his soul for a new truck,” according to the warrant. Routh told his relatives that he wanted to go to Oklahoma to avoid Texas authorities, the warrant stated.

He then drove to his Lancaster home. There, authorities conversed with him, but he managed to get into a vehicle and led them on a pursuit before his vehicle was disabled and he was arrested.

While Routh’s mental condition will no doubt play a role in the upcoming trial, both Waybourn and Kyle’s widow, Taya, are skeptical about the PTSD claims.

“Other people with PTSD are able to function and get through life,” Waybourn said. “I think an evil character comes out at times and you can always use some type of an excuse for why it came out.”

Taya Kyle, in an interview with KTVT-Channel 11, said that PTSD is not a justification for murder.

People with PTSD “work through their struggles, just like we work through our struggles. They are phenomenal people and it doesn’t change their character,” Taya Kyle said. “You’re not going to blame someone else, in my opinion, when you murder two people in cold blood.”

‘He loved the vets’

Kyle had more than 150 confirmed sniper kills, the most in U.S. military history, during four tours in Iraq. He was awarded two Silver Stars, five Bronze Stars for valor and two Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medals.

After 10 years in the service, Kyle returned to Midlothian, where he lived in the Twin Creek development with his wife and their two children.

He helped create Craft International, a Dallas training and security company, and also authored the best-selling book American Sniper, which documented his career.



His funeral, attended by an estimated 7,000, was Feb. 11 at AT&T Stadium in Arlington and included bagpipers and emotional eulogies. The next day a procession took his body to the Texas State Cemetery in Austin, where he was buried.

Waybourn hopes that, in the end, Kyle is remembered as a hero.

“He loved the vets,” Waybourn said. “He reached out to every veteran and just wanted to help them.”

This report includes information from Star-Telegram archives and the Stephenville Empire-Tribune.

Domingo Ramirez Jr., 817-390-7763 Twitter: @mingoramirezjr

Load-Date: December 27, 2013

End of Document

[Cheers and Jeers](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

November 1, 2013 Friday

Copyright 2013 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Length: 1329 words

Body

Cheers: To the Nolan Catholic Viking Marching Band. The Viking Band won its 10th straight Texas Private School Music Association State Championship on Saturday, Oct. 26, in Frisco. Special thanks to Band Director Brian Standridge and Marching Instructor Chris Culross.

— John Shreve, Benbrook

Cheers: To “Change the World” crew from St. Matthew’s Presbyterian Church in Burleson. Michael and Roxanne Ansy, Brenda Gammon, Christina and husband and many others worked inside and outside our house. They took our dog to the vet, got his shots and a grooming. May God bless all of you.

— Louise and Kirbie Kimbrow, Burleson

Cheers: To the kind person(s) who paid for our order at Chick-fil-A drive thru on Rufe Snow on Oct. 24. You made a 91-year-old WWII veteran feel much appreciated. Will pass it on.

— Joe and Lee Gorbett, Fort Worth



Cheers: To Eddie and the crew at Midas on Alta Mere. I came prepared to sit and wait for a brake job to be done. They offered a ride home and back so I wouldn't have to wait there. Great customer service. Two followup calls as well.

— Gail Sarap, Benbrook

Cheers: To 6 Stones CPR. Those fine people repaired and painted our home. We are old and needed help maintaining our home. Our neighbors put us in touch with 6 Stones CPR. We can never thank them enough. Let the sun shine always on them.

— Pat and Don Miller, Hurst

Cheers: To the lady who stopped and called 911 for me after my accident at home and stayed there until they came. Would like to thank you in person. God bless.

— Al Lewis, Lakeside

Cheers: To the kind and gracious lady who paid for my lunch at Flying Fish. It was so thoughtful of you. Thanks again and again.

— Effie Walton, Fort Worth

Cheers: To Dave Snyder of Discount Tire in Burleson for finding the real cause of an issue with a tire and then honoring the warranty. Thank you Dave for your integrity and christian values!

— Paul Keese, Burleson

Cheers: To the servers at the Ol' South Pancake House and Family Restaurant on South University Drive. They serve you good food in a timely manner and finish it off with a great smile. Thank you ladies!

— Wayne Pricer, Edgecliff Village

Cheers: To the city of Grapevine for organizing last Saturday's Grapeyard event. I'm honored to have been a part of it. Rain shut us down but it did not diminish the admiration I have for the tireless efforts of so many.

— Ron Bates, Frisco

Jeers: To a Fort Worth carpet cleaning company. I had carpets cleaned improperly with wall damage. Owner stated it was humanly impossible to do this damage. When requested that this needed to be addressed or I'm going to media, his reply was, "No. Do what you want. Have fun," and hung up.

— Leslie Weimer, Haslet

Jeers: To Wendy Davis for her publicity stunt over Voter ID. She knew when she went to early voting that her ID did not match the voting rolls. How long had she been divorced? How many times had she voted since her divorce?

— Del Gabaldon, Grapevine

Cheers: To Dr. Joe Viernow and fantastic staff at Arkansas Pioneer Chiropractic Centre for eliminating my neck pain in 12 treatments. I can maintain my status by daily exercises at home. Thanks Dr. Viernow and staff for the tremendous increase in my quality of life.

— Vernon Neuschafer, Arlington



Cheers: To Fort Worth's many philanthropists, who add much to our quality of life.

— Cherry Neill, Fort Worth

Jeers: To people who haven't bothered to get the facts. The "Republican Members of Congress" (House) did pass a bill to fund the government. It was the Democratic Senate who refused to pass it because it defunded Obamacare. They wanted their way at the expense of the people.

— Kathy Pehnke, Burleson

Cheers: To the Cowboy Angel who changed my flat tire during rush hour on the Lake Worth Bridge. I so appreciate you stopping to help! Your kindness will be paid forward! God bless you!

— Rhonda Cravins, Fort Worth

Cheers: To the lady in the black car ahead of me at the Pantego Starbucks. Thank you for buying my gift card as a treat. A little girl who gave a very special gift to my charity will be the recipient. Rest assured that I will pay your gift forward!

— Judith Wells, Arlington

Cheers: To Dr. Laura Lawrence and the staff at CARE for always being so sweet and encouraging. Thank you for making things easier and more bearable.

— Jenny Gibson, Fort Worth

Cheers: To the kind gentleman, whom not only paid for the breakfast I shared with my mother at Joe's but also picked up the bill from two other tables of ladies sharing a meal. We were all touched by your generosity!

— Debi Wootton, Mansfield

Cheers: To Doug Riley, Keli, Jacob, Becky and the rest of the staff at Animal Hospital in Arlington. They are so passionate about the animals they care for. Thank you for the care you gave Gracie and for the care of all my animals for the past 36 years.

— Dorothy Brooks, Arlington

Cheers: To Babe's Chicken Dinner House for its billboard on Loop 820. The message reads, "Behold the King of Kings." I say, "thank you" for not being afraid to express your religious belief in this age of political correctness.

— Karen White-Dacy,

Fort Worth

Cheers: To the many individuals who contributed to Shriners Hospitals on the street corners in Weatherford, Willow Park and Cleburne this past weekend. Your generous support helps assure children can continue to have access to the 22 Shriners hospitals without cost or preference.

— Ken Sapp, North Richland Hills



Jeers: To the two Fort Worth motorcycle police officers who blocked the bike trail entering Gateway Park at 4:30 on Oct. 29, I guess, because they could. Gentlemen, that was unnecessary. Show a little class next time.

— Ken Wheatcroft-Pardue, Fort Worth

Cheers: To TxDOT, the Tollway Authority, and the city that, on the day former Carter and Fort Worth ISD coach Shug McPherson's obituary was in the paper, we found out that the toll road will be named McPherson Boulevard in his honor. Thank you!

— John David McPherson, Abilene

Cheers: To Dalworthington Gardens police for their 21st Annual "Day With The Law" event Saturday. This free event brings the community together and is a blessing for families to spend a day with those that protect and serve them. Special thanks to Officers Greg Petty, Brent Wright and Chief **Bill Waybourn**.

— Maria Barreda-Alvarado, Grapevine

Cheers: To Judy, C.J., Cheryl, Lynn, Diane, Alice, Martha and Jean for all of their work that made the AHHS 50-year class reunion so much fun. Congrats from Suzanne, Johnny, Carol, Max & Jeannie.

— Suzanne Morford, Fort Worth

Cheers: To the very conscientious and courteous newspaper delivery person who is throwing my papers onto the grass, rather than into the soggy, boggy quicksand of my under-reconstruction driveway. This was especially appreciated Sunday morning after Saturday night's storm!

— Nancy S. Smith, Fort Worth

Cheers: To the Wise County Special Needs Baseball Board. This group of dedicated women has turned a dysfunctional organization into a well-run nonprofit that helps 90+ special needs individuals enjoy baseball and other social events. Goal is to build a multisport complex to enhance their lives. God Bless Them!

— Jim Duffy, Aurora

Jeers: To an electricity provider for discriminating against apartment dwellers. My plan recently changed. Your plans are shorter in length than for homes, giving you an unfair advantage that most apartments are poorly insulated, thus allowing you to raise our rates more often. I'll be switching providers!

— Rick Steinocher, Euless

Cheers: To the wonderful veterinarian, Daryl Williams, and staff at Hurst Animal Clinic for kindness and compassion to my mother whose 18-year-old Pomeranian had arrived at the end of her life. Mother was having a very difficult time letting Little Bit go. Dr. Williams was so understanding and gentle.

— Rosie Strother, Richland Hills

Cheers: To the man that paid my cash out bill at Wal-Mart. I was astonished! He saw my cap that indicated "Berlin Airlift Veteran." I want to express my thanks again. God bless him!

— George J. Anthony, Fort Worth



Load-Date: November 2, 2013

End of Document

Cheers and Jeers

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

April 27, 2013 Saturday

Copyright 2013 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: B

Length: 1322 words

Body

Cheers: To the Briaroaks Volunteer Fire Department heroes who held their annual fish fry fundraiser this month. The difference this year was that the proceeds were committed to the West Volunteer Fire Department. This event will provide more than \$8,000 to begin to restock assets to protect the residents of West.

-- Harvie R. Jamison, Bedford

Cheers: To the city of Los Angeles for displaying the Texas flag at half-staff surrounded by U.S. flags in honor of the West fertilizer explosion tragedy. Very classy.

-- Joe Blackwell, Bedford

Cheers: To Jim Nance of CBS Sports for sending condolences to the people of West, while other national news media people didn't even mention it on their Sunday programs.

-- Barbara Crudgington,

Fort Worth

Jeers: To U.S. Sen. John Cornyn for caving to the gun industry, filibustering a responsible bipartisan bill to close the background check loophole, figuratively kicking families of the Sandy Hook victims in the face, then going on C-SPAN2 to cover his actions with horsefeathers.

-- Robert J. Vann II,

Fort Worth



Cheers: To men and women driving down Walnut Creek Drive around 12:15 p.m. April 16 who saw the honor guard leading our procession and stopped your cars out of respect. Our family was deeply touched to see so many strangers showing respect as we took our hero to his final resting place. Thanks and God bless!

-- Jenna Leigh Ogletree,

Godley

Cheers: To Toni Russell, American Airlines liaison, for making it a priority to get all 25 World War II veterans and their guardians home from their Honor Flight Fort Worth trip to Washington, D.C., on April 16, after our flight was canceled. You are the best!

-- Loyce Engler-Houston,

Fort Worth

Cheers: To Dr. Scott Bloemendel and the entire surgical team at Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital. Your caring attitude and professional competence were outstanding even at 5 a.m. Superior patient care is obvious. Thank you for a job well done.

-- Harold J. Ard, Fort Worth

Jeers: To those trying to bring term limits to our community. We have the benchmark city, with some of the best retailers and resorts in all of Dallas-Fort Worth. They are here due to solid and consistent leadership. Don't try to change our community just because you cannot get yourself elected.

-- Matt Carnes, Grapevine

Jeers: To the unpatriotic person who keyed our car four different times above the USMC Purple Heart license plate while we were parked in a fitness center parking lot in Southlake. Obviously, the person didn't understand or care that personal sacrifice gave him the freedom to create such a disrespectful act of vandalism.

-- Annabelle Krueger, Southlake

Jeers: To those who go to restaurants and sit for hours visiting or conduct unreserved business meetings and leave an insufficient gratuity. Your wait person's salary is approximately \$2.13 an hour. Taxes on your ticket are paid out of their wages and gratuity received. The longer you sit, the more money they lose.

-- Sharon Roberts, Watauga

Cheers: To The Home Depot on U.S. 377. A big thanks to Joseph Penczynzyn (doors), Heidi (customer service) and Todd (assistant manager). They care about their customers, and it shows.

-- Lisa Dimmitt, Fort Worth

Jeers: To the organizers of the recent race that ran through the Park Hill neighborhood. You routed your runners through our yard where there is a sprinkler system. Shame on you! Please don't do it again.

-- Beverly Daniels, Fort Worth



Cheers: To Equine Sports Medicine and Surgery (ESMS) in Weatherford for saving my horse, Fancy. The staff's expertise and compassion were demonstrated minute by minute as Fancy had colic surgery and complications. He was in ICU 14 days, and the staff never left his side. He's back home and doing great.

-- Barbara Harty,

Weatherford

Jeers: To the Fort Worth Zoo. I spent over 30 minutes waiting to get to the entrance to find the parking lot closed on April 19 at 10:15 a.m. Cheers to the Dallas Zoo -- got a front-row parking spot on the same day with no waiting in traffic.

-- Lance Morris, Bedford

Cheers: To the anonymous couple who paid for our "Girl's Day" lunch April 18 at Mercado Juarez. This group always has a great time, and you made it even more special with your kindness. We will definitely pay it forward.

-- Suzanne Burden, Crowley

Jeers: To whichever agency controls the traffic lights in Saginaw. Every time a train comes through (and we get a lot of trains), several of the lights begin blinking red for no known reason. As soon as the train clears the intersection, the light resumes normal operation. Why?

-- Jay Barton, Saginaw

Cheers: To the great service at Applebee's in North Richland Hills. Ray, the manager, gave senior discount cards to our Sunday school group. Also, Applebee's had a Braille menu for our blind member. Our server, Christopher, took great care of our many special requests.

-- Terri Estes,

North Richland Hills

Cheers: To Dalworthington Gardens Police Chief **Bill Waybourn** for carrying on Chris Kyle's dream of a concealed handgun license class for teachers. Teachers were told they were valued and appreciated, and that rarely happens! We appreciate the volunteers, their instruction and patience.

-- Sherry Feltner, Arlington

Cheers: To a wonderful couple who, when I ran out of gas on Knowles Drive in Saginaw on such a warm day, went to get gas, put it in my car and refused any payment; just said it was their blessing to me. God Bless you, Mr. and Mrs. Thornell Godfrey.

-- Josephine Costen, Fort Worth

Cheers: To Stolen Shakespeare Guild's brilliant production of Picnic, William Inge's Pulitzer Prize-winning play. Well-directed with a great ensemble cast and wonderful set and sounds. Intense with comic relief, an entertaining production. A giant step for this little theater group. It's a must-see.

-- Phil Brown, Arlington

Jeers: To the ever-increasing number of people who incorrectly use "myself" instead of "I" or "me." Myself, yourself, himself, herself and themselves are reflective pronouns that "reflect" back to a pronoun (e.g., "I



never did that myself"). They are not stand-alone pronouns. If "I" or "me" works in the sentence, "myself" is wrong.

-- Robert Allen,

North Richland Hills

Jeers: To the city of Fort Worth for the parking nightmare between Will Rogers Coliseum and the Fort Worth Community Arts Center. Inconsistent rates; terrible bottlenecks. It took me 38 minutes to exit. The long lines even cost me more money as I waited to exit!

-- Dana Schultes, Fort Worth

Jeers: To those who felt they needed to protest at the dedication of former President Bush's library. Why were you not working? How about using your time to help people in need, like the residents of West? Each of you should be ashamed to call yourself Americans.

-- Peggy Wetle, Granbury

Cheers: To Fort Worth firefighters, MedStar paramedics and the ER staff of Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital who cared for me after my freak accident. They were awesome, caring individuals who kept me positive and laughing. Also to my daughter, Jillian, and husband, Lee, who started first aid and called 911.

-- Jane Hall, Fort Worth

Cheers: To the sweet lady at the Shell gas station on Broadway Street in Joshua on Sunday. You came to the rescue when my girlfriend's son had a major nosebleed. My girlfriend and I really want you to know we appreciate your kindness. Kindness matters.

-- Shannon West, Burleson

Cheers: To Fort Worth for doing everything to keep people safe during the Main Street Arts Festival. After the Boston bombings, it was a comfort to see police at the festival. Thank you, Fort Worth, for keeping the city's best weekend safe.

-- Stephanie Bothe, Fort Worth

Jeers: To the Boston baseball player who spoke at the game after the bombing. Boston deserves better. We've forgotten our language manners over the years. Movies, television and spoken words have become so R-rated that our children do not know how to speak without using inappropriate words.

-- Mackilee Martin, Fort Worth

Load-Date: April 27, 2013

End of Document

[Cheers and Jeers](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

April 13, 2013 Saturday





Section: B

Length: 1342 words

Body

Cheers: To Dalworthington Gardens Police Chief **Bill Waybourn** and the other dedicated volunteers for a well-planned and executed concealed handgun license class for hundreds of school employees. From the registrations to the classroom to the gun range, everyone was extraordinarily professional and helpful in guiding us through the process. Thank you.

-- Martha Ryan, Benbrook

Cheers: To the 700 who attended the free concealed-handgun class for teachers. Now, school trustees, permit them to take them into the workplace. That is where they are needed. Even police are saying, "Don't wait for us. Protect yourself and property."

-- Jack O. Lewis, Haltom City

Cheers: To all crossing guards who help our children get to and from school safely. I was watching ours at St. Andrew Catholic School one morning and felt called to thank each and every one of you.

-- Marc A. Meadows, Fort Worth

Cheers: To the Texas Rangers for honoring a Newtown family with throwing out the first pitch. Jeers to NASCAR and TMS for having the NRA sponsor the upcoming NRA 500. What a contrast in sensitivity.

-- David Broiles, Fort Worth

Jeers: To the HB335 plot of County Judge Glen Whitley and state Rep. Jonathan Stickland to save crumbs by hiding public information in the dark recesses of the Internet in lieu of publishing it in the broad daylight of newspapers, still sending barrels of cash over the Trinity River boondoggle falls.

-- Don Woodard, Fort Worth

Cheers: To Tony, manager of Babe's Chicken Dinner House in Arlington. Our large to-go order was missing one item. After phoning, family members offered to pick it up. Tony called back, insisting on giving us a new full order (to be fresh and hot) and a full refund. Great customer service and great food!

-- Beverly Windsor, Arlington

Cheers: To Dennis, who helped me at Costco on Overton Ridge Boulevard in Fort Worth on April 2. He held his umbrella over me and helped unload my large cart. He said that I would have done the same for him (of course, I wasn't smart enough to remember my umbrella). Your kindness was much appreciated.



-- Nancy Hightower,

Fort Worth

Cheers: To Valerie at JaVintee Massage on Rufe Snow Drive for her kindness, generosity and the best massage I've ever had.

-- Linda Smith, Watauga

Jeers: To the parents of the little girl with the pink helmet, riding the white bicycle with training wheels, for letting her cross the intersection of Basswood Boulevard and Buttonwood Drive on April 1 with no adult supervision during rush hour. The boys with her were not paying attention.

-- Ronny Roberts, Fort Worth

Cheers: To wound-care nurse extraordinaire Candice Lewis, who tended to my most unusual back wound over the last several months. Your pleasant demeanor and expertise were indeed appreciated and greatly assisted in my recovery from multiple back surgeries.

-- Sharon D. Bench,

Mansfield

Cheers: To the professional staffs at Hurst Plaza Nursing Center, North Hills Hospital, Universal Health Services Hospice and Shannon Rose Hill Funeral Chapel and Cemetery -- all of whom were skilled, compassionate and caring for the family of Tom Wilkinson in the final days of our husband and father.

-- Sharon Wilkinson, Hurst

Cheers: To the Burleson Fire Department, Police Department, MedStar and JPS Health Network trauma center for the care given me after my auto accident Sunday. Also, cheers to the wonderful two people who got me out of my truck and operated my phone so I could call family members.

-- Marilynn Stubits, Burleson

Cheers: To the Fort Worth Transportation & Public Works Department for making numerous much-needed repairs to Eighth Avenue between Pennsylvania Avenue and Cleburne Road. Much smoother now.

-- Roger Tuttle, Fort Worth

Jeers: To the Easter visitors to River Legacy Parks for the incredible mess you made. I've never seen a park so filthy. Cheers to the Arlington Parks and Recreation workers there Monday cleaning up. Citizens should show more appreciation for their parks and people who take care of them.

-- Cindy Ratliff, Fort Worth

Jeers: To New York Mayor Bloomberg, U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein and other such politicians with their anti-gun agenda. Have they forgotten WWII and how long it took people to find a use for guns? Of course, by then, it was too little, too late.

-- John Henderson, Haltom City



Cheers: To Troy and Dustin with Curly's Big Blade Plumbing. They used their expertise to find a leak and remedy it while dealing with 60-year-old plumbing, and entirely too much lint and dust in the washer/dryer closet. Their professionalism, sense of humor and tenacity were truly appreciated.

-- Susan Eurto, Fort Worth

Cheers: To the wonderful staff at Creekside Animal Hospital for their professionalism, care and concern when I had to make the heart-wrenching decision to let my beloved 16-year-old kitty go. They helped make a difficult situation much easier to bear. I also appreciated their following up with a beautiful card.

-- Cindy Elmore, Fort Worth

Cheers: To Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital Southwest fifth floor nurses and staff, especially LaNita, Angie, Kati, Rose, Stacey, Amy, Marissa, Murphy, Nico. A special thanks to Kathy, head nurse. Thanks to all for the excellent care you gave me. You are true professionals who made a difficult situation more tolerable.

-- Ellis Dawson, Fort Worth

Jeers: To the Rangers. Second game of the season and the radio broadcast for that game was moved to another station because of a conflict with the Mavericks. Ranger fans deserve a station that will broadcast all games. Shame on the front office. Didn't you do your homework?

-- Ivin Adkins,

Flower Mound

Cheers: To Mike Carrera, manager of Albertsons in Woodhaven, for supplying refreshments for the 49 workers who participated in the Cowtown Clean-up. Cheers to Carl Langley, who picked up 167 bags of litter collected by McKinney Bible Church, Teen-Court and Woodhaven community members. Jeers to litterbugs.

-- Kathleen Bradbury,

Fort Worth

Cheers: To the entire staff of University Animal Hospital for the attention and affection they gave my dog, Happy, during his life and especially his last days. It's a truly caring place.

-- Andrew Fort,

Fort Worth

Cheers: And a big thank you to the anonymous person who bought our dinner at Prima's Pasta and Pizza on March 22. What a surprise! We will certainly pay it forward.

-- Melissa and Kirk Randolph

(and Nikki, Tony and Jackson),

North Richland Hills

Cheers: To Jeff England Motor Company of Cleburne. I recently purchased a pickup truck from Jeff, and I am very pleased with the service as well as their product. I got a fair deal from a man with integrity.



-- Lee Hertel, Keller

Jeers: To the "fans" at the Rangers shouting such ugly and hurtful words to Josh Hamilton's wife and four daughters. You prove that you are clueless and totally classless. You should be ashamed.

-- Steve Hullum,

Fort Worth

Cheers: To Valerie from Fort Worth. She represented our city beautifully while participating as a call-in guest on NPR's weekly game show, Wait, Wait, Don't Tell Me . Well done!

-- Kern and Britta Coleman,

Fort Worth

Cheers: To Bill Fisher, USMC League (Disabled American Veterans) for playing taps at the close of the Colonial Country Club Friends' April 2 meeting. Since 1862, a lot of Americans will never again hear this song. Bill, thanks for a beautiful job well done.

-- A.L. McCluney, Hurst

Jeers: To the city of Watauga for its emergency alert phone system. It calls on a regular basis about "events" happening instead of emergency situations. I requested to be removed and got a phone call at 7:20 a.m. to say that they were removing me. What a waste of money!

-- Kim Killion, Watauga

Cheers: To the gentleman who picked up our check. Told him it was our first visit at the establishment. When we were ready to leave and pay our check, our server told us that the man had taken care of the bill. Also, he tipped our server. Bless him.

-- George Bogordos,

Keller

Cheers: To the NCAA for requiring everyone to have a ticket for its tournament. Babies don't belong at a sporting tournament!

-- Jody Johnson, Fort Worth

Load-Date: April 13, 2013

End of Document

[***Dalworthington Gardens voters will choose whether to continue crime district tax***](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

April 12, 2013 Friday





Length: 224 words

Byline: Elizabeth Campbell

liz@star-telegram.com

Body

Voters in Dalworthington Gardens are being asked to decide if they want to renew the city's crime control and prevention district tax.

The proposition on the May 11 ballot calls for renewing the half-cent sales tax to fund the crime district for the next five years. The crime district was formed about 17 years ago.

Police Chief **Bill Waybourn** said the tax brings in about \$120,000 a year to help pay the salaries for two police officers and to buy equipment.

"I hope our citizens will pass this so that we can push forward and continue with the success we've had," Waybourn said.

Dalworthington Gardens has 13 full-time officers, and the crime district has helped keep more officers patrolling the streets and strengthen community policing, Waybourn said.

Waybourn said people who shop or do business in Dalworthington Gardens help support the police department when they pay the half-cent sales tax.

"We don't want to shift the burden to those who pay property taxes," he said.

Fort Worth and many of the Northeast Tarrant County cities have similar crime control districts.

Fort Worth's is the largest. It was created in 1995, and voters renewed it in 2000, 2005 and 2009. Fifty cents of every \$8.25 collected in sales tax goes to the crime prevention district. The tax raises \$50 million annually.

Elizabeth Campbell, 817-390-7696 Twitter: @fwstliz

Load-Date: April 12, 2013

End of Document

[**700 pack free concealed-handgun class for teachers in Tarrant County**](#)





Section: A

Length: 940 words

Byline: Sarah Bahari

sbahari@star-telegram.com

Body

KENNEDALE -- After a spring break cruise, Leah Smith and her family returned home to find their garage door dented and backyard fence smashed.

Police confirmed that their Grand Prairie home had been the target of an unsuccessful break-in.

"That was a wake-up call," said Smith, a gun owner for the past decade. "We got lucky this time, but we knew we needed to better arm ourselves."

So when the first-grade teacher heard that a free concealed-handgun-license class -- largely prompted by the school shooting in Newtown, Conn. -- was being offered to Texas educators, she immediately signed up.

Billed as the "largest CHL class ever held," the all-day session drew roughly 700 teachers and administrators Saturday to the Performing Arts Center at Kennedale High School.

Participants delved into gun safety, state and federal laws, and dispute resolution, among other topics. Firing at a gun range comes later.

The class was the brainchild of Chris Kyle, a former Navy SEAL sniper killed in February, and Dalworthington Gardens Police Chief **Bill Waybourn**.

Kyle and his friend Chad Littlefield were shot to death Feb. 2 at a Glen Rose gun range.

Iraq war veteran Eddie Ray Routh, who relatives say suffers from post-traumatic stress syndrome, has been charged in the killings and is being held in the Erath County Jail.

Waybourn, a concealed-handgun instructor since 1996, disclosed that he considered canceling the class after Kyle's death but said he knew his friend would have wanted it to go forward.



"Chris often said, 'It's our duty to serve those who serve us,'" the police chief said. "And we knew we should start with those who serve our children."

The Dec. 14 shootings of 20 first-graders and six adults at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown were largely the inspiration for offering the free course to educators, he said. Waybourn heard from numerous teachers concerned about protection, he said.

A hot topic

Since the Connecticut shootings, arming teachers has become a much-debated topic in Texas and elsewhere.

Texas law allows school districts to decide whether to let licensed employees carry guns on campus. Only a few districts permit it, although others have weighed changing their policies or have increased security measures.

Waybourn made clear that the class was not pushing for arming teachers in schools. And the Kennedale school district, which hosted the instruction, is not considering allowing faculty members to have weapons on campus.

In late March, Cleburne school officials said they would not pursue a proposal to allow teachers, administrators and other staffers to carry guns in school after a communitywide survey showed that many residents and students opposed the idea.

Superintendent Tim Miller said that an English teacher at Cleburne High School surveyed her 10th-graders and that the overwhelming majority didn't want teachers to have firearms in class.

Some suggested alternatives like having teachers carry Tasers or Mace and installing metal detectors.

Last week, a plan to train armed teachers to engage in gunfights with intruders in classrooms, at campus sporting events or at board meetings won approval from the Texas Senate Education Committee and now heads to the full chamber, The Associated Press reported.

The bill, sponsored by Sen. Dan Patrick, R-Houston, calls for 16 hours of training to show teachers how to protect children first, then return fire.

But at the Kennedale class, Waybourn cautioned educators that firearms should be used only as a last resort in dispute resolution.

"Your gun is rarely the answer," said the police chief, who responded to tweeted questions from the audience.

"It's mostly what goes on between your ears."

No guns were handled Saturday, and participants were specifically told not to bring their own.

But the required live-ammunition firing practice will be held over the next several days at a private range in Kennedale. After completing both classroom and hands-on training, participants will be eligible to receive concealed-handgun licenses. After Saturday's free session, the cost for the rest of the special program is \$10 and a box of ammunition for practice shots.

Teachers speak out



Many teachers said they plan to carry concealed handguns, while others said they only wanted to learn more about firearms.

Smith, the Grand Prairie first-grade teacher, said she would support arming teachers who received proper training.

"More protection can't hurt," she said. "Maybe it would save lives."

Marilyn Mykel, a special-education teacher in Argyle, said she and her husband bought a handgun several years ago after an attempted backyard kidnapping of her son, now 10.

They had long considered obtaining concealed-carry licenses but never got around to it.

Then came Sandy Hook.

"We said, 'This is it,'" Mykel said. "We need to protect ourselves."

Although her school does not allow guns, she hopes that will change.

But Lolita Looney, principal of Bruce Wood Elementary in Terrell, said she viewed the class as an opportunity for educators to protect themselves outside school.

"As educators, we come into contact with people from all different walks of life," Looney said. "We never know who we'll run into at the grocery store or just out and about. We should be prepared."

Chris Kyle's widow, Taya Kyle, and his brother, Jeff Kyle, spoke briefly to participants.

Jeff Kyle urged them to keep training and learning.

"Carrying a firearm doesn't protect you. It may make you feel a little better, but you protect yourself," Kyle said. "A weapon doesn't make you Superman."

This report includes material from the Star-Telegram archives.

Sarah Bahari, 817-390-7056

Twitter: @sarahbfw

Load-Date: April 7, 2013

End of Document

[700 pack free concealed handgun class for teachers in Tarrant County](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

April 7, 2013 Sunday

Copyright 2013 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Length: 972 words

Byline: Sarah Bahari

sbahari@star-telegram.com

Body

KENNEDALE -- After a spring break cruise, Leah Smith and her family returned home to find their garage door dented and backyard fence smashed.

Police confirmed that their Grand Prairie home had been the target of an unsuccessful break-in.

"That was a wake-up call," said Smith, a gun owner for the past decade. "We got lucky this time, but we knew we needed to better arm ourselves."

So when the first-grade teacher heard that a free concealed handgun license class -- largely prompted by the school shootings in Newtown, Conn. -- was being offered to Texas educators, she immediately signed up.

Billed as the "largest CHL class ever held," the all-day session drew roughly 700 teachers and administrators Saturday to the Performing Arts Center at Kennedale High School. Participants delved into gun safety, state and federal laws and dispute resolution, among other topics. Firing at a gun range comes later.

The class was the brainchild of Chris Kyle, a former Navy SEAL sniper killed last month, and Dalworthington Gardens Police Chief **Bill Waybourn**.

The two had been planning the event before the Feb. 2 fatal shooting of Kyle and his friend Chad Littlefield at a Glen Rose gun range allegedly by Iraq war veteran Eddie Ray Routh, who his family said suffers from post-traumatic stress syndrome. Routh has been charged in the killings and is being held at the Erath County jail.

Waybourn, a concealed handgun instructor since 1996, disclosed that he considered canceling the class after Kyle's death, but said he knew his friend would have wanted it to go forward.

"Chris often said, 'It's our duty to serve those who serve us,' " the police chief said. "And we knew we should start with those who serve our children."

The Dec. 14 shootings of 20 first graders and six adults at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown were largely the inspiration for offering the free course to educators, he said. Afterward, he had heard from numerous teachers concerned about protection, Waybourn said.

Since the Connecticut shooting, arming schoolteachers has become a much-debated topic in Texas and elsewhere.

Texas law allows individual school districts to decide whether to let licensed employees carry guns on campus. Only a few districts now permit it, although others have weighed changing their policies or have increased security measures.

Waybourn made clear the class was not pushing for arming teachers in schools. And Kennedale school district, which hosted the instruction, is not considering allowing faculty to have weapons on campus.

In late March, Cleburne school officials said they will not pursue a proposal to allow teachers, administrators and other staff members to carry guns in school after a community-wide survey showed that many residents and students opposed the idea.

Superintendent Tim Miller said that an English teacher at Cleburne High School surveyed her 10th-grade students, and the overwhelming majority said they didn't want teachers to have firearms in the classroom. Some suggested alternatives like having teachers carry Tasers or Mace and installing metal detectors.

Last week, a plan to train armed teachers to engage in gunfights with intruders in classrooms, at campus sporting events or board meetings won approval from the Texas Senate Education Committee and now heads to the full chamber, The Associated Press reported from Austin.

The bill, sponsored by state Sen. Dan Patrick, R-Houston, calls for 16 hours of training to instruct teachers how to first conceal children during an attack, and then return fire.

But at the Kennedale class, Waybourn cautioned educators that firearms should be used only as a last resort in dispute resolution.

"Your gun is rarely the answer," said the police chief, who responded to Tweeted questions from the audience. "It's mostly what goes on between your ears."

No guns were handled Saturday, and participants were specifically told not to bring their own firearms. But the required live-ammunition firing practice will be held over the next several days at a private range in Kennedale. After completing both classroom and hands-on training, participants will be eligible to receive concealed handgun licenses. After Saturday's free session, the cost for the rest of the special program is \$10 and a box of ammunition for practice shots, instead of the usual \$140 fee.

Many teachers said they plan to carry concealed handguns while others said they only wanted to learn more about firearms.

Smith, the Grand Prairie first-grade teacher, said she would support arming teachers who received proper training at school.

"More protection can't hurt," she said. "Maybe it would save lives."

Marilyn Mykel, a special education teacher in Argyle, said she and her husband purchased a handgun several years ago after an attempted backyard kidnapping of her son, now 10. They had long considered obtaining concealed carry licenses but never got around to it.

Then came Sandy Hook.

"We said 'This is it,' " Mykel said. "We need to protect ourselves."

Although her school does not allow guns, she hopes that will change.



But Lolita Looney, principal of Bruce Wood Elementary in Terrell, said she viewed the class as an opportunity for educators to protect themselves outside of school.

"As educators, we come into contact with people from all different walks of life," Looney said. "We never know who we'll run into at the grocery store or just out and about. We should be prepared."

Chris Kyle's widow, Taya Kyle, and his brother, Jeff Kyle, spoke briefly to participants. Jeff Kyle urged participants to continue training and learning.

"Carrying a firearm doesn't protect you. It may make you feel a little better, but you protect yourself," Kyle said. "A weapon doesn't make you Superman."

This report includes material from the Star-Telegram archives.

Sarah Bahari, 817-390-7056

Twitter: @sarahbfw

Load-Date: April 7, 2013

End of Document

[700-Plus Texas Educators Take Free Concealed Handgun Classes](#)

Wake Up America

April 7, 2013 Sunday 7:57 PM EST

Copyright 2013 Newstex LLC All Rights Reserved

Length: 533 words

Body

Apr 07, 2013 (Wake Up America: <http://www.wakeupamericans-spree.blogspot.com/> Delivered by Newstex)

By Susan Duclos

<http://feedads.feedblitz.com/l/300x250/6600/2797917/e62c2c532ba7f424445025bc9997d142bb6992569586363d1aa635b932f41cb9/news crawler/51043http://feedads.feedblitz.com/l/116x15/6600/2797917/e62c2c532ba7f424445025bc9997d142bb6992569586363d1aa635b932f41cb9/news crawler/44782http://feedads.feedblitz.com/l/69x15/6600/2797917/e62c2c532ba7f424445025bc9997d142bb6992569586363d1aa635b932f41cb9/news crawler/44783>

<http://feeds.feedblitz.com/~t/0/0/wakeupamerica/~3.bp.blogspot.com/-2iXDTRzwP6k/UWHlcicFell/AAAAAANCUCU/wfriXeLKSic/s1600/RIP-CHris-Kyle-99874497337.jpg>

Over 700 Texas educators showed up to a concealed handgun training class envisioned by former Navy SEAL Chris Kyle before his death.



Via Fox News[1]:

More than 700 teachers and administrators attended the all-day session on gun laws and safety at Kennedale High School in Dallas-Fort Worth area, The Dallas Morning News reported.

The free class was organized by Dalworthington Gardens Police Chief Bill and Kyle, who was fatally shot at a North Texas shooting range in February.

"It went from 20 to 30 teachers to the more than 700 we have here today. It just exploded with Chris' involvement," Dalworthington Gardens Police Chief **Bill Waybourn** told the paper.

Teachers from across the state and at least one representative from each school district in North Texas attended the class, which was organized in response to the school shooting in Newtown, Conn., according to the report.

Participants who complete the required live-ammunition firing training will be eligible for concealed-handgun licenses, the Fort Worth Star Telegram reported.

Last week, the Texas Senate Education Committee approved a plan to train armed teachers for gunfights in classrooms or at campus sporting events or board meetings.

Unlike states that would rather increase gun laws and make it harder for school personnel to protect their students, Texas refuses to put that giant bulls eye target on on their students back with "gun free zones" as Sandy Hook Elementary school was.

According to CBS New York sources[2], Sandy Hook was chosen because it was an "easy target."

<http://feeds.feedblitz.com/~t/0/0/wakeupamerica/~www.foxnews.com/us/2013/04/07/hundreds-texas-educators-take-free-handgun-class/>
<http://feeds.feedblitz.com/~t/0/0/wakeupamerica/~newyork.cbslocal.com/2013/02/18/report-sandy-hook-elementary-school-gunman-adam-lanza-was-obsessed-with-norwegian/>

[1]: <http://feeds.feedblitz.com/~t/0/0/wakeupamerica/~www.foxnews.com/us/2013/04/07/hundreds-texas-educators-take-free-handgun-class/>

[2]: <http://feeds.feedblitz.com/~t/0/0/wakeupamerica/~newyork.cbslocal.com/2013/02/18/report-sandy-hook-elementary-school-gunman-adam-lanza-was-obsessed-with-norwegian/>

Load-Date: April 7, 2013

End of Document



[Lessons in gun safety](#)

THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

April 7, 2013 Sunday, 1 EDITION

Copyright 2013 THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

DallasNews.com

Section: METRO; Pg. B01

Length: 543 words

Byline: GLORIA HERNANDEZ, STAFF WRITER GHERNANDEZ@DALLASNEWS.COM

Body

The Sandy Hook Elementary tragedy taught educators a harsh lesson about the vulnerability of their schools.

On Saturday in Kennedale, area faculty and other staff members learned how they might play a direct role in making their campuses more secure.

During the free daylong concealed-handgun licensing class, about 750 people studied Texas gun laws, rights and safety.

For Michael Nunley, Arlington ISD security supervisor, the event provided good information.

"This has to do with my job and how crazy it's getting in the world," he said. "Nowadays I don't think people feel safe. Everybody is becoming more aware of safety, not only in schools, but in their homes and on the streets."

The idea for the class began with Dalworthington Gardens Police Chief **Bill Waybourn** in November.

He had hoped to start a business to teach a licensing class for concealed weapons with famed Navy SEAL sniper Chris Kyle. But Kyle was killed in February at an Erath County gun range; a troubled fellow veteran has been charged in his death.

Waybourn said Kyle helped create the free class for educators after 20 children and six teachers were fatally shot in December at Sandy Hook Elementary in Newtown, Conn.

"It went from 20 to 30 teachers to the more than 700 we have here today," Waybourn said. "It just exploded with Chris' involvement."

Teachers from as far as Austin and at least one representative from each North Texas school district attended, Tarrant County Constable Clint Burgess said.

"The intention of this class is not to set policy but educate," Burgess said.



Although Kennedale ISD provided the auditorium for the class, public relations coordinator Erin Hyden said the district isn't considering allowing its staff members to carry guns on campuses.

"I think the hope for everybody today is to walk away with a better understanding of a topic that's often misrepresented and a better understanding of safety and laws," she said.

Although some of the teachers plan to seek concealed-handgun permits, others came to pay tribute to Kyle.

"It's a feeling of completing the vision Chris and I had, and though he's missing, his essence is here," Waybourn said.

Before lunch, volunteers sold out of T-shirts with Kyle's photo and philosophy printed across the front: "It is our duty to serve those who serve us."

Proceeds from the shirts and Kyle's autobiography *American Sniper* were earmarked for the Chris Kyle Memorial Fund, which supports the families of Kyle and Chad Littlefield, who was also killed at the gun range in February.

{}Kyle's younger brother Jeff Kyle and his widow, Taya Kyle, spoke to the educators Saturday.

"I'm not saying I think teachers should carry guns, but it's important they are educated," Jeff Kyle said. "Chris was about knowledge of firearms and helping provide a sense of security for people."

Frank "Pancho" Achilles, an auditorium manager at Irving ISD, said he plans to get a concealed-handgun license but wouldn't feel comfortable carrying a weapon on campus.

This month, Irving ISD tabled a proposal to allow teachers to keep guns in their cars.

"This is continuing education for adults," Achilles said. "I want to be educated in case the situation ever happened where I needed to handle a gun. If I had to, I would know what to do."

Graphic

PHOTO(S): (1-3. Photos by Sonya Hebert-Schwartz/Staff Photographer) 1. Teachers and other school workers stood in line to sign up for gun range times, which were part of the free concealedhandgun licensing class held Saturday at Kennedale High School. 2. Teachers Mike Causey (center) and Lisa Deguchi were among the 750 educators who took the class. 3. A handout provided information about gun safety and Texas gun laws and rights.

Load-Date: April 7, 2013

End of Document

[**Gun course free for teachers**](#)

THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

April 6, 2013 Saturday, 1 EDITION



DallasNews.com

Section: METRO; Pg. B05

Length: 748 words

Byline: ALEXANDRIA BACA, STAFF WRITER ABACA@DALLASNEWS.COM

Body

A North Texas police chief is hoping to educate teachers and school officials about gun safety by offering a free concealed handgun licensing class this weekend.

The class was initially the idea of Dalworthington Gardens Police Chief **Bill Waybourn** and retired Navy SEAL sniper and author Chris Kyle, who hoped to start a business together teaching a licensing class for concealed weapons. Kyle, known as the military's most lethal sniper, was killed in February at a gun range by a troubled fellow veteran.

Waybourn said he's not pressing for a particular policy on guns at schools but trying to carry on Kyle's vision to "serve those who serve us."

But the issue is timely. Since the December massacre at a Connecticut elementary school, Texas lawmakers have pushed for more armed officers - and in some cases educators - in schools.

"This is about education," Waybourn said. "People want to be educated on what the law says and gun safety and how to deal with kids and guns."

Saturday's daylong class at Kennedale High School - open to anyone affiliated with a public or private school in Texas - covers the classroom training needed for a concealed handgun license. Gun-range training follow over the next few weeks.

The class is free, but there is a \$10 gun range fee, and participants are responsible for their ammunition. The concealed handgun license costs \$140.

The course will address being in a hostile situation and how to take cover, but it will not tell teachers how to react in the case of a mass school shooting. That's best left to each school district, Waybourn said.

Kyle's brother and wife are scheduled to speak at the course, which Waybourn said has already signed up more than 500 participants. They're expecting to have up to a couple of hundred more by the time the class starts Saturday morning, as participants are allowed to sign up at the door.

Although the class isn't affiliated with a broader push for more guns in the hands of teachers, some groups have called for just that. A National Rifle Association-funded report released Tuesday endorsed the group's call for schools to have law enforcement officials or armed staff members trained to confront a shooter.

That idea has sparked outrage from opponents and gun-control activists.



Texas law allows school districts to decide whether to allow licensed staff to carry guns on campus. Only a couple of rural districts do so, citing a significant distance from law enforcement officials and a lack of financial resources preventing the hiring of a school resource office.

A Senate committee this week approved a measure that would provide crisis training for school staff who are allowed to carry concealed handguns. A House committee endorsed creating the position of school marshal, a law enforcement officer who would have access to a gun on campus after intense training.

"If teachers want to learn how to use a gun, that's fine with us," said Clay Robison, a spokesman for the Texas State Teachers Association. "If they plan on carrying a gun, they better know how to use it. But we don't believe that teachers carrying guns to school is the answer to the school shooting problem."

The group said it would rather see the federal government take guns out of the hands of those who shouldn't have them, Robison said. The group supports limiting the availability of assault weapons and high-capacity magazines and hiring law enforcement officers for safety.

Alice Tripp, the legislative director for the Texas State Rifle Association, said that even if armed teachers aren't trained law enforcement officers, they might be able to buy precious time in the event of a mass shooting.

"In the case of a classroom teacher, the idea would be that the classroom teacher would not go out and intercept somebody and break something up," Tripp said. "You're not being asked to go out and be a law enforcement person, you're being asked to hold the fort until the cowboy comes."

Tripp stressed, however, that there can't be a one-size-fits-all policy. Each school district - with input from parents and staff - should decide how it wants to protect itself, she said.

Jan Durham is an educator who plans to participate in the licensing course. The retired principal of Thornton Elementary in Arlington said she just wants to educate herself.

"I have never carried a gun, don't know a lot about guns and may never carry a gun," she said. "I want to know the law and how to use a gun."

Follow Alexandria Baca on Twitter at @AlexandriaMBaca.

Load-Date: April 6, 2013

End of Document

[North Texas teachers offered training on using guns](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

March 31, 2013 Sunday

Copyright 2013 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram
Found on DFW.com



Section: B

Length: 726 words

Byline: Deanna Boyd

dboyd@star-telegram.com

Body

Married to a hunter, Shay Stavenhagen has access to guns but little idea how to use them.

Stavenhagen, a fourth-grade teacher at Beckham Elementary School in Arlington, has pondered taking a concealed handgun license class for about a year but was always deterred by the typical \$150 cost.

"I've grown up around guns and my husband hunts so I felt like I needed to be educated about the weapons that are in my house," she said.

So when Stavenhagen learned that a free concealed handgun license class was being offered April 6 to educators from around the area, she quickly signed up and got her mother, retired Arlington Principal Jan Durham, to do the same.

"I don't know that I will carry," said Stavenhagen, 32. "I just want to go and get to know a gun better. At this point, I'm not comfortable enough to carry a gun because I don't know how to work a gun. I feel like I need to go and get educated."

The class, called "the largest CHL class ever held," is the brainchild of Chris Kyle, a former Navy SEAL sniper killed last month, and Dalworthington Gardens Police Chief **Bill Waybourn**. The two had been planning the event before the fatal shooting of Kyle and his friend Chad Littlefield at a Glen Rose gun range Feb. 2.

Waybourn, a concealed handgun instructor since 1996, said that though he considered canceling the class after Kyle's death, he is convinced Kyle would have wanted it to go forward.

He said Kyle had a great respect for educators and wanted to give back to those who care for our children.

"He truly had a servant's heart," Waybourn said. "In signing books, he would say, 'It's our duty to serve those who serve us.'"

The shootings at Sandy Hook Elementary School were largely the inspiration for offering the free course to educators, Waybourn said. In the December shootings in Newton, Conn., a gunman killed 20 first-graders and six adults before taking his own life.

"Since Sandy Hook, I've had a lot of teachers call me concerned about protection and different situations," Waybourn said.

Since the Connecticut shooting, arming educators in schools has become a hot-button topic.

Texas law allows individual school districts to decide whether to let licensed employees carry guns on campus.

Only a couple of rural districts permit it, though other districts have considered changing their policies.



Waybourn said he's not worried about any controversy that may come with offering a free concealed handgun class to educators.

"I'm the guy that started blood draws in Texas on DWIs and that was kind of controversial so we're used to that," he quipped.

He says the class is not intended as an agenda-pusher for having armed teachers in schools.

"I look at it as an educational process. There's going to be people who throw rocks at it. ... There'll be others who think we ought to storm the school and have a gun in every classroom," Waybourn said. "I'm not in one of those boats. I'm just the educator."

The classroom instruction part of the class will be held in the Kennedale High School's Performing Arts Center. Kyle's widow, Taya Kyle; and his brother, Jeff Kyle, will be among those attending the event to speak briefly to participants.

Waybourn said range shooting will be spread over several days.

Kennedale district spokeswoman Erin Hyden said the district agreed to allow use of the building but is not sponsoring the event. She echoed the website's description of the event as not an attempt to persuade school administrations to form weapons policies, but rather "to present the facts and bring better education and personal confidence to an issue that is often misrepresented."

"Kennedale ISD is not considering allowing faculty to carry on campus," Hyden said.

Durham, who worked 40 years in education before retiring as principal at Thornton Elementary in 2007, is among those who don't believe guns belong in schools.

"I just think there's too many ways to make a building secure," she said.

But Durham, 64, said she sees taking the gun class as simply a way of educating herself.

"Not that I'm going to carry a gun all the time, or maybe ever, but at least I would know how, I would know the laws and I would know what I'm supposed to do and not do," Durham said. " ... You've got to be smart about the decisions you make and be educated. We're always learning. That has always been my motto."

Deanna Boyd, 817-390-7655

Twitter: @deannaboyd

Load-Date: March 31, 2013

End of Document

[Teachers offered training on guns](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

March 31, 2013 Sunday

Copyright 2013 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: B

Length: 726 words

Byline: Deanna Boyd

dboyd@star-telegram.com

Body

Married to a hunter, Shay Stavenhagen has access to guns but little idea how to use them.

Stavenhagen, a fourth-grade teacher at Beckham Elementary School in Arlington, has pondered taking a concealed handgun license class for about a year but was always deterred by the typical \$150 cost.

"I've grown up around guns and my husband hunts so I felt like I needed to be educated about the weapons that are in my house," she said.

So when Stavenhagen learned that a free concealed handgun license class was being offered April 6 to educators from around the area, she quickly signed up and got her mother, retired Arlington Principal Jan Durham, to do the same.

"I don't know that I will carry," said Stavenhagen, 32. "I just want to go and get to know a gun better. At this point, I'm not comfortable enough to carry a gun because I don't know how to work a gun. I feel like I need to go and get educated."

The class, called "the largest CHL class ever held," is the brainchild of Chris Kyle, a former Navy SEAL sniper killed last month, and Dalworthington Gardens Police Chief **Bill Waybourn**. The two had been planning the event before the fatal shooting of Kyle and his friend Chad Littlefield at a Glen Rose gun range Feb. 2.

Waybourn, a concealed handgun instructor since 1996, said that though he considered canceling the class after Kyle's death, he is convinced Kyle would have wanted it to go forward.

He said Kyle had a great respect for educators and wanted to give back to those who care for our children.

"He truly had a servant's heart," Waybourn said. "In signing books, he would say, 'It's our duty to serve those who serve us.'"

The shootings at Sandy Hook Elementary School were largely the inspiration for offering the free course to educators, Waybourn said. In the December shootings in Newton, Conn., a gunman killed 20 first-graders and six adults before taking his own life.

"Since Sandy Hook, I've had a lot of teachers call me concerned about protection and different situations," Waybourn said.

Since the Connecticut shooting, arming educators in schools has become a hot-button topic.

Texas law allows individual school districts to decide whether to let licensed employees carry guns on campus.

Only a couple of rural districts permit it, though other districts have considered changing their policies.

Waybourn said he's not worried about any controversy that may come with offering a free concealed handgun class to educators.

"I'm the guy that started blood draws in Texas on DWIs and that was kind of controversial so we're used to that," he quipped.

He says the class is not intended as an agenda-pusher for having armed teachers in schools.

"I look at it as an educational process. There's going to be people who throw rocks at it. ... There'll be others who think we ought to storm the school and have a gun in every classroom," Waybourn said. "I'm not in one of those boats. I'm just the educator."

The classroom instruction part of the class will be held in the Kennedale High School's Performing Arts Center. Kyle's widow, Taya Kyle; and his brother, Jeff Kyle, will be among those attending the event to speak briefly to participants.

Waybourn said range shooting will be spread over several days.

Kennedale district spokeswoman Erin Hyden said the district agreed to allow use of the building but is not sponsoring the event. She echoed the website's description of the event as not an attempt to persuade school administrations to form weapons policies, but rather "to present the facts and bring better education and personal confidence to an issue that is often misrepresented."

"Kennedale ISD is not considering allowing faculty to carry on campus," Hyden said.

Durham, who worked 40 years in education before retiring as principal at Thornton Elementary in 2007, is among those who don't believe guns belong in schools.

"I just think there's too many ways to make a building secure," she said.

But Durham, 64, said she sees taking the gun class as simply a way of educating herself.

"Not that I'm going to carry a gun all the time, or maybe ever, but at least I would know how, I would know the laws and I would know what I'm supposed to do and not do," Durham said. " ... You've got to be smart about the decisions you make and be educated. We're always learning. That has always been my motto."

Deanna Boyd, 817-390-7655

Twitter: @deannaboyd

Load-Date: March 31, 2013

End of Document

[**Blood draw program starts Carrollton first in county to launch no-refusal; policy for DWI suspects**](#)



Copyright 2013 Denton Record-Chronicle
Distributed by Newsbank, Inc. All Rights Reserved

Section: NEWS; Pg. 1A

Length: 626 words

Byline: Megan Gray Staff Writer MEGAN GRAY can be reached at 9405666885. Her email address is mgray@ dentonrc.com.

Body

Carrollton police recently rolled out Denton County's first mandatory "no-refusal" blood-draw program for suspected drunken drivers.

If a motorist is suspected of driving while intoxicated and refuses a breath test, police can obtain a search warrant to draw a blood sample.

After the driver is arrested and brought to the Carrollton City Jail, a trained phlebotomist takes the blood sample in a clean room specifically set up for drawing blood.

"Since Feb. 1, we have completed approximately 20 blood draws in our jail, which is a majority of the DWI arrests during that period," Officer Jon Stovall said.

If a driver refuses, then the state has the right to impose an automatic suspension on his or her driver's license, according to Carrollton police.

"In the case of a refusal, we are seeking a search warrant issued by a magistrate for the person's blood based on probable cause and going ahead and taking the blood specimen without their consent," Stovall said.

The new policy, launched Feb. 1, was based on a program launched in Dalworthington Gardens, about 12 miles southeast of Fort Worth.

In 2005, the community was the first in Texas to start a "no-refusal" blood-draw program, said **Bill Waybourn**, Dalworthington Gardens' chief of public safety.

Waybourn said no accidents or safety concerns have been raised in the department's nearly eight years of practice.

Since the policy's inception, Dalworthington Gardens has had no DWI-related fatalities, Waybourn said.

He said the average blood alcohol level drawn is 0.16 percent. Texas' legal limit is no more than 0.8 percent.

"As long as we have run our program, of the hundreds of people with blood drawn, only five have come back with mixed results, and all but one of those five contained some sort of illegal drug in their system," Waybourn said.



Carrollton police are hoping to find similar success, saving taxpayers and the city unnecessary court costs in what's become a hard area to prosecute.

When someone arrested for DWI refuses to participate in testing or to provide a breath specimen, there is a lot of evidence of their guilt that authorities are unable to obtain, said Carrollton Sgt. Andy Horn, who oversees most DWI cases.

While breath analyzers are effective, they are costly. Horn said the department spends \$11,000 a year on one machine and defense attorneys have been tearing down their credibility for years.

"Blood specimens provide excellent evidence, which has proven rock-solid in court," Horn said.

Carrollton jailers have been trained since the end of last year to draw blood on site at the police station, much like Dalworthington Gardens does. While some are still undergoing training, Carrollton police say they hope to have 12 jailers as certified technicians by mid-March.

Not only does the mandatory policy help with court cases, it saves time, Horn said.

Traditionally, the process of obtaining a warrant and transporting a suspect to the hospital for a blood draw could take hours.

Warrants are handled electronically and with the blood draw being done on-site, the whole process takes about an hour, Horn said.

While several area departments have participated in no-refusal programs, such initiatives are limited in time, generally focusing on holiday weekends.

Horn hopes other agencies will join in setting up year-round no-refusal programs.

"We hope that if anyone else wants to pursue a similar program, they can certainly come talk to us if they need any experience in their development," Horn said. "We are all out there for the same reason, and by sharing knowledge, we only build firmer framework to rely upon."

While cutting costs and saving time are beneficial, authorities' ultimate goal, Horn said, is to get intoxicated drivers off the streets.

Load-Date: March 5, 2013

End of Document

[Statewide 'no refusal' lauded](#)

Austin American-Statesman (Texas)

July 6, 2011 Wednesday, Final Edition

Copyright 2011 The Austin American-Statesman All Rights Reserved

Section: METRO; Pg. B01

Length: 463 words

Byline: Claudia Grisales AMERICAN-STATESMAN STAFF



Body

Austin police made 73 DWI arrests over the Fourth of July weekend as part of the first statewide "no refusal" initiative that some say could become a model for deterring such crimes in Texas.

It could be several days before the overall number of statewide arrests is tallied up, but officials involved in the effort - which drew participation from more than 200 law enforcement agencies, including Austin - have already said it was a success.

Under the initiative, officers can obtain blood search warrants on suspects who refuse to give a breath or blood sample as required by law.

The initiative has become a powerful deterrent during busy weekends on the road, Austin Police Chief Art Acevedo said. "We truly believe people make better choices on those weekends," he said.

In Austin, the no-refusal initiative lasted from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. Friday through Tuesday.

Fourteen people were arrested on DWI charges Monday night as part of the operation, officials said. Of those arrests, eight people required blood draws, and the others provided breath tests, said Austin police Sgt. Keith Bazzle.

Nineteen people were arrested on DWI charges Sunday, 13 on Saturday and 27 on Friday, officials said. On average, the 18 arrests per night is on par with previous nights when the initiative was enforced, officials said.

There were no reported vehicle-related deaths over the weekend, another sign that the initiative is having an effect, officials said.

The statewide Fourth of July weekend initiative was dubbed the first of its kind in the country, and it could be repeated this year, said **Bill Waybourn**, police chief for the North Texas city of Dalworthington Gardens, who helped coordinate the voluntary effort.

By Monday afternoon, about a dozen law enforcement agencies across the state had reported more than 190 arrests connected to the initiative, he said.

"I'm proud of Texas law enforcement today. They took a stand and hopefully sent out of a strong message," said Waybourn, whose department was one of the first in the country to begin using the no-refusal standard in 2005. "While we don't have all the numbers in yet, I think we made a statement for Texas citizens to change this behavior and make us safer."

Although some cities in Texas have a "no refusal all the time" policy for drunken driving arrests, Acevedo said that approach has its drawbacks.

"Our side has been that when you do 'no refusal' all the time, you lose a big component of why we do it, and that's the educational piece and the prevention piece," he said.

Expanding "no refusal" in Austin to be all the time "is something we would consider," just not at the moment, Acevedo said. "It's important to keep all our options open."



cgrisales@statesman.com; 912-5933

Additional material from staff writer Patrick George.

Load-Date: July 9, 2011

End of Document

Navarro County joins statewide 'No Refusal' weekend

Corsicana Daily Sun (Texas)

July 2, 2011 Saturday

Copyright 2011 Corsicana Daily Sun

Distributed by McClatchy-Tribune Business News

Section: STATE AND REGIONAL NEWS

Length: 530 words

Byline: Janet Jacobs, Corsicana Daily Sun, Texas

Body

July 02--CORSICANA -- Five law enforcement agencies in Navarro County will enforce a "No Refusal" program around Independence Day weekend. "No refusal" means that if a suspected drunken driver refuses a sobriety test, then the officer will seek a search warrant to draw blood.

The No Refusal period began at 6 p.m. Friday, July 1, and end at 6 a.m. Tuesday, July 5.

Taking part in the effort are officers with the Navarro County Sheriff's Office, Corsicana Police Department, Texas Department of Safety, Kerens Police Department and Rice Police Department.

"This is a joint effort," said District Attorney Lowell Thompson. "All the agencies are doing it. The main goal is make sure the streets are safe for people who want to go out and enjoy the Fourth."

If someone is stopped and suspected of Driving While Intoxicated (DWI), he or she will be tested through a road-side sobriety test. If found to be impaired, the driver will be arrested and read the Miranda rights. The driver can also be asked to take a breath test or a blood draw. If he or she refuses, then the county will seek a search warrant from a judge to take the blood.

"If you do refuse, you'll be getting a blood test," Lowell Thompson added. "On a No Refusal weekend we have the ability to get a warrant and get a blood test."

In deciding to participate in a No Refusal weekend, Navarro County and the cities are joining more than 150 other Texas agencies enforcing No Refusal on July 4th weekend, according to **Bill Waybourn**, police chief of Dalworthington Gardens in Tarrant County.



Dalworthington Gardens began the state's first No Refusal program, and took it full-time in 2005, Waybourn said.

"We haven't had a fatality accident since then," he said. "We have had some accidents, but no fatalities."

In 2007, Tarrant County also began doing No Refusal on holiday weekends.

"When the county's standing up and doing a No Refusal program on major holidays, we've had no fatalities," Waybourn said. "It's been very successful."

On a typical holiday weekend, Navarro County officials will arrest about a dozen drunken drivers, according to Will Thompson, assistant district attorney.

As well, in Navarro County, DWI offenses are almost always prosecuted, without plea bargains, Will Thompson said.

"It's our policy, unlike some other jurisdictions, not to plead DWI cases to lower charges. In a lot of jurisdictions it's common for people to be arrested for DWI and they can plead guilty to a lesser charge like obstructing a highway or something. We don't do that," he said. "Over 90 percent of those arrested in Navarro County for DWI are convicted." The majority of DWI cases are settled through guilty pleas, Will Thompson added.

Janet Jacobs may be reached via e-mail at jacobs@corsicanadailysun.com Want to "sound off" to this article? E-mail: Soundoff@corsicanadailysun.com

To see more of the Corsicana Daily Sun, or to subscribe to the newspaper, go to <http://corsicanadailysun.com/>. Copyright (c) 2011, Corsicana Daily Sun, Texas Distributed by McClatchy-Tribune Information Services. For more information about the content services offered by McClatchy-Tribune Information Services (MCT), visit www.mctinfoservices.com.

Load-Date: July 3, 2011

End of Document

[Agencies across Texas to participate in anti-DWI campaign](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

June 30, 2011 Thursday

Copyright 2011 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram
Found on DFW.com

Section: B

Length: 484 words



Byline: Melody McDonald

mjmcdonald@star-telegram.com

Body

Drawing blood from a suspected drunken driver who refused a breath test used to be a unique way for authorities to get their evidence.

Then word got around.

"What at one time was very, very uncommon has now become very common," said Dalworthington Gardens Police Chief **Bill Waybourn**, whose department began using the technique in 2005 and was the first in the state to train its officers to draw DWI suspects' blood.

During the upcoming July Fourth weekend, more than 215 law enforcement agencies have committed to participating in the "No Refusal" campaign, marking the first time that the program is being collectively implemented statewide. Simply put: If you drink and drive and refuse to blow into a Breathalyzer this weekend, authorities will obtain a search warrant and draw your blood.

"We asked our brethren to step forward and stand with us," Waybourn said. "Literally, from Dalhart to Brownsville and El Paso to Texarkana and everywhere in between, 'No Refusal' is up and running."

The Fourth of July weekend is the deadliest holiday for alcohol-related crashes in the United States, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

During a news conference Wednesday morning at the Tarrant County district attorney's office in Fort Worth, officials from various agencies stood behind the lectern in a united front against drinking and driving. Assistant District Attorney Richard Alpert, an expert in the prosecution of DWI cases who is considered a leader in the "No Refusal" initiative, said the program has worked in the past, deterring individuals who might otherwise ignore the risks and drive drunk. On the weekends when the initiative was in place, Tarrant County has had a zero traffic fatality rate, he said.

"It is the belief of this office ... that you should have the right to travel the streets of Texas without being killed, unmolested by drunk drivers," Alpert said. "The message that this office sends out there, with the help of our law enforcement, is that from Friday through Monday, if you [are drunk and] operate a motor vehicle in Tarrant County, or anywhere in this state, you will be apprehended, you will not have an option whether to give up the evidence, you will not be able to hide it, and you will be held accountable."

Tarrant County District Attorney Joe Shannon said the "No Refusal" initiative applies not only to Texas' roadways, but also to the waterways, pointing out that the Texas Department of Parks and Wildlife is committed to the program.

"There are a lot of people who, for some reason or another, combine beer and boats," Shannon said. "Our Parks and Wildlife people are going to be heavy-duty on patrol this weekend. We want everyone to have a good time and to celebrate the birth of our country, but do it in such a way that no harm befalls them or their families or anybody else that they happen to be around."

Melody McDonald, 817-390-7386



Load-Date: June 30, 2011

End of Document

[Dalworthington Gardens marks 75 years as the rural oasis of the Metroplex](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

June 9, 2011 Thursday

Copyright 2011 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: B

Length: 1124 words

Byline: Patrick M. Walker

pwalker@star-telegram.com

Body

It is the rags-to-riches story of a town.

As Dalworthington Gardens, founded as a "back to the land" New Deal project early in Franklin D. Roosevelt's presidency, turns 75, nowhere are its rural roots more visible than at Gnismer Farms, the 7-acre urban-agriculture spread along South Bowen Road.

There, as traffic motors by and the seasons change and the big city evolves around them, Lynn and Cynthia Remsing and their employees grow and sell cantaloupe and tomatoes, watermelon and herbs, corn and cucumbers, onions and pumpkins, garlic and green beans and more.

If she could see Gnismer Farms now, Eleanor Roosevelt, the first lady who once stood in a yard on nearby Arkansas Lane and proclaimed the surrounding land a good fit for one of her husband's subsistence homestead colonies, would be delighted: the community, in a broad sense, living off the very same soil.

She might raise an eyebrow, however, at the upscale homes -- some in the million-dollar range and above -- a few blocks away. Decades ago, to preserve the country feel, city leaders mandated that lots would be no smaller than a half-acre. That gave wealthy families a place to plant their estates.

Now the average assessed home value is \$343,172, fifth-highest among Tarrant County cities, according to official 2010 data from the Tarrant Appraisal District.

Rural oasis in the middle of the Metroplex. Affluent enclave.



The most profound recent change in the city's look came in the late 1990s. That's when Bowen Road, on the city's eastern border, became a five-lane thoroughfare connecting Pioneer Parkway to Interstate 20, and Arkansas Lane was expanded along the city's north side.

Now, as the city looks to its next 75 years, its course seems to be set: Keep the country atmosphere while carefully controlling commercial development along those two corridors.

"It's not going to change much," said longtime Councilman Mike Pettke, who moved to the city in 1984 and opened his accounting practice there in 1990.

Birth of a city

It was on a visit to Carl Mosig's house on Arkansas Lane that Eleanor Roosevelt became sold on the area. Mosig, Fort Worth bureau chief for The Dallas Morning News, knew the Roosevelts' son Elliott, who married a local girl and settled near Fort Worth.

Dalworthington Gardens was chartered in late 1933 for the federal subsistence homestead program, established to help "rebalance" the population from overloaded industrial centers. Homesteads were built outside cities but close enough that residents could still work in them.

In early 1934, the government allotted \$250,000 to buy 593.3 acres south of Arkansas Lane near Arlington. Civil Works Administration workers arrived in June to remove all fences and clear out most of the woods, according to research done for a state historical marker that will be dedicated as part of the anniversary festivities. The smallest lot was 3.7 acres, the largest 24.4.

Forty-three acres were reserved for a park and community house. Six gravel roads provided access. Construction on the homes, of which there were two models, began Aug. 5.

Because fences weren't built until 1937, cows, chickens, pigs and other livestock often roamed free and had to be herded back to their owners. Indoor plumbing was required, but a faulty sewage system caused problems until more lines and septic tanks were installed. The main water pipe was contaminated from previous use in an oil field, forcing residents to carry water from a spring in 5-gallon cans until new piping arrived.

The homestead program ended in May 1936. A few weeks later, on June 1, the Dalworthington Gardens Homestead Association signed a management contract with the Resettlement Administration, which had taken over. Homesteaders who made it through the first year received a form letter saying they could become permanent residents. In June 1949, residents voted to incorporate as a town.

To tell the history of Dalworthington Gardens is to describe the homesteaders' perseverance, says Velma Bogart, a longtime resident and former councilwoman who is spearheading the anniversary celebration.

"The story about DWG is its early residents, the difficulties they faced and their determination to live here and raise their families," she said. "Then, as we moved forward, development occurred, new homes were built alongside the original homes, government ruled the city, utilities were improved, roads were built, the water system was improved, housing developments were approved.

"Now, from those 600 acres to 2 square miles, over 2,000 residents call DWG home and over 150 businesses offer their wares."

Pioneer spirit lives on



Joe Miller, the only child of M.M. and Hattie Mae Miller, who first moved to the Gardens in 1936, has fond memories of growing up. Days were often spent hunting rabbits with a .410, and evenings involved watching older boys play baseball at the park.

One of his earliest memories is of his father cultivating his garden with a mule-drawn plow.

"My dad would put me on the mule, and I would hold on to the harness," recalls Miller, who retired last year as the Arlington school district's director of budget and cash management.

Although it has diminished over the years, the rural heritage lives on, with horse pastures, barns and livestock trailers part of the picturesque landscape.

The same goes for the can-do attitude of the town's earliest residents, said longtime Public Safety Chief **Bill Waybourn**.

"There's a pioneer spirit here in DWG," he said. "We've got a lot of entrepreneurs. They're risk-takers. They take care of their business and their community."

Last year, Dalworthington Gardens had one of the lowest tax rates in the area, 26.2739 cents per \$100 of assessed value. Not including exemptions, the city portion of the property tax bill on a \$1 million home would be \$2,627.39, compared with \$6,840 for Arlington and \$8,550 for Fort Worth.

That, combined with the larger lots and the city's ever-watchful police -- who do courtesy checks of properties twice daily upon request -- makes it a desirable place for new residents.

David Howell and his wife, Mimi, moved to Dalworthington Gardens in 2002 from near Lake Arlington, a few miles to the west.

"We liked it for the rural setting and for having every convenience that you could want within a short distance away," said Howell, who retired from Alcon Laboratories in 2007. "With the larger lots, you don't feel like you're crowded right on top of each other.

"The police department is very visible. We didn't really know anybody when we moved here, but it just seemed like a nice, quiet neighborhood. I don't live in a gated community, but this is the next best thing to it."

This report includes material from the Star-Telegram archives.

Patrick M. Walker, 817-390-7423

Load-Date: June 9, 2011

End of Document

[Tiny Dalworthington Gardens defies easy description](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

April 7, 2011 Thursday

Copyright 2011 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: B

Length: 395 words

Byline: Yamil Berard

yberard@star-telegram.com

Body

This Metroplex hamlet, in the middle of south Arlington, is a slew of contradictions.

By name, city officials say it is the largest city in the state -- a mishmash of Big D, Cowtown and Arlington. Yet it is merely 2 square miles.

Dalworthington Gardens may be little, but don't expect zero-lots. You won't find a home here on less than half an acre. "The Garden part of the name was because the land was so fertile and it grew good vegetables," said Velma Bogart, a resident since 1974.

It was established as a federal subsistence program for families during the Great Depression. Today, the community's median monthly mortgage is up there with the most affluent cities in the county, including Southlake and Westover Hills.

"We're living that American dream -- well above our dreams," said **Bill Waybourn**, who has lived in the city since 1981.

New census figures underscore the peculiarities of the community of 2,259, which experienced 3 percent growth over the last decade. For example, the figures note that no households are listed as headed by unmarried partners, and it has some of the lowest reports of divorced people in the county.

Unemployment is virtually nonexistent (0.90 percent). Retirement income is in the top tier of most Tarrant cities. But median household income dropped by \$12,000 -- only one other Tarrant city showed a drop, and it was less than \$1,000.

The city is still mostly Anglo (80.88 percent), but it recently opened a Vietnamese Community Center to serve a small but growing Asian community, said Waybourn, who is the police chief. Asians make up about 5 percent of the population and blacks more than 7 percent.

Over the decade, the Hispanic population grew by about 82 percent, to 151 residents. The 2000 Census counted only 83.

The community has managed to maintain its rural flavor since its founding in 1936. Bogart, 78, a former councilwoman who is organizing the city's 75th anniversary celebration, says it has tried to keep its country atmosphere. It still has raccoons, roadrunners, quail, coyotes, foxes, armadillos and other wildlife roaming its acreage, she said.

"It's been fun to research the history and try to find the people and talk to them and hear their stories," she said. "People love to talk about the past, where they went to school, where their family is now, the gardens they had and the animals."

Yamil Berard, 817-390-7705

Load-Date: April 7, 2011

End of Document

[Appeals court upholds drawing of blood by Dalworthington Gardens police](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

March 19, 2011 Saturday

Copyright 2011 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: B

Length: 581 words

Byline: Melody McDonald

mjmcdonald@star-telegram.com

Body

FORT WORTH -- More than two years ago, a Tarrant County judge threw out blood results in a DWI case after ruling that the suspect's blood should have been drawn by medical personnel in a medical environment rather than at the Dalworthington Gardens police station by trained officers.

Judge Billy Mills' ruling was upheld by the 2nd Court of Appeals in Fort Worth.

But this week, the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals -- the state's highest criminal court -- reversed the rulings, saying the blood tests were taken "in a reasonable manner."

"It feels good to be vindicated," said Dalworthington Gardens Police Chief **Bill Waybourn**, whose department is the first in the state to train its officers to draw DWI suspects' blood.

Although prosecutors can now use the blood results at trial, the issue may not be over. Reagan Wynn, the suspect's appellate attorney, previously told the Star-Telegram that the case could go to the U.S. Supreme Court.



In 1966, the Supreme Court ruled drawing blood constitutional if done by medical personnel in a medical environment, but Wynn has said he wants a definitive ruling on whether it's legal for medically trained police officers to draw blood. Wynn was out of town Friday and unavailable for comment.

Authorities are watching the case closely, partly because police agencies regularly obtain search warrants to draw blood when suspected drunken drivers decline a breath test. Suspects are usually taken to a hospital to have their blood drawn.

But several years ago, Dalworthington Gardens established a blood-draw certification program, developed by an emergency room doctor, and trained its officers to draw blood in a clean room at the station.

The practice went largely unchallenged until 2008, when a Bedford woman asked Mills to suppress her blood results, saying the procedure violated her constitutional right against unlawful searches and seizures.

According to court documents, the two officers involved in her arrest were certified venipuncture technicians and, after obtaining a warrant, told her they were going to draw her blood. After the woman resisted, the officers restrained her feet and left arm and then drew blood from her right wrist.

Mills ruled that the blood should have been drawn by medical personnel in a hospital or other medical environment, a decision that the Tarrant County district attorney's office took to the 2nd Court of Appeals. That court concluded that the blood was drawn safely but was troubled that the officers didn't ask the suspect about her medical history or videotape the blood draw, so it ruled the procedure unreasonable and upheld Mills' decision.

The district attorney's office then went to the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals, which, in a unanimous opinion written by Judge Michael Keasler, reversed the ruling, saying that the officers were qualified to draw the blood and that the environment was safe.

Assistant District Attorney Tanya Dohoney, who handled the appeal, was out of town and unavailable for comment. But Richard Alpert, a DWI prosecution expert, said he expects other police departments to implement similar programs in light of the ruling.

"By doing so, they will reinforce the message that those who put the public and themselves at risk by driving while intoxicated will not be able to hide the evidence of their guilt," Alpert said. "We will continue to use all legal means available to collect the evidence we need to see that they are convicted and punished."

Melody McDonald,

817-390-7386

Load-Date: March 19, 2011

End of Document

[Feds call for expanded use of blood draws for suspected drunks, already used in Texas](#)

KDAF-TV, Dallas

December 20, 2010 Monday



Copyright 2010

Distributed by McClatchy-Tribune Business News

Section: STATE AND REGIONAL NEWS

Length: 277 words

Byline: Dawn Tongish, KDAF-TV, Dallas

Body

Dec. 20--FORT WORTH, TX --

Chief **Bill Waybourn** sounds like a proud father when he talks about his department's use of the blood draw program for suspected drunk drivers known as "No Refusal."

"we are truth seekers and the blood doesn't lie."

Waybourn's department in the Tarrant County city of Dalworthington Gardens was the first in Texas to begin collected blood samples from suspected drunks more than five years ago. He says the program has worked.

"When we first started we would have four or five DWI's every New Year's and in the last two years, we have had zero."

The plan that allows an officer to get a search warrant to draw blood is not without controversy, but even federal officials are calling on all states to join Texas and use "No Refusal" as part of their DWI enforcement arsenal.

"I am glad the rest of the country is catching up with Texas," Tarrant County Assistant District Attorney, Richard Alpert, said.

"It has worked like clock work. The arrests are being made and the number of people refusing to give up samples has done down. We have suspects pleading guilty instead of going to trial."

That evidence, prosecutors say can be crucial. Smart suspects often refuse a breath test, about one in four. But, with a warrant, a suspect can not refuse to give up blood.

As for Chief Waybourn, he says he is just happy to have sparked a trend that he says will save lives.

To see more of KDAF-TV, go to <http://www.the33tv.com/>. Copyright (c) 2010, KDAF-TV, Dallas Distributed by McClatchy-Tribune Information Services. For more information about the content services offered by McClatchy-Tribune Information Services (MCT), visit www.mctinfoservices.com.

Load-Date: December 21, 2010

End of Document

[Blood tests sought for all DWI arrests](#)

THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS



Copyright 2010 THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

DallasNews.com

Section: NEWS; Pg. A01

Length: 1035 words

Byline: TANYA EISERER, Staff Writer teiserer@dallasnews.com

Body

Dallas police want to join a growing national trend by making all suspected drunken drivers take a blood test, but the price tag for such a program may be too high for now.

Under a proposed policy, the Breathalyzer would become a thing of the past. And police would seek a search warrant to get blood from any suspected DWI driver who refused to take the blood test.

But preliminary figures - which indicate the program would cost the city of Dallas at least an additional \$360,000 a year - may mean it stays on the back burner during the tough economic climate.

Some officials do believe the costs of such a program could be partially offset by other savings.

Police are talking with Parkland hospital officials and the Southwestern Institute of Forensic Sciences about the costs of expanding that program to everyone who is arrested on suspicion of DWI. Parkland's staff would draw blood at the jail for every DWI suspect, and the institute's lab would test the samples.

In Dallas, police arrest about 3,600 DWI suspects each year. Of those, about a third already undergo blood testing at the Dallas County Jail.

Blood tests have several advantages. Breath testing can't detect the presence of drugs in a person's blood stream, but blood tests can. Studies also have shown that blood testing DWI defendants offers prosecutors an almost bullet-proof case. A 2008 federal study found that it results in more defendants pleading guilty, fewer cases going to trial and increased conviction rates.

"There's no question that the blood test is more accepted in the courtroom by a jury than the breath test," said David Burrows, a co-chair of the DWI committee for the Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association. "I don't think too many people question the accuracy of blood testing."

That would probably lead to more plea deals, perhaps sharply reducing costly overtime paid to officers called in to testify when cases go to trial.

"We all know that defense attorneys can place doubt in the minds of the jury as to the reliability of the intoxilyzer instrument, but it is much more difficult to place that same doubt for a blood test," said Dallas Police Sgt. Kenneth Campbell, a jail supervisor who has been working on the proposal.



Phoenix and other cities already require blood tests for all drunken driving cases. Dalworthington Gardens was the first Texas city to go to an all-blood test, in the summer of 2005.

Dallas already has periodic "no refusal" weekends, such as this past weekend, where officers kept a close eye on the revelry for the St. Patrick's Day parade on Greenville Avenue. Suspected DWI drivers were offered either breath or blood tests. If they refused, police obtained a warrant for their blood.

The year-round program in Dalworthington Gardens is nicknamed "Can't take no for an answer." Under the original program, DWI suspects were tested by police trained to draw blood. If they refuse the testing, "we go out and get an evidentiary search warrant," Chief **Bill Waybourn** said.

He said most of the more than 300 people arrested through the program have taken plea deals.

In 2008, a Tarrant County judge discarded blood evidence in the case of a Bedford resident arrested in Dalworthington Gardens after raising concerns about the department's program. Since then, medical personnel have been drawing the suspects' blood while the city awaits a ruling by the state's highest criminal court. If the court sides with Waybourn, he said he will again have his officers draw blood.

The Houston Police Department recently began training eight members of its DWI unit to become certified blood technicians.

Assistant Police Chief Vicki King said the department is working with Harris County prosecutors to get grant funding to implement a no-refusal policy four days a week. That would mean that if someone refuses to take a breath test, officers would obtain a search warrant for a blood test.

"Blood is the better evidence," King said. "It will tell us exactly what's in the bloodstream."

Arizona has implemented an intensive program to train officers as blood technicians, and the program is becoming the national standard.

Many of the state's larger police agencies, including Phoenix, Mesa, Scottsdale, Tucson and the state highway patrol, have gone to an all-blood DWI testing program, said Phoenix Detective Kemp Layden, who supervises his department's program.

In Phoenix, any person arrested on suspicion of DWI is asked to voluntarily take a blood test. If the person refuses, officers obtain a warrant.

"It's extremely successful," Layden said. "We have reduced the number of refusals. Most people don't refuse the test now. We have reduced the number of unsuccessful prosecutions. The conviction rate is way up."

But in Dallas, the department has decided against having their officers draw blood, which is why negotiations are ongoing with Parkland.

"That's just way to open to too many legal challenges," said Lt. David Bonicard, who oversees Dallas police jail supervisors. "We don't want to be in a position where charges are thrown out."

BY THE NUMBERS

DWI in Dallas

3,600



Approximate number of people arrested on suspicion of driving while intoxicated each year

30%

Percentage of those people who take a breath test

30%

Percentage of those people who take a blood test

40%

Percentage of people who refused testing

82

Fatality accidents in Dallas in 2009

38

Number of those involving alcohol or drugs (46%)

AT A GLANCE

DWI and the law

Changes in state law effective Sept. 1, 2009, have limited the ability of DWI suspects to refuse to give a sample.

- Police no longer need a warrant to require a blood test for anyone arrested on a felony DWI - a DWI involving a child in the vehicle, any arrest where the person has a prior conviction for intoxication manslaughter or intoxication assault or DWI with child, and in cases where someone suffered was hospitalized with an injury after being in a wreck caused by a driver thought to be intoxicated.

- In other cases, police can ask the DWI suspect to take a breath or blood test. If the person refuses, the officer can seek a search warrant from a judge to compel the person to give blood. A refusal to be tested can result in the suspension of a driver's license for 180 days.

Graphic

PHOTO(S): 1. (ANDY JACOBSON/Staff Photographer) Dallas police Officer Michael Royal asked Everaldo Zacarias-Zacarias, who was arrested on suspicion of DWI, to walk a straight line on Sunday morning. Suspects may soon have to take a blood test. 2. Officer Joel Curtis administered a sobriety test to a wrong-way driver on Greenville Avenue. 3. (ANDY JACOBSON/Staff Photographer) Dallas police Officer Michael Royal monitored Everaldo Zacarias-Zacarias, who was arrested on suspicion of DWI on Sunday, by camera on the way to the Dallas County Jail. Dallas police want all DWI suspects to take a blood test. CHART(S): 1. BY THE NUMBERS DWI in Dallas. 2. AT A GLANCE DWI and the law.

Load-Date: March 31, 2010



End of Document

[Appeals court upholds dismissal of police-drawn blood evidence in DWI case](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

November 25, 2009 Wednesday

Copyright 2009 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: B; Pg. 1

Length: 769 words

Byline: MARTHA DELLER

mdeller@star-telegram.com

Body

Until about 4 1/2 years ago, the small Dalworthington Gardens police force had a dilemma about DWI cases. When motorists refused to take breath tests, officers had to decide whether they should invest the time and money it took to ferry the suspects to a hospital for blood tests, a process that could take hours.

Then Police Chief **Bill Waybourn** sent 13 officers to a physician-led program that taught them to draw blood from DWI suspects at the police station.

It cut the officers' time roughly in half, he said. And it provided reliable blood evidence for court.

Waybourn's program — the first in Texas — became a model, and three years later, the National Highway Safety Administration sought the chief's input to implement a similar program in Boise, Idaho. Houston police are about to start the program as well.

And until last year, the program withstood challenges from defense attorneys.

But in 2008 in Tarrant County, Judge Billy Mills threw out blood evidence obtained that way in a DWI case involving a 23-year-old Bedford woman. Mills' decision was based on the fact that officers, not medical personnel, drew her blood, and they weren't in a medical environment, Waybourn said.

This month, the 2nd Court of Appeals, based in Fort Worth, upheld Mills' ruling, but on grounds narrower than Mills' decision. The appeals justices' objection was that officers failed to obtain a medical history before drawing the woman's blood. That was troubling, the justices said, in light of other circumstances, including the fact that the woman had to be restrained.



Mills had ruled that the restraint was reasonable.

Appeal is likely

Prosecutors and the woman's defense attorney, Reagan Wynn, said the ruling might have little impact on the program's future because it was decided on such a narrow point. But until the highest state court rules on the issue, Waybourn said, he is having medical personnel, rather than police, draw blood.

Prosecutor Tanya Dohoney, in the appellate section of the Tarrant County district attorney's office, said she will likely appeal the ruling to the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals. If she does, Wynn said, he may ask that court, the state's highest criminal court, to rule on the broader issue of whether it's legal for police officers to draw blood.

Wynn said he believes that the case may eventually go the U.S. Supreme Court, which ruled in 1966 on a 5-4 vote that blood draws were constitutional if done by medical personnel in a medical environment. But some justices signaled that they had a problem with officers drawing blood in a police station, he said.

"There's a distinct difference between taking a person to a hospital and having blood drawn by a phlebotomist and having a police officer who has just arrested and handcuffed you take you to the police station, hold you down and stick a needle in your arm," Wynn said.

Waybourn disagrees. His officers receive blood-technician training, he said. Additionally, all are already trained as emergency medical technicians or as paramedics, both of which involve extensive training. And in 300 blood draws, officers have restrained only two suspects, he said. In each case, courts ruled that the restraint was reasonable.

Other departments

Other Texas departments are holding off on having their officers draw blood, Waybourn said. But some departments, including Fort Worth's, have used Dalworthington Gardens officers to draw blood during "no refusal" weekends — when judges are available to sign warrants allowing blood to be drawn if motorists refuse to take breath tests, he said.

Dalworthington Gardens no longer uses breath tests at all but uses blood tests exclusively, he said. The program has proved successful because it increases the number of DWI convictions and pleas, and saves thousands of dollars in overtime pay for the 12 paid officers, who would otherwise have to take suspects to hospitals for blood tests and later to testify in court, Waybourn said.

Waybourn said he hopes for a quick ruling so officers can resume drawing blood.

Dohoney said she believes that the appellate justices incorrectly ruled that the officers violated the Fourth Amendment protection against unreasonable search and seizure.

"They focus on one aspect of the facts without taking into account the totality of circumstances," she said.

Even so, Wynn said, there needs to be a definitive ruling on the issue.

"It's not the defense position that all blood draws are unconstitutional," he said.

"But increasingly more people are resisting it. It's a recipe for disaster. What happens if they break a needle off in your arm?"

MARTHA DELLER, 817-390-7857



Load-Date: November 25, 2009

End of Document

[Feed store owner faces animal-cruelty charges stemming from raid](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

July 13, 2009 Monday

Copyright 2009 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: B; Pg. 5

Length: 411 words

Byline: ROBERT CADWALLADER, Special to the Star-Telegram

Body

DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS A feed store owner faces two animal-cruelty charges after a raid that investigators said revealed numerous dead animals at his business.

Adam Zduniewicz, 44, owner of Adam s Feed Store at 2601 W. Arkansas Lane, posted \$5,000 bail on two Class A misdemeanor charges. Each charge is punishable by up to one year in jail and a \$4,000 fine.

The charges stem from an April 29 raid by police acting on a complaint by the Humane Society of North Texas. Officials said they confiscated 240 dead animals and more than 700 live animals, most of them for sale as pets.

No trial date has been set by County Criminal Court No. 10. The next hearing on the case is set for July 27.

Zduniewicz declined to comment as he worked at his store Wednesday. His attorney, Wes Ball of Arlington, said the allegations are exaggerated and part of what he called "constant harassment" by Dalworthington Gardens over alleged ordinance violations.

"I ve never seen in 29 years of practicing law a city that continues to go after a local businessman in this fashion," Ball said.

Zduniewicz has battled city officials over code compliance for more than 10 years, including going to court at least twice over paint-ball gaming and firewood storage. But officials say they only want him to play by the rules that apply to everyone.

"He has not complied," Public Safety Director **Bill Waybourn** said. Tammy Hawley, the Humane Society s operations director, said her group and the city separately received numerous complaints about animal treatment and filthy cages at the store for many months leading up to the raid.



"I personally saw the animals and saw the conditions," Hawley said. "I was appalled at the environment."

The store sold dogs and cats and dozens of varieties of livestock and exotic animals, from ducks and chickens to tarantulas and boa constrictors.

Zduniewicz and store employees have said many animals died during and after the confiscation, including some fish that were mingled with aggressive species. Hawley denied that Friday and said investigators found fish species already improperly mingled.

Ball said he is still investigating and can't explain the number of dead animals reported. He said that a certain number of deaths are to be expected where many animals are kept and that Zduniewicz had a veterinarian routinely check on the animals.

Hawley said almost all the hundreds of live animals confiscated have been adopted or placed with livestock foster families.

Load-Date: July 13, 2009

End of Document

[Authorities find dead animals at feed store](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

April 30, 2009 Thursday

Copyright 2009 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: B; Pg. 3

Length: 664 words

Byline: ROBERT CADWALLADER, Special to the Star-Telegram

Body

DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS Police officers confiscated numerous dead animals Wednesday morning during a raid on a feed store that sells exotic and livestock pets, officials said.

Police acted on a complaint by the Humane Society of North Texas, which said its investigator had confirmed reports from customers about dead animals and filthy cages.

Bill Waybourn, director of the city's public safety department, said a decision on animal cruelty charges will follow a criminal investigation that he expects to last several days.



Adam Zduniewicz, owner of Adam's Feed Store and More at 2601 W. Arkansas Lane, said he has not mistreated animals and called the action another attempt by the city "to run me out of town."

Zduniewicz has a lengthy history of butting heads with the city over ordinances, going to city court at least twice to fight tickets on paintball activities and firewood storage.

Customer complaints

A jury acquitted him in his first case, a 1997 theft charge over a few shovels of city cement that he used to plug holes in his driveway. But Humane Society officials said their complaint was based solely on their own investigation.

"It's been popping up on our radar screen for the last several years for sure," said Sandy Grambort, equine and livestock program coordinator for the Fort Worth-based organization.

"But each time we went over there, we didn't find enough evidence to validate the complaint and pursue anything serious."

This time, she said, investigators looking into customer complaints filed in the past several days found dead ducks, chickens, rabbits and tropical fish.

"In one of the lizard cages there were approximately 20 deceased lizards with two or three live ones," she said. "The environment was not clean. There was much, much accumulation of feces in the cages."

Waybourn described a dispiriting scene during his walk through.

"It was a lot of dead animals, a lot of decaying animals, a lot of hungry animals and sick animals," he said. "Some were out of the public's view, and some were in the public's view. It looks like a health hazard."

The surviving animals will be treated and boarded at the Humane Society's quarters for exotic animals, which is separate from the section for dogs and cats, Grambort said.

Animal cruelty arising from unreasonable failure to provide adequate food, water and shelter is a Class A misdemeanor punishable by up to a year in jail and a \$4,000 fine.

Legal issues

Zduniewicz said police ordered him and his employees out of the store Tuesday morning and handed him a search and seizure affidavit, which included authorization to seize all animals and veterinary records for the past six months.

"I've been doing this for 25 years," he said. "So all of a sudden, today—as a matter of fact on my birthday they show up, and now I'm inhumane to my animals."

Asked about the dead animals found at the store, Zduniewicz responded, "If you're going to run a pet store and feed store and going to sell animals, how do you have them in such a poor condition that you can't sell them?"

He added, "We may have had a dead duck or chicken, but they weren't in the store. . . . We don't have lizards right now. It's too early in the spring for our suppliers. We have lizards running around our store so they can eat all the crickets and stuff."



Zduniewicz said he has bought another property outside of Dalworthington Gardens, "but I don't have enough money to build a building and move."

He still has unresolved legal issues with the city. Officials recently gave him 30 days to comply with firewood storage requirements that changed in 2007, said City Administrator Melinda Brittain.

Also, the Texas Rangers have charged him with criminal mischief for tapping into a city waterline. Waybourn said that when city workers discovered the tap, he called the Rangers in to handle it because of Zduniewicz's accusations that the city is unfairly targeting him.

Zduniewicz said he hired a plumber who "I guess hooked up to the wrong waterline."

Load-Date: April 30, 2009

End of Document

[DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS Officers will still draw blood 'No refusal' DWI policy challenged, but police will use it this weekend](#)

THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

August 30, 2008 Saturday, FIRST EDITION

Copyright 2008 THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

DallasNews.com

Section: NEWS; Pg. 1A

Length: 958 words

Byline: DEBRA DENNIS, Staff Writer debdennis@dallasnews.com

Body

DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS - Drunken drivers here are getting an offer that they can't refuse.

While its strict "no refusal" policy snakes its way through the courts, Dalworthington Gardens police say they will continue drawing blood from suspected intoxicated motorists regardless of whether they consent.

Although the city operates its "no refusal" program all year, officers will be out in force during the Labor Day weekend, officials said.

"We put a lot of forethought into this and a lot of work with the prosecutor's office to make sure we are doing it right," said Police Chief **Bill Waybourn**. "We have had training above and beyond what is qualified."



Dalworthington Gardens' decision to continue its policy comes despite a Tarrant County Criminal Court judge's ruling in July. The judge ruled that blood evidence was improperly taken from suspected drunken driver Christi Lynn Johnston during a "no refusal" DWI stop by Dalworthington officers.

The judge's decision, however, applied only to Ms. Johnston's case and had no binding effect on several other North Texas cities that also have "no refusal" efforts, including Dallas, Fort Worth, Arlington, Richardson and Plano.

Unlike Dalworthington Gardens, most jurisdictions implement "no refusal" only on certain weekends, usually around major holidays such as Labor Day. It is often publicized well in advance.

While most cities say they plan to continue their programs, officials are taking note of a planned appeal of the Tarrant County judge's ruling in Ms. Johnston's case, as well as an upcoming civil lawsuit there over who has the legal authority to draw blood.

That suit was filed by Fort Worth attorney Avery McDaniel, who successfully represented Ms. Johnston in her July case. Mr. McDaniel has asked a state district judge to issue a permanent injunction barring Dalworthington Gardens officers from collecting blood. He argues that only nurses, doctors and other medical personnel can extract blood in criminal cases.

A hearing on his request is set for Friday.

"We're not asking you to stop Dalworthington Gardens from arresting DWI suspects," Mr. McDaniel's motion reads. "I am asking you to deem these officers unqualified."

Regardless of what happens in the Tarrant County court cases, however, it seems unlikely that "no refusal" programs will go away. State law allows them, although most jurisdictions seek to avoid the problems of Dalworthington Gardens by having medical personnel draw the blood.

Chief Waybourn said that if a person refuses to give blood, officers will then get a search warrant that gives police the authority to use any "reasonable" force to obtain the blood, including physical restraint.

But he stressed that in the three years his department has operated under the policy, no suspect has ever resisted to that extent.

In Dallas, which implements the program during major holidays, motorists who fail field sobriety tests and refuse a Breathalyzer or blood sample are transferred to Parkland Memorial Hospital for blood draws.

"We never considered officers drawing blood because of liability issues," said Kevin Brooks, felony trial bureau chief for the Dallas County district attorney's office.

Johnson County Attorney Bill Moore said the "no refusal" policy implemented there last May has sent a tough message to drivers and he expects that it will become an effective deterrent to drunken driving.

Officials there have a county magistrate on call to sign warrants. Nurses at its Law Enforcement Center perform the blood draws.

Jamie Beck, first assistant district attorney in Denton County, said officers there do not draw blood as part of their "no refusal" efforts. Instead, medical personnel are used. Despite that difference, Ms. Beck said she believes Dalworthington Gardens specifically - and "no refusal" polices in general - are safe.

"I don't think the Dalworthington Gardens [case] will be reversed, and there's no reason to think we should stop our no-refusal because of what happened in that case," Ms. Beck said. "We are still moving forward."



Tarrant County Assistant District Attorney Richard Alpert agreed, adding that he expects an appeals court to overturn the ruling in the Dalworthington Gardens case.

"We're confident we will clear it up in our favor," said Mr. Alpert, who often prosecutes DWI cases. "We certainly would not have participated in the program they are using if we didn't think it was legal. We looked at this closely and came to the opinion that they [officers] are qualified."

But several lawyers contend that using police officers to take blood is a risky move that seems doomed for failure.

"They are just playing with fire," said Fort Worth civil rights attorney Frank Colosi. "There are other things they can do to solve the problem of drunk driving."

J. Gary Trichter, a Houston-based DWI attorney, said there is no great need for law enforcement to conduct blood draws.

"They just want to scare the public into giving blood," Mr. Trichter said.

Mr. Trichter said that any successful challenge to "no refusal" policies would have to come from state lawmakers at the behest of citizens.

"The challenge is for the public to notify their representatives that enough is enough," he said.

Chief Waybourn, however, remains unbowed. In 2005, the police department became the first in Texas to train officers how to do blood draws, and the chief said its "no refusal" policy is here to stay.

"If a judge enjoins us, saying we're not qualified, we'll use someone else," Chief Waybourn said. "We do know that people around the state are watching what happens, and we believe we will be proven to have done this ... legally. We believe this program saves lives."

DigitalEXTRA

WATCH POLICE on DWI patrol in Dalworthington Gardens.

dallasnews.com/video

Graphic

PHOTO(S): (KHAMPHA BOUAPHANH/Special Contributor) Dalworthington Gardens police Cpl. Jeff Woolsey draws blood from drunken-driving suspect Reginald Moore, who was later charged, at the Dalworthington Gardens police station. CHART(S): DigitalEXTRA

Load-Date: August 30, 2008

End of Document

[***Lawyer tries to halt blood draws by Dalworthington Gardens police***](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)



July 11, 2008 Friday

Copyright 2008 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: B; Pg. 1

Length: 208 words

Byline: NATHANIEL JONES, [, njones@star-telegram.com](mailto:njones@star-telegram.com)

Body

The lawyer who successfully challenged Dalworthington Gardens' "no-refusal" policy in a drunken-driving case is asking a state judge to temporarily prohibit the town's police officers from drawing blood.

In a court filing late Thursday, lawyer Avery McDaniel wrote, "the citizens will be placed in immediate harm by [Department of Public Safety Chief **Bill**] **Waybourn**'s insistence his officers are 'qualified technicians' and able to withdraw the blood from DWI suspects in Dalworthington Gardens and other cities."

State District Judge Dana Womack is scheduled to hear the restraining-order case this morning.

This week, Tarrant County Criminal Court Judge Billy Mills threw out blood evidence in the December 2005 DWI case of Christi Johnston of Bedford, whom McDaniel represented. McDaniel argued that the Texas Transportation Code allows only certain professionals to extract blood samples for criminal cases. The law specifically excludes emergency medical personnel, McDaniel said.

The officers who took blood from Johnston were basic and intermediate emergency medical technicians.

In 2005, Dalworthington Gardens police became the first in the state to have trained officers draw blood from suspected drunken drivers.

NATHANIEL JONES, 817-548-5414

Load-Date: September 3, 2008

End of Document

[Temporary ban sought on police blood draws](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

July 11, 2008 Friday

Copyright 2008 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: B; Pg. 1

Length: 207 words

Byline: NATHANIEL JONES, [, njones@star-telegram.com](mailto:njones@star-telegram.com)

Body

The lawyer who successfully challenged Dalworthington Gardens' "no-refusal" policy in a drunken-driving case is asking a state judge to temporarily prohibit the town's police officers from drawing blood.

In a court filing late Thursday, lawyer Avery McDaniel wrote, "the citizens will be placed in immediate harm by [Department of Public Safety Chief **Bill**] **Waybourn**'s insistence his officers are 'qualified technicians' and able to withdraw the blood from DWI suspects in Dalworthington Gardens and other cities."

State District Judge Dana Womack is scheduled to hear the restraining-order case this morning.

This week, Tarrant County Criminal Court Judge Billy Mills threw out blood evidence in the December 2005 DWI case of Christi Johnston of Bedford, whom McDaniel represented.

McDaniel argued that the Texas Transportation Code allows only certain professionals to extract blood samples for criminal cases.

The law specifically excludes emergency medical personnel, McDaniel said.

The officers who took blood from Johnston were basic and intermediate emergency medical technicians.

In 2005, Dalworthington Gardens police became the first in the state to have trained officers draw blood from suspected drunken drivers.

NATHANIEL JONES, 817-548-5414

Load-Date: September 3, 2008

End of Document

[Ruling in '05 case won't end DWI blood draws](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

July 9, 2008 Wednesday

Copyright 2008 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: B; Pg. 1

Length: 479 words

Byline: NATHANIEL JONES, [, njones@star-telegram.com](mailto:njones@star-telegram.com)

Body

Dalworthington Gardens police will continue to draw blood samples from suspected drunken drivers despite a judge's order Tuesday suppressing the test results of a blood sample that officers drew in December 2005.

"While we respect the judge's ruling, we believe we are doing everything right," Public Safety Chief **Bill Waybourn** said. "We are excited about the possibilities of appeals."

Tarrant County Criminal Court Judge Billy Mills issued the one-sentence order throwing out blood evidence from a 25-year-old Bedford woman who challenged the officers' qualifications in Mills' court last week. Through an office employee, Mills declined to comment on his order because of the potential for appeal.

Christi Lynn Johnston still faces an unrelated charge of driving while intoxicated in Bedford.

It is unclear how Mills' ruling will affect DWI cases that are based on Dalworthington Gardens' "no refusal" blood testing policy. Several other area police departments have implemented similar policies. Officers from 21 agencies participated in a no-refusal DWI enforcement project over the Fourth of July weekend. At least 70 people were arrested.

Avery McDaniel, a Fort Worth attorney representing Johnston, said he plans to seek a restraining order that would prohibit Dalworthington Gardens officers from drawing blood.

"That in no way stops them from taking suspects to a hospital and having their blood drawn there," McDaniel said. "This ruling is about stopping unqualified people from taking your blood."

In 2005, Dalworthington Gardens police became the first in the state to have trained officers draw blood from suspected drunken drivers.

Last week, officers testified that they had to hold Johnston down while a blood sample was taken from her during the 2005 arrest.

McDaniel asked Mills to throw out the blood evidence, arguing that Dalworthington Gardens officers, who are cross-trained as emergency medical technicians, aren't qualified to draw blood. He said the Texas Transportation Code allows only physicians, chemists, registered nurses, licensed practical nurses or professional technicians to extract blood samples for criminal cases.

The law specifically excludes emergency medical personnel and phlebotomists, McDaniel said.

The officers who arrested and took blood from Johnston were basic and intermediate EMTs.

Waybourn said Johnston's blood-alcohol level was above the legal limit.

Frank Colosi, a Fort Worth civil rights attorney, said he believes that Dalworthington Gardens is playing with fire.

"We all believe it's important to stop drunk drivers from killing us out there on the streets, but by the same token, there are limits to what police can do in America," Colosi said. "The courts have given them the power to take blood but with limits to how they do it. Otherwise that would put all of us in some extraordinary dangers."

NATHANIEL JONES, 817-548-5414

Load-Date: September 3, 2008

End of Document

[GOP sheriff leading; some incumbents at risk](#)

THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

March 5, 2008 Wednesday, FIRST EDITION

Copyright 2008 THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

DallasNews.com

Section: NEWS; Pg. 15A

Length: 342 words

Byline: JEFF MOSIER, Staff Writer jmosier@dallasnews.com

Body

Tarrant County Sheriff Dee Anderson and County Commissioner Roy C. Brooks both had comfortable leads Tuesday with more than half the precincts reporting.

However, three of their fellow incumbents could be facing runoffs.

None of the seven incumbents facing primary challengers appeared to be in danger of losing outright. But two incumbents, Republican state District Judge Louis Sturns, who was appointed by Gov. Rick Perry to fill an unexpired term, and Democratic Constable Chester "Chet" Lockett were trailing one of their opponents.

GOP Constable Jerry Crowder had received the most votes but was short of the percentage need to avoid a runoff.

Sheriff Anderson was easily outdistancing his GOP opponent, **Bill Waybourn**, a first-time candidate and public safety chief for the Dalworthington Gardens Department of Public Safety. "This is a good winning margin by any account," Sheriff Anderson said. "We just hope it stays that way."



He said his lone worry had been that large numbers of Republican voters would cross over to vote in the Democratic primary. And he expected it to be hard to predict whose support that would erode.

Sheriff Anderson will face Democrat Hank Pope in the November general election. Mr. Pope was unopposed in the primary.

This was Sheriff Anderson's first contested primary race since he won the job in 2000.

However, this year Chief Waybourn ran an aggressive campaign. He courted the support of the largest association of deputies and said the sheriff wasn't doing enough to identify illegal immigrants incarcerated in the jail.

The wife of Chief Waybourn's campaign manager filed a complaint with the Texas Ethics Commission charging that the sheriff failed to file proper campaign reports.

Sheriff Anderson said he was not required to file that paperwork because he appointed a treasurer in 2004 and didn't run a campaign.

Sheriff Anderson said the results show that voters are still satisfied with the job he's doing.

Mr. Brooks' race was similar to his 2004 contest.

He also faced Cora Mosley in that race, but she finished third.

Load-Date: March 5, 2008

End of Document

[Set for a ballot cast of thousands Sheriff top race in Dallas County](#)

THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

March 4, 2008 Tuesday, FIRST EDITION

Copyright 2008 THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

DallasNews.com

Section: METRO; Pg. 1B

Length: 1089 words

Byline: KEVIN KRAUSE, Staff Writer kkrause@dallasnews.com

Body

Dallas County voters will decide today who will battle into November for the county's top law enforcement job, which includes responsibility for one of the country's largest jail systems.



The Dallas County sheriff's contest tops a list of partisan campaigns that will attract voters to the polls across North Texas.

Sheriff Lupe Valdez, 60, the Democratic incumbent, was a department outsider and longtime federal agent when her surprise win in 2004 presaged the Democrats' coming dominance in local elections.

That victory, and the bad news coming out of the Sheriff's Department in the three years since, has galvanized Republicans who hope to recapture the office in November. Republicans hope that a win will signify a resurgence for them in Dallas County or at least prove the party still has a pulse.

But first, candidates must make it through today's primaries.

Sheriff Valdez is facing a challenge from three candidates who have criticized her for not being able to fix the expensive jail problems that have resulted in five failed inspections in a row.

Peter Schulte, 29, is a former reserve police officer and county prosecutor who now works as a defense lawyer. Sam Allen, 59, the Lancaster schools police chief, is making his third run for sheriff. And Roy Williams Jr., 39, is a deputy and former jail guard.

In the Republican primary, former Irving Police Chief Lowell Cannaday has won the support of most local police officers with his 38 years of law enforcement experience. Political analysts give him the best chance to face Sheriff Valdez in November.

Mesquite police Lt. Charlie Richmond has made illegal immigration his key issue and hopes to capitalize on local concern about it. Cockrell Hill Police Chief Catherine Smit is making her first run for office.

And Jim Bowles, who served as sheriff for 19 years before losing in the 2004 Republican primary, raised some eyebrows by jumping in the race at the last minute.

In the tax assessor-collector race, four Democrats are seeking to take on Republican incumbent David Childs, who is running for a sixth term.

John R. Ames, 32, has been director of taxation for the DeSoto Joint Tax Office since 2000. Diana Lackey, 54, has worked in tax offices in California for 24 years and is a former deputy tax assessor. Norris "Stretch" Rideaux, 54, served 12 years on the Grand Prairie school board. And Se-Gwen Tyler, 49, is a former Dallas school board member.

In the constable race in Precinct 5, Beth Villarreal, a 36-year-old former peace officer, is challenging incumbent Democrat Jaime Cortes, 39, who was appointed to the position in July to replace an official who resigned.

Collin County

In Collin County, the most hotly contested race has been between Precinct 3 Commissioner Joe Jaynes and his challenger, Celina Mayor Corbett Howard.

Mr. Howard has repeatedly attacked Mr. Jaynes, accusing him of not working full time and of violating open-meetings and open-records laws. Mr. Howard filed complaints with the Texas attorney general and the Collin County district attorney over some of the allegations.

Mr. Jaynes, who has held office since 1996, vehemently denies any wrongdoing.



The race is one of eight on the county's Republican ballot. Another commissioner, Phyllis Cole of Precinct 1, is being challenged by Douglas Reeves and Matt Shaheen. State District Judge Charles Sandoval is being opposed by Suzanne Wooten. Voters also will select three constables, a justice of the peace, and the tax assessor-collector.

In the Democratic primary, Victor Manuel is the only candidate. He is running for Precinct 3 commissioner and will face either Mr. Jaynes or Mr. Howard in the November general election.

Tarrant County

In Tarrant County, the sheriff and a county commissioner are among the few incumbents facing challengers in today's primaries.

Sheriff Dee Anderson was unopposed four years ago and hasn't had to run a campaign since he was originally elected in 2000. His opponent in the Republican primary is **Bill Waybourn**, public safety chief for Dalworthington Gardens. The winner will face Hank Pope, who has no opposition in the Democratic primary.

County Commissioner Roy C. Brooks, who is finishing his first term in Precinct 1, is running for re-election against a familiar face. Cora Mosley ran for this seat in the Democratic primary in 2004 and finished last in a three-candidate race.

Unlike the 2004 race, there are no Republicans running for the seat.

Denton County

In Denton County's most-watched race, Denton lawyer Hugh Coleman is pushing to unseat two-term incumbent Cynthia White to represent Precinct 1 on the Commissioners Court.

Mr. Coleman has criticized the county's transportation governance - which gives individual commissioners control over projects in their districts. Mr. Coleman prefers a centralized office. Ms. White said the county abandoned a centralized structure to add efficiency.

Ms. White, a former Lewisville council member now living in Aubrey, has campaigned on her role in the Lewisville Lake Bridge, which is under construction. Mr. Coleman, a former assistant district attorney in Denton County, wants to expand sheriff's office coverage in the precinct.

The winner will be heavily favored against Democrat Phyllis Wolper in November's general election.

Republicans have contested primaries in three of the county's six constable precincts.

Rockwall County

In Rockwall County, whoever wins the Republican races for sheriff and county commissioner in Precincts 1 and 3 is virtually assured of taking office in January because county Democrats fielded no candidates.

After Precinct 3 Commissioner Bruce Beaty decided not to run again, the seat drew three GOP candidates: former Rockwall Mayor Leon Tuttle, former Heath Mayor Dennis Bailey and Rockwall police Detective Randy Puckett.

In the sheriff's race, incumbent Harold Eavenson is being challenged by Teresa Tuggle, a private tutor with no law enforcement experience. Mr. Eavenson spent 18 years with the Texas Department of Public Safety and 21 years performing private-sector security work before becoming sheriff in 2001.



In the Precinct 1 commissioner race, Jerry Wimpee, who has held the seat for more than a decade, faces Bruce A. Clark, a retired urban planner who runs a laser-printing business.

Republican voters will also choose a county Republican chairman. Incumbent Bill Broderick faces former Chairwoman Mary Lou Hawkins-Curtis, who is active with the No Higher Taxes Group.

Staff writers Ed Housewright, Elizabeth Langton, Jeff Mosier and Jay Parsons contributed to this report.

Load-Date: March 4, 2008

End of Document

LETTERS

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

February 28, 2008 Thursday

Copyright 2008 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: B; Pg. 14

Length: 918 words

Byline: Star-Telegram

Body

Anderson versus Waybourn for Tarrant sheriff

Seven years ago, Dee Anderson took over a Tarrant County Sheriff's Department and a county jail in a state of total confusion and lacking leadership. Since then, he has quietly and effectively turned things around and totally transformed the department and jail.

It's significant that Anderson was recognized by his peers as Lawman of the Year in 2006. He also has earned recognition nationally for his contributions to, and as co-founder of, the Amber Plan for Missing Children.

Vote for Dee Anderson for Tarrant County sheriff. We can't afford to lose the momentum that he has begun.

-- *Tim and Molly Kenehan, Mansfield*

There's more than one professional police organization in the Tarrant County Sheriff's Department. (See Tuesday story "Tarrant sheriff's race pits change vs. experience.")



Tarrant County Regional Lodge No. 44 of the Fraternal Order of Police has endorsed Dee Anderson for sheriff. He has proven his ability to effectively oversee a department as large and complex as Tarrant County's.

There will always be disgruntled employees. You can't please everyone. The Tarrant County Law Enforcement Association does not represent the majority of the employees.

-- *President Robert W. Evans, Tarrant County Regional Lodge No. 44, Fraternal Order of Police, Fort Worth*

Writer Bud Kennedy is full of bologna. (See Friday column, "Candidate could be tripped up by unaccredited degree.")

Anyone can go to Trinity College's Web site (www.trinitysem.edu/AboutTrinity/Accreditation.html) to see that the source of the degree of sheriff candidate **Bill Waybourn** has been accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Secondary & Higher Education of the National Association of Private, Nontraditional Schools & Colleges (NAPNSC).

How many other Texas law officers have degrees from this or similar institutions? Plenty! Sheriff Dee Anderson's own chaplain, David Barrett, has a degree from Trinity College and Seminary.

Anderson represents his non-degree college hours as "majored in journalism," leaving the impression that he has a college degree.

-- *Tom Vennum, Arlington*

What's Zedler done?

I thank God that every two years I have a chance to vote for someone other than state Rep. Bill Zedler, R-Arlington. I support Lee Jackson for this office, and I ask that all conservative voters of Texas House District 96 do the same.

We need a true leader who will represent our district instead of medical political action committees in Austin. What has Zedler done for District 96? Good question.

Vote Lee Jackson for state representative of District 96.

-- *Joe McHaney, Arlington*

Judicial choices

Lisa Callaghan is the top-qualified candidate for the 213th District Court.

She has been an assistant criminal district attorney for 16 years and has successfully prosecuted thousands of child sex offenders, child murderers, capital murderers, gang members and other violent criminals. Lisa is the only candidate who's a board-certified specialist in criminal law.

Her Tarrant County convictions have never been overturned on appeal -- a testament to her legal intelligence and command of criminal law.

Lisa has brought justice to victims and families of victims during her prosecutorial career and would be a wise and strong judge for our community.



Lisa, first vice president of the Arlington Republican Club, has received strong Republican support. The other two candidates have spent most of their careers as defense attorneys representing violent criminals and currently have the backing of the criminal defense attorney bar.

We deserve Lisa Callaghan dispensing justice in the 213th District Court.

-- *Lisa Haines, Grapevine*

Lisa Callaghan and Bill Ray are both very good attorneys. But neither challenger has the judicial experience to remove Judge Louis Sturns from the bench of the 213th District Court.

Before being appointed to the 213th District Court by Gov. Rick Perry from a group of lawyers that included myself and Callaghan, Sturns served on the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals, as a judge in Tarrant County Criminal District Courts 1 and 2 and as president of the Tarrant County Bar Association.

Sturns' resume includes prosecution and defense experience, board certification in criminal law and a reputation for zero tolerance. He was the highest-rated Republican judge in the 2008 Tarrant County Bar Judicial Candidates Qualification Poll.

Join me in voting to keep my former opponent, Louis Sturns, a man with proven judicial experience and temperament and who shares our conservative values, as judge of the 213th District Court.

-- *John White, Fort Worth*

I know Melody Wilkinson, GOP candidate for judge in the 17th District Court.

She believes in strict interpretation of the U.S. Constitution and Texas law. She's a proven leader with more than two decades of leadership in the legal arena. She's running for an open seat and has three party opponents. It's important for voters to know:

In the poll in which members of the bar rank the candidates, Wilkinson won *overwhelmingly* against her three male GOP opponents. So her peers -- those who know most about the law, the courts and the lawyers in this race -- support her.

The *Star-Telegram* Editorial Board recommended her. (See Feb. 18 editorial "On Tarrant County's benches.")

It's important that we vote for candidates who are qualified and universally respected and will make us proud in office. Melody Wilkinson is that candidate for the 17th District Court.

-- *Leigh Wambsganss, Republican Precinct 3359 chair, Southlake*

Load-Date: February 28, 2008

End of Document

[**Sheriff's race pits change vs. experience**](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

February 26, 2008 Tuesday





Section: B; Pg. 1

Length: 682 words

Byline: AMAN BATHEJA, Star-Telegram Staff Writer

Body

Bill Waybourn

Dee Anderson

Like the race for the Democratic presidential nomination, the Republican primary for Tarrant County sheriff has become a fight of change vs. experience.

Challenger **Bill Waybourn**, police chief for Dalworthington Gardens, says the sheriff's office is stuck in neutral and needs to adapt to changing times.

"The 27 years I've been in law enforcement in Tarrant County, the sheriff's office hasn't changed," Waybourn said. "It's an island to itself."

Sheriff Dee Anderson insists that Waybourn's ideas are a throwback to the past, specifically the controversial tenure of his predecessor.

"It's like the ghost of David Williams when you hear [Waybourn] speak," Anderson said, referring to the former Tarrant County sheriff. "This is exactly who the people voted out eight years ago."

The winner of the March 4 primary will face Democrat Hank Pope in November.

Anderson was elected in 2000, replacing Williams, who attracted ridicule and courted conflict with commissioners.

Anderson has based his re-election bid in part on his record of keeping his office out of the limelight and not overstepping its boundaries.

"We've got 38 or 40 really good police departments and believe me, we help them when we're asked but we don't impose ourselves on them," Anderson said. "They're doing a fine job."

New programs

Waybourn is focusing his campaign largely on two programs he promises to implement if elected. He said he does not know how he would pay for these new programs but predicted that he would likely be able to without asking the county to increase his budget.



Waybourn wants to create an "intelligence fusion center" that provides police officers around the county with information on sexual predators, gangs and repeat offenders.

Anderson countered that a regional drug trafficking unit already provides area police with needed intelligence. Waybourn said that unit doesn't do enough for police.

Waybourn also wants to enroll the Sheriff's Department in a program that would train local law enforcement personnel to recognize illegal immigrants in county jails and hand them over to federal authorities for deportation.

Anderson said Waybourn's program is unnecessary because federal officials already check the immigration status of every inmate in Tarrant County jails.

"Once again, it's not understanding the job we do," Anderson said.

Waybourn said he has spoken to immigration officials, jail employees and bail bondsmen who say illegal immigrants routinely slip through the cracks.

Pay raises, education

The Tarrant County Law Enforcement Association persuaded Waybourn to run and is campaigning for him.

Bobby Hardin, a sheriff's deputy and a spokesman for the association, said the group's board is unhappy with Anderson's leadership on several issues, including employee pay. Anderson has pushed for pay raises but distanced himself from the association's proposals to the county commissioners. Waybourn promised to back the group on that issue, Hardin said.

When he spoke to the members of the *Star-Telegram* editorial board this month, Waybourn said, "I think for the most part, they're doing pretty good on pay," Waybourn said.

Asked again about the issue on Monday, Waybourn said he told the association he would work to provide a united front to the commissioners but that he still needs to assess how the department employees are paid compared with employees in neighboring counties.

"It's better stated [to say] I want to ensure we are competitive," Waybourn said.

Waybourn has also faced questions over the educational background he has claimed in campaign materials. Waybourn said he thought his 2004 master's degree in conflict management from Trinity College in Newburgh, Ind., was from an accredited university. It was once accredited by two schools in England but is not recognized by any major university in Texas.

Because of the degree, Waybourn is paid an extra \$2,400 per year. Under a 2005 Texas law, it's a crime to apply for a job, collect a bonus or "gain a position in government" claiming an unaccredited degree.

AMAN BATHEJA, 817-390-7695abatheja@star-telegram.com

Load-Date: February 26, 2008

Copyright 2008 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: B; Pg. 3

Length: 326 words

Byline: Star-Telegram

Body

NEWS TO KNOW

1 The TCU theater department will present *Private Lives* by Noel Coward at 7:30 tonight through Friday and at 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday at Buschman Theater in Ed Landreth Hall on campus.

2 Some people want to do more than just vote for their favorite candidate; they want to sing about him or her, too. Candidate-loving singers are filling the Internet with political musical odes. **Your Life, 1E**

3 Challenger **Bill Waybourn** says Sheriff Dee Anderson is behind the times. Anderson says Waybourn is the one who is a throwback. The two are facing off in the Republican primary. **1B**

4 Once upon a time, someone created Tell a Fairy Tale Day, really, and today's that day. The end.

5 The Bedford Public Library will host a Celebrate Seuss Festival from 1 to 3 p.m. Sunday at 1805 L. Don Dodson Drive.

THE WEATHER WAS JUST DANDY

Springlike weather lured out this dandelion at the University of Texas at Arlington's Mavericks Stadium. Monday's high was 88 at Dallas/Fort Worth Airport. Today will be much cooler, with a high of 57.

WHAT YOU'RE READING

Here are the most-read stories yesterday online at star-telegram.com:

1. Police concerned about order to stop weapons screening at Obama rally
2. Will off-season wow include McFadden?
3. In accident's aftermath, a family gathers to mourn
4. Cowboys should take RB, WR with top picks
5. Cowboys' addition lands Thomas with the team he loves



6. Thomas fits into Cowboys' middle
7. Chapter 12: For detective, a mysterious trail starts at the water's edge
8. Neither side wins on gay couples in directory
9. If Mavs pursue Barry, they'll have company
10. Pair jump from Fort Worth bridge to avoid train

* * *

"You don't come to a school like this if your heart is not into [teaching]. You have to love your job, your career, and have a passion for this."

Rosemarie Tatum, a middle school math teacher with specialist credentials. The Fort Worth school district is considering programs to recruit teachers like Tatum. 1B

Load-Date: February 26, 2008

End of Document

[A Republican rift in race for Tarrant County sheriff GOP candidates clash on issues, endorsements](#)

THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

February 24, 2008 Sunday, CENTRAL EDITION

Copyright 2008 THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

DallasNews.com

Section: METRO; Pg. 16B

Length: 959 words

Byline: JEFF MOSIER, Staff Writer jmosier@dallasnews.com

Body

Dee Anderson was first elected Tarrant County sheriff nearly eight years ago to shake up a department mired in controversy and wracked with poor morale.

His challenger in the March 4 primary, **Bill Waybourn**, said the time for a change has arrived again. He said the department has low morale, and the sheriff lacks regional leadership.



Chief Waybourn, head of the Dalworthington Gardens public safety department, pointed to an endorsement by the largest Tarrant County sheriff's association, whose leadership encouraged him to run on the GOP ballot.

"I thought that maybe it's time that we step out and do something about this," Chief Waybourn said.

Sheriff Anderson said he received an endorsement from a different peace officers' association and noted that his opponent's endorsement comes from the group's board of directors, not the general membership.

The sheriff said he's kept the campaign promises he first made in 2000 to run a professional and efficient department.

The Tarrant County jails haven't failed any inspections while he's been in office, and overtime is a fraction of what is spent in other large Texas counties, he said.

"I campaigned to be fiscally responsible," Sheriff Anderson said.

The winner will face Hank Pope, who is unopposed in the Democratic primary.

As in many Republican campaigns, illegal immigration has become a central issue in the sheriff's race.

If he wins, Chief Waybourn said that he would enroll the Sheriff's Department in a federal program that trains local law enforcement to become deputized immigration agents.

Only a few Texas agencies have signed up for what's referred to as the 287(g) program.

"There is literally nothing being done now," Chief Waybourn said about efforts to report illegal immigrants in the county jails.

"If he [an illegal immigrant] makes bail, he could walk right out of the jail."

Additional training for sheriff's deputies would allow them to determine the immigration status of inmates and hold those suspected of being in the country illegally for Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

Sheriff Anderson said federal immigration officers already review the Tarrant County jail rosters several times a week and deport those in the country illegally.

He said that inmates who can afford bail are usually released before they get to the Tarrant County jails.

When they arrive in the county jails, they are usually there a while and would be caught by federal immigration officials, Sheriff Anderson said.

"The process of sending your people out of state to be trained is very expensive, and I'm not sure we would gain much," Sheriff Anderson said.

Chief Waybourn said he would also create a county intelligence center to coordinate information on sex offenders, gangs and repeat offenders among local law enforcement agencies.

That would include coordinating police intelligence among the various cities and making that information easily accessible to officers on the street.

"There are no boundaries on the bad guy," Chief Waybourn said. "He goes from here to yonder."



He would also start holding quarterly meetings with area police chiefs, similar to what was done in the 1980s and '90s.

"The Tarrant County Drug Task Force was born out of those meetings in the 1980s," Chief Waybourn said. "There are a lot of things that could be done when you all get together."

He said Sheriff Anderson has turned his department into an island.

Some local police chiefs have still never met the sheriff, Chief Waybourn said.

Meanwhile, he said he has earned the endorsement of the statewide Combined Law Enforcement Associations of Texas and the Texas Municipal Police Association.

Sheriff Anderson said he has met with area police chiefs but has not been able to get everyone together on a regular basis.

He said they don't need Chief Waybourn's leadership.

"He wants to lead the police chiefs. He wants to be the top cop of Tarrant County," Sheriff Anderson said.

"The police chiefs don't need to be led. They do a great job on their own."

Sheriff Anderson also criticized his opponent for talking too much about chasing "bad guys" and not enough about how he would manage the jails, which take up nearly 80 percent of the sheriff's budget.

He said Chief Waybourn's rhetoric reminds him of David Williams, the former sheriff who sued county commissioners over a budget dispute and whose "God Pod" program for Christian inmates was shut down by the state Supreme Court.

"It's almost like the ghost of David Williams has reappeared here," Sheriff Anderson said. "He talks a lot about crime and about immigrants."

"Never once in his campaign does he talk about running the four jails of the county."

TARRANT COUNTY SHERIFF

REPUBLICAN PRIMARY

Dee Anderson

Occupation: Sheriff

Hometown: Kennedale

Age: 52

Academic: Attended Tarrant County College, 1974-75; attended University of Texas at Austin, 1974-75

Career: Sportswriter, Fort Worth Press, 1975-77; sports editor, Arlington Daily News, 1977-80; officer and public information officer, Arlington Police Department, 1980-2000; helped launch the Amber Alert system for missing children; elected Tarrant County sheriff, 2000 and 2004

Contact: 817-319-3965



Bill Waybourn

Occupation: Chief of the Department of Public Safety for Dalworthington Gardens

Hometown: Dalworthington Gardens

Age: 48

Academic: Bachelor's degree, Dallas Baptist University, 1992; master's degree, Trinity College and Theological Seminary in Newburgh, Ind., 2004

Career: Sergeant, U.S. Air Force, 1978-82; Dalworthington Gardens police officer, sergeant and lieutenant, 1981-84; Dalworthington Gardens police chief, 1984-88; Dalworthington Gardens public safety chief, 1988-present; sergeant, U.S. Air Force Reserves, 1991-97; graduated, FBI National Academy, 2007; no previous political races

Contact: www.chiefforsheriff.com

Graphic

CHART(S): TARRANT COUNTY SHERIFF REPUBLICAN PRIMARY

Load-Date: February 24, 2008

End of Document

[Sheriff candidate's degree called into question Tarrant County: He got raise for master's from unaccredited school](#)

THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

February 24, 2008 Sunday, WEST EDITION

Copyright 2008 THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

DallasNews.com

Section: METRO; Pg. 13B

Length: 733 words

Byline: JEFF MOSIER, Staff Writer jmosier@dallasnews.com

Body



The Dalworthington Gardens public safety chief has received an extra \$2,400 in pay each year since earning a master's degree in 2004. But the college that awarded **Bill Waybourn** his degree is not approved by any recognized accrediting agency.

Chief Waybourn, who is running for the GOP nomination for Tarrant County sheriff, said he has spoken to several attorneys and educators who said they don't believe he broke the law. But he said he was also unaware that his degree was considered unaccredited.

"It's a great degree," he said. "It's a shame that this is a controversy."

Chief Waybourn said he worked hard for the master's degree and added that Trinity College and Theological Seminary in Newburgh, Ind., is not a diploma mill.

His degree is in biblical leadership and ministry with a concentration in conflict management. He also has a bachelor's degree from Dallas Baptist University.

A 2005 state law prohibits a person from knowingly using a "fraudulent or substandard" degree to obtain a promotion or an "increase in compensation." A violation of the law is a Class B misdemeanor.

However, state education officials said it's not clear how a recent Texas Supreme Court ruling that removed religious institutions from some state oversight might affect that law.

Tarrant County Sheriff Dee Anderson, who is running for re-election and faces Chief Waybourn in the March 4 primary, said he wonders how much money the Dalworthington Gardens taxpayers have paid their chief for a questionable degree.

"It's a serious issue," Sheriff Anderson said. "You have to be careful in public life."

Chief Waybourn said he believed that Trinity College's "validation" by British universities - University of Liverpool and later University of Wales - conferred legitimacy to his degree.

But relationships with foreign universities don't bestow the equivalency of accreditation in the U.S.

Many universities would not accept degrees or credits from Trinity College, and it would essentially be treated the same as many unaccredited colleges.

"On the face, it [Trinity College] does not look like one of these fly-by-nights that set up to generate diplomas for a fee," said De Juana Lozada, a spokeswoman for the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. "There is some work involved, but we can not speculate further. Because they are a religious institution, we do not have the same oversight."

Trinity College was founded in 1969 and later became a correspondence school and then an online university. The college has been accredited through the National Association of Private, Nontraditional Schools & Colleges since 1992. That organization isn't recognized by the U.S. Department of Education, the Council for Higher Education Accreditation or the state of Texas.

The National Association of Private, Nontraditional Schools & Colleges listed three employees on its tax forms and had a \$17,000 budget in 2002, according to the most current information available online.

Besides Trinity, the agency also says on its Web site that it accredits three other institutions, including an engineering college in Mississippi and its franchisee in Bulgaria. Previously, it has also been listed as the accrediting agency for the Institute for Advanced Studies of Human Sexuality in San Francisco.



TARRANT COUNTY SHERIFF

REPUBLICAN PRIMARY

Dee Anderson

Occupation: Sheriff

Hometown: Kennedale

Age: 52

Academic: Attended Tarrant County College, 1974-75; attended University of Texas at Austin, 1974-75

Career: Sportswriter, Fort Worth Press, 1975-77; sports editor, Arlington Daily News, 1977-80; officer and public information officer, Arlington Police Department, 1980-2000; helped launch the Amber Alert system for missing children; elected Tarrant County sheriff, 2000 and 2004

Contact: 817-319-3965

Bill Waybourn

Occupation: Chief of the Department of Public Safety for Dalworthington Gardens

Hometown: Dalworthington Gardens

Age: 48

Academic: Bachelor's degree, Dallas Baptist University, 1992; master's degree, Trinity College and Theological Seminary in Newburgh, Ind., 2004

Career: Sergeant, U.S. Air Force, 1978-82; Dalworthington Gardens police officer, sergeant and lieutenant, 1981-84; Dalworthington Gardens police chief, 1984-88; Dalworthington Gardens public safety chief, 1988-present; sergeant, U.S. Air Force Reserves, 1991-97; graduated, FBI National Academy, 2007; no previous political races

Contact: www.chiefforsheriff.com

Graphic

CHART(S): TARRANT COUNTY SHERIFF REPUBLICAN PRIMARY

Load-Date: February 24, 2008

End of Document

[A clash of Republicans Candidates differ on illegal immigration, working with police chiefs](#)



Copyright 2008 THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

DallasNews.com

Section: METRO; Pg. 1B

Length: 759 words

Byline: JEFF MOSIER, Staff Writer jmosier@dallasnews.com

Body

Dee Anderson was first elected Tarrant County sheriff nearly eight years ago to shake up a department mired in controversy and wracked with poor morale.

His challenger in the March 4 primary, **Bill Waybourn**, said the time for a change has arrived again. He said the department has low morale, and the sheriff lacks regional leadership.

Chief Waybourn, head of the Dalworthington Gardens public safety department, pointed to an endorsement by the largest Tarrant County sheriff's association, whose leadership encouraged him to run on the GOP ballot.

"I thought that maybe it's time that we step out and do something about this," Chief Waybourn said.

Sheriff Anderson said he received an endorsement from a different peace officers' association and noted that his opponent's endorsement comes from the group's board of directors, not the general membership.

The sheriff said he's kept the campaign promises he first made in 2000 to run a professional and efficient department.

The Tarrant County jails haven't failed any inspections while he's been in office, and overtime is a fraction of what is spent in other large Texas counties, he said.

"I campaigned to be fiscally responsible," Sheriff Anderson said.

The winner will face Hank Pope, who is unopposed in the Democratic primary.

As in many Republican campaigns, illegal immigration has become a central issue in the sheriff's race. If he wins, Chief Waybourn said that he would enroll the Sheriff's Department in a federal program that trains local law enforcement to become deputized immigration agents.

Only a few Texas agencies have signed up for what's referred to as the 287(g) program.

"There is literally nothing being done now," Chief Waybourn said about efforts to report illegal immigrants in the county jails. If he [an illegal immigrant] makes bail, he could walk right out of the jail."



Additional training for sheriff's deputies would allow them to determine the immigration status of inmates and hold those suspected of being in the country illegally for Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

Sheriff Anderson said federal immigration officers already review the Tarrant County jail rosters several times a week and deport those in the country illegally.

He said that inmates who can afford bail are usually released before they get to the Tarrant County jails.

When they arrive in the county jails, they are usually there a while and would be caught by federal immigration officials, Sheriff Anderson said.

"The process of sending your people out of state to be trained is very expensive, and I'm not sure we would gain much," Sheriff Anderson said.

Chief Waybourn said he would also create a county intelligence center to coordinate information on sex offenders, gangs and repeat offenders among local law enforcement agencies.

That would include coordinating police intelligence among the various cities and making that information easily accessible to officers on the street.

"There are no boundaries on the bad guy," Chief Waybourn said. "He goes from here to yonder."

He would also start holding quarterly meetings with area police chiefs, similar to what was done in the 1980s and '90s.

"The Tarrant County Drug Task Force was born out of those meetings in the 1980s," Chief Waybourn said.

He said Sheriff Anderson has turned his department into an island. Some local police chiefs have still never met the sheriff, Chief Waybourn said.

Meanwhile, he said he has earned the endorsement of the statewide Combined Law Enforcement Associations of Texas and the Texas Municipal Police Association.

Sheriff Anderson said he has met with area police chiefs but has not been able to get everyone together on a regular basis.

He said they don't need Chief Waybourn's leadership.

"He wants to lead the police chiefs. He wants to be the top cop of Tarrant County," Sheriff Anderson said. "The police chiefs don't need to be led. They do a great job on their own."

Sheriff Anderson also criticized his opponent for talking too much about chasing "bad guys" and not enough about how he would manage the jails, which take up nearly 80 percent of the sheriff's budget.

He said Chief Waybourn's rhetoric reminds him of David Williams, the former sheriff who sued county commissioners over a budget dispute and whose "God Pod" program for Christian inmates was shut down by the state Supreme Court.

"It's almost like the ghost of David Williams has reappeared here," Sheriff Anderson said. "He talks a lot about crime and about immigrants."

"Never once in his campaign does he talk about running the four jails of the county."



Load-Date: February 24, 2008

End of Document

[POLICE DWI blood testing sticks In several places, option for refused breath tests not just for special occasions now](#)

THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

May 10, 2008 Saturday, SOUTH EDITION

Copyright 2008 THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

DallasNews.com

Section: METRO; Pg. 1B

Length: 680 words

Byline: WENDY HUNDLEY, Staff Writer whundley@dallasnews.com

Body

What started as a way to combat drunken driving on certain holiday weekends is becoming a more permanent practice in many North Texas communities.

Over the last year, Fort Worth, Arlington, Richardson, Plano and other cities have employed "no refusal" weekends, which require motorists to give blood samples if police suspect they are intoxicated and they refuse Breathalyzer tests. The blood is drawn after authorities obtain a search warrant.

On May 2, "no refusal" became standard operating procedure in Burleson.

Johnson County Attorney Bill Moore said his county also intends to adopt the initiative year-round, although no timetable has been set.

And officials in at least two other North Texas counties - Collin and Denton - say they soon plan to make "no refusal" a weekly occurrence, whether a holiday or not.

"Our goal is to do it every weekend," said Jamie Beck, first assistant district attorney in Denton County, which will hold its first "no refusal" period Memorial Day weekend. Collin County's permanent weekend program is scheduled to begin on Labor Day weekend.

The programs are labor-intensive: Judges or magistrates have to be available to review search warrant requests, and suspects are transported to hospitals or health departments for the blood work.

But officials hope "no refusal" will reduce accidents and deter drunken driving.

Typically, drunken driving suspects who refuse a breath test risk a suspended license. But that risk may be outweighed by the prospect of failing the test.



As "no refusal" becomes more common, officials with the American Civil Liberties Union of Texas have expressed concern about the search warrants being obtained and executed properly but say they understand the need to get drunken drivers off the road.

Fort Worth held its first "no refusal" weekend over the New Year's holiday and had no serious or fatal accidents from drunken driving.

"That's unique," said Richard Alpert, an assistant district attorney in Tarrant County, where 85 percent of misdemeanor jury trials are for DWI cases.

He believes that the growth of "no refusal" programs will reduce the number of those trials because more DWI cases will end in plea bargains instead of trials. That's because the evidence from blood testing is almost bulletproof in the courtroom, prosecutors say.

"The scientific evidence carries more weight in a juror's mind," Ms. Beck said. "People have more confidence in the results."

That's been the case in Dalworthington Gardens, a Tarrant County city that implemented a year-round "no refusal" program three years ago.

Since then, it's had a 100 percent DWI conviction rate. Faced with the blood test evidence, all the defendants have pleaded guilty, Police Chief **Bill Waybourn** said.

He said the program has other benefits. "We were paying a lot of overtime for officers going to testify in DWI trials," he said. "That's gone away."

In addition to saving money, the program has saved time for police officers, who used to need an average of three hours to process a DWI suspect.

Today, DWI cases take one to two hours to process because Dalworthington Gardens has trained officers to draw blood and established a "clean room" for the procedure in the police station.

While most cities probably won't be able to duplicate those elaborate efforts, Chief Waybourn thinks "no refusal" is the wave of the future.

"I believe it's going to become commonplace," he said.

Saying no a risk

With "no refusal" programs, police immediately seek a search warrant to take a blood sample if someone suspected of drunken driving refuses a breath test. In many parts of North Texas, "no refusal" programs are shifting from holiday weekend initiatives to permanent programs:

-On May 2, the city of Burleson made it a year-round practice.

-Beginning on Labor Day weekend, Collin County plans to make "no refusal" a regular weekend program.

-Denton County will hold its first "no refusal" weekend over the Memorial Day holiday but plans to make it a regular weekend policy.

-Johnson County plans to adopt a year-round "no refusal" policy, although it hasn't decided when.



Graphic

CHART(S): Saying no a risk

Load-Date: May 10, 2008

End of Document

LETTERS

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

February 23, 2008 Saturday

Copyright 2008 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: B; Pg. 14

Length: 856 words

Byline: Star-Telegram

Body

Candidates for 17th District Court

I'm voting for and assisting the campaign of Skip Reynolds for judge in the 17th District Court.

Skip's the most qualified candidate -- a true conservative who will apply the law and not use the bench to try to change the law. Judicial activism without the consent of the governed is not American.

The Constitution is not a "living" document subject to the whims of individuals but rather a corporate document that is representative of a corporate body: the people of the United States.

Justice and mercy can't depend on how much money I have, but on the law and the wise, restrained application of same.

-- M.B. "Bill" Dunn, Fort Worth

I'm supporting the candidate who will best serve Tarrant County: Melody Wilkinson.



Melody and I have been close friends for our entire lives. Although Melody was judged the most qualified candidate in a poll of Tarrant County Bar Association members and recommended by the *Star-Telegram*, the reason for my vote is more personal.

I was stuck in a bad marriage and thought that I had nowhere to turn. I called Melody because I knew she would try to help. She immediately helped me to protect myself and my children. I'll always support Melody because she supported me when I most needed someone.

I'm happy that Melody is winning accolades and endorsements, because she deserves them. But I'm voting for her because of the wonderful things she does for people like me when no one is watching. Melody is the best choice for judge of the 17th District Court.

-- *Zonya A. Hefler, Fort Worth*

Crowder for constable

Amid the political mud-slinging, it's refreshing to know that at least one local candidate is a good, honest family man who has Christian values and is truly interested in serving the community.

No special-interest groups are pulling his strings, and he has the backbone to voice his opinion about what's right. Many in politics at all levels could learn much from his personal and professional life.

When you vote in the Republican primary March 4, Jerry Crowder as Precinct 1 constable is a choice you can rely on.

Jerry has 35 years of law enforcement experience; he served in Vietnam; and he has served as constable for 15 years. Giving our support to Jerry will ensure that we have someone in office who cares about us individually and who works for the good of the community.

-- *Melton E. Griggers, North Richland Hills*

Here are the names

Almost everyone discusses national politics, but only a few vote in primaries and runoffs. Local candidates who have the most impact on our daily lives are seeking office to serve us. Yet few voters recognize their names or know their qualifications, values and views.

As team leader for 62 voting precincts, I identify and support candidates who are best qualified because of their integrity and conservative views. They are Bill Meier for the 2nd Court of Appeals, Lisa Callaghan for judge in the 213th District, Skip Reynolds in the 17th District, **Bill Waybourn** for Tarrant County sheriff, and Zane Hilger and Jerry Crowder for Tarrant County constables.

Now you know the names, so go to the polls and vote! Staying home is a vote for opponents. If you believe that your vote doesn't count, remember that it's not the most qualified person who wins -- it's the candidate with the most votes.

-- *Harold A. "Harry" Rumzek, Colleyville*

Tison in District 61

As a parent, I'm voting for Joe Tison for Texas House District 61.



During its recent sessions, the Legislature ignored a large problem and a deadline of great importance: funding of public education.

For too long, public education has been put on the back burner. No one seems to want to work together to ensure that students, teachers and school districts are permanently and fully funded.

Do you not know that by investing in students, teachers and school districts, you're raising the next generation of business owners, accountants, mechanics, electricians, doctors, plumbers, nurses, attorneys, bankers, etc.?

We need a representative in Austin who will speak up for public education: Joe Tison.

Our current generation of students and those who will follow deserve public education that is fully and permanently funded. I encourage you to vote for Joe Tison on March 4.

-- *Beth Potter, Weatherford*

Letters to the editor have complained that Joe Tison is running a negative campaign. (See Tuesday letters "King vs. Tison for Texas House.")

But look at the public record to see the acceptance of campaign contributions from energy and communications companies by Tison's opponent, state Rep. Phil King.

About 500 local residents recently organized to oppose the construction of an air-polluting, water-wasting power plant in Parker County. King professed to be on our side. But imagine our disgust and disappointment to learn from his financial disclosure statements of his links to the power industry.

Was his allegiance to the people he's supposed to represent or to the power industry? Look no further than his financial contributions to see whom he represents.

Elect an honest, respected person to represent us. Vote for Joe Tison for state representative.

-- *Lawrence Bierschenk, Weatherford*

Load-Date: February 23, 2008

End of Document

[Candidate could be tripped up by unaccredited degree](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

February 22, 2008 Friday

Copyright 2008 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram
Found on DFW.com

Section: B; Pg. 2



Length: 529 words

Byline: BUD KENNEDY, Star-Telegram Staff Writer

Body

Dalworthington Gardens Police Chief **Bill Waybourn** is touting his degree in his campaign for sheriff.

A local small-town police chief wants to become a big-time sheriff.

But he has made a very small-time mistake -- and is close to breaking the law.

Chief **Bill Waybourn** of suburban Dalworthington Gardens brags about his college degrees in a new campaign mailer. He claims he's better educated than Tarrant County Sheriff Dee Anderson.

Waybourn lists a "Masters Degree" from "Trinity College."

But this isn't Trinity University in San Antonio.

This Trinity is in Indiana. It's an unaccredited Bible training school led by a Southern Baptist evangelist.

Nothing wrong with a Bible college. But under a 2005 Texas law, it's a crime to apply for a job, collect a bonus or "gain a position in government" claiming an unaccredited degree.

Waybourn, 47, and the Dalworthington chief for 23 years, said Thursday that he believed his 2004 "Master of Arts" in "Conflict Management" was an authentic academic degree. When he started graduate study in 1999, the Newburgh, Ind., school advertised a connection with the credible University of Liverpool. That connection ended in 2003.

"That was four years of hard work," he said. "I would be very surprised if it wasn't acceptable."

In Austin, program director Linda McDonough of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board reviewed the Newburgh school and delivered the surprise.

"If anybody tried to use that degree here" under Texas law, she said carefully, "I don't think they could."

At the University of Texas at Arlington, admissions executive Hans Gatterdam said course credit from the Newburgh school is not accepted.

At Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, a genuine college-level seminary, an admissions executive did not want to be quoted by name. But he groaned at mention of the Newburgh school and said it has a "storied" history of tangles over accreditation.

Later Thursday, Waybourn said that he might have been misled and that he would review whether to claim the degree.

He is paid \$88,000 a year as chief plus an extra \$2,400-per-year bonus for the Newburgh work, according to Melinda Brittain, the Dalworthington Gardens city administrator.

In 2005, state Rep. Fred Brown, R-Bryan, shepherded a law making it a Class B misdemeanor crime to list a "fraudulent or substandard degree" on a résumé or for extra pay. A Dallas school district police



commander resigned last fall over an Idaho degree, and the law has tripped public employees ranging from tenured university professors to superintendents and coaches.

A prosecutor in the Tarrant County district attorney's office said that the law is awkwardly worded and that no such charges have ever been filed here. California author John Bear has investigated diploma issues for more than 20 years. He called the Newburgh school "highly irregular" but also sympathized with graduates.

"Unlike with more blatant phonies," he wrote by e-mail, "there doubtless are Trinity alumni who did real work and did not have intent of fooling anyone."

Let's hope that describes Waybourn.

Bud Kennedy's column appears Sundays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 817-390-7538bud@star-telegram.com

Load-Date: February 22, 2008

End of Document

[TARRANT COUNTY SHERIFF REPUBLICANS; Newcomer challenging longtime sheriff](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

February 18, 2008 Monday

Copyright 2008 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram
Found on DFW.com

Section: G; Pg. 13

Length: 617 words

Byline: Melody McDonald, Star-Telegram Staff Writer

Body

BILL WAYBOURN

DEE ANDERSON

Dee Anderson hasn't drawn a challenger since he ran for Tarrant County sheriff in 2000, when he defeated six opponents including the incumbent sheriff.



Bill Waybourn, Dalworthington Gardens public safety chief, is a political newcomer who said he decided to challenge Anderson this year because it's time for change. "It has always been the same ol' same ol'," Waybourn said.

Anderson said the department was "in shambles" when he got there seven years ago. He points to his long list of accomplishments, including being named Lawman of the Year in 2006 by the Sheriffs' Association of Texas. "There is no cry for change from anyone that deals with and pays attention to the Sheriff's Department," Anderson said.

The sheriff supervises 1,400 employees and an annual budget of \$100 million. Sheriff's deputies patrol a county of 1,000 square miles, house more than 3,000 inmates in four jail facilities, receive and try to serve more than 35,000 warrants a year and provide security to more than 60 courtrooms. The job pays \$135,189.08 annually and comes with a county-owned car.

The term is four years.

BILL WAYBOURN

Age: 48

Occupation: Chief of public safety for Dalworthington Gardens

Background: He was born in Kermit and raised in southeastern New Mexico. He holds a bachelor's degree from Dallas Baptist University in criminal justice and a master's in leadership and conflict management from Trinity College and Seminary. He was with the U.S. Air Force Security Police before coming to Dalworthington Gardens in 1981. In 1984, Waybourn was appointed chief of police and, in 1988, he became the chief of public safety.

Web site: www.chiefforsheriff.com

Did you know:

Dalworthington Gardens was the first city in Texas to implement a no-refusal DWI program, which enables officers to obtain a search warrant and take blood from drunken-driving suspects to determine their blood-alcohol content. It was also the first department to put automatic defibrillators in squad cars.

Waybourn wants to build relations and have a unified front with law enforcement in the county; create a "fusion intelligence center" that focuses on gangs, sexual predators and repeat offenders; and quickly bring in immigration officials when an illegal immigrant commits a crime in Tarrant County.

Waybourn and his wife, Laura, have four adopted children ranging in age from 3 to 19, including three from Russia. All are boys. Waybourn also has a son and a daughter, both grown, from a previous marriage.

DEE ANDERSON

Age: 51

Occupation: Tarrant County sheriff

Background: A Tarrant County native, Anderson attended Tarrant County Junior College and the University of Texas at Austin, where he majored in journalism. Anderson began his law enforcement career in 1980 with the Arlington Police Department, where he served as a patrol officer and a field-training officer.



In 1986, Anderson, who worked at various newspapers as a reporter and editor before he became an officer, became the spokesman for the department, a position he held for 15 years.

Web site: none

Did you know:

While in Arlington, Anderson gained national recognition for handling high-profile cases. He has appeared on *Dateline NBC*, *ABC Prime Time* and *48 Hours*, to name a few.

Anderson co-founded the Amber Plan, a cooperative effort between law enforcement and the news media to alert the public instantly when a child is believed to have been abducted.

In 2003, Anderson was selected to attend the FBI's National Executive Institute, one of the nation's most prestigious training programs for leaders of large law enforcement agencies. Anderson became one of fewer than 800 leaders in the history of American law enforcement to complete that training.

Load-Date: February 18, 2008

End of Document

[Quietly excelling](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

February 15, 2008 Friday

Copyright 2008 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: B; Pg. 10

Length: 366 words

Byline: Star-Telegram

Body

Dee Anderson is the first to say that credit for the turnaround in the reputation of the Tarrant County Sheriff's Department during the past eight years goes to everybody who works there, not just the man with the title "Sheriff."

"Being the largest jail system in Texas to continually meet jail standards -- we've passed six years in a row -- happens because everyone is working hard," Anderson said during a phone interview last week. "People are proud to wear the uniform."



Anderson is running in the March 4 Republican primary against **Bill Waybourn**, chief of the 14-officer Dalworthington Gardens Police Department. The winner will face Democrat Hank Pope, a University of Texas at Arlington police investigator, in November.

Anderson has excelled at the job in a quiet yet determined way. He has saved county taxpayers millions of dollars by cutting overtime among the department's 1,400 authorized employees without risking public safety. He was out front in helping residents understand the need to pass a bond election to build a maximum-security jail and then fought hard for the downtown location.

He has incorporated the latest law enforcement technology into the department's operations, which has been made possible by his good relationship with the Tarrant County Commissioners Court, the holder of the purse strings.

"We are the first to do iris scans on prisoners and have 100 percent certainty of who is here," Anderson said. "We also have computerized TB tracking for inmates through a program that was internally written by the sheriff's IT staff."

In a sign that Tarrant County's reputation extends beyond the state boundaries, representatives from Florida's Broward County Sheriff's Department visited Fort Worth to see how technology is being used here.

"The Broward County department was the gold standard in this country back when I was first elected in 2000," Anderson said. "Everyone would go there to see how it should be done. A delegation coming here is the ultimate compliment for this department."

Anderson's campaign could easily adapt the cliché "If it ain't broke, don't fix it."

The *Star-Telegram* recommends **Dee Anderson** in the Republican primary for Tarrant County sheriff.

Load-Date: February 15, 2008

End of Document

[**Money flowing to N. Texas candidates as primaries loom**](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

January 17, 2008 Thursday

Copyright 2008 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: B; Pg. 1

Length: 788 words

Byline: John Moritz and Aman Batheja, Star-Telegram staff writer

Body



The 2008 election cycle will probably be expensive in North Texas, if the year's first campaign expense reports filed with the Texas Ethics Commission are any indication.

Republican state Sen. Kim Brimer of Fort Worth starts the year with more than \$1 million in the bank with no opponent in the March 4 primary. But Brimer is bracing for a November challenge from Democrat Wendy Davis, who gave up her seat on the Fort Worth City Council. Davis starts with more than \$270,000, including more than \$50,000 raised for past council races.

State Rep. Phil King, the Weatherford Republican who faces a primary challenge for House District 61 from his hometown's former mayor, also starts with his pockets full. King reported raising more than \$281,000 in the last six months of 2007 and having slightly more than that to spend, with about 2 1/2 months before the primary to raise even more.

Challenger Joe Tison, who stepped down as Weatherford mayor last month, has only \$15,000 on hand to start the race after raising more than \$17,000. His biggest benefactor was Weatherford car dealer Jerry Durant, who gave \$10,000.

Fort Worth Republican Charlie Geren, seeking his fifth term in House District 99, is facing a well-funded primary challenger in optometrist Tom Annunziato. Geren, whose report was filed but not yet posted on the ethics commission Web site, said he has about \$190,000 to start the race. Annunziato reported raising about \$178,000 and having about \$148,000 to spend.

The campaign finance reports were due at close of business Tuesday, but most were not posted online until Wednesday. Here is a look at how the money is flowing in some of the other area races:

State House District 97

This was a hot contest last year when Fort Worth Republican Anna Mowery retired with a year left in her term. In the special election to replace her, Fort Worth lawyer Dan Barrett, a Democrat, scored an upset victory in what had been considered Republican territory. Barrett starts the race for a full term with less than \$8,000 in the bank. He's unopposed in the Democratic primary.

Republican Mark Shelton, the physician who lost to Barrett in the runoff last month, has more money on hand -- \$47,600. But he is facing private equity manager Clint Roberts in the Republican primary. Roberts raised no money during the reporting period.

State House District 96

Arlington Republican Bill Zedler said he's starting his race for a third term with about \$90,000 in the till. His primary opponent, Fort Worth police officer Lee Jackson, has raised nearly \$5,600 but had none of it left to start the year.

The winner of the Republican primary will face Democrat Chris Turner, a former aide to U.S. Rep. Chet Edwards, D-Waco. Turner has yet to begin amassing a war chest.

Tarrant County sheriff

Republican Dee Anderson raised no money during the reporting period but still had \$12,020 on hand in his bid for a third term. His primary opponent, Dalworthington Gardens Police Chief **Bill Waybourn**, had yet to begin raising money and had nothing in the bank.



Last month, a Waybourn supporter filed an ethics complaint against Anderson because he had not filed a campaign report since 2004. Anderson, who ran unopposed in 2004, said he was told by the county that he did not have to file semi-annual reports as an officeholder because he was not raising or spending campaign money.

The only Democrat in the race, University of Texas at Arlington police investigator Hank Pope, raised \$1,250 but had nothing in the bank to start the year.

Texas House District 93

There are no contested primaries in this race, but first-term incumbent Democrat Paula Pierson of Arlington has a cushion of about \$54,600 as she looks toward the November race against Republican Bill Burch.

Burch's report was filed but not posted online, an aide said. It was not known how much money he starts with.

Big givers

Houston homebuilder Bob Perry and his wife, Doylene, gave a total of \$35,000 to King, who is chairman of the House Regulated Industries Committee. King also received high-dollar donations from several political action committees, including \$10,000 from the AT&T PAC, \$5,000 from CentrePoint PAC and \$5,000 from Grande Communications PAC.

Pierson, a former Arlington councilwoman, got \$10,000 from Annie's List, which raises money for Democratic women, and \$2,500 for Values in Action, a political committee that supports North Texas Democrats.

Anunziato got several large donations from members of his profession, including \$77,955 from the Texas Optometric PAC. Davis received \$25,000 from Annie's List and \$25,000 from Dallas oilman and philanthropist Lee Fikes.

Online: www.ethics.state.tx.us

Aman Batheja, 817-390-7695 John Moritz, 512-476-4294jmoritz@star-telegram.com

Load-Date: January 17, 2008

End of Document

[Money is flowing to North Texas candidates](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

January 17, 2008 Thursday

Copyright 2008 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram
Found on DFW.com



Section: B; Pg. 5

Length: 546 words

Byline: John Moritz and Aman Batheja, Star-Telegram staff writer

Body

Tison

King

AUSTIN -- The 2008 election cycle will probably be expensive in North Texas, if the year's first campaign expense reports filed with the Texas Ethics Commission are any indication.

Republican state Sen. Kim Brimer of Fort Worth starts the year with more than \$1 million in the bank with no opponent in the March 4 primary. But Brimer is bracing for a November challenge from Democrat Wendy Davis, who gave up her seat on the Fort Worth City Council. Davis starts with more than \$270,000, including more than \$50,000 raised for past council races.

State Rep. Phil King, the Weatherford Republican who faces a primary challenge for House District 61, also starts with his pockets full. King reported raising more than \$281,000 in the last six months of 2007 and having slightly more to spend, with about 2 1/2 months before the primary. Houston homebuilder Bob Perry and his wife, Doylene, gave him a total of \$35,000.

Challenger Joe Tison, who stepped down as Weatherford mayor last month, has only \$15,000 on hand to start the race after raising more than \$17,000.

Fort Worth Republican Charlie Geren, seeking his fifth term in House District 99, is facing a well-funded primary challenger in optometrist Tom Annunziato. Geren, whose report was filed but not yet posted on the ethics commission Web site, said he has about \$190,000 to start the race.

Annunziato reported raising about \$178,000 and having about \$148,000 to spend. He got several large donations from members of his profession, including \$77,955 from the Texas Optometric PAC.

The campaign finance reports were due at close of business Tuesday, but most were not posted online until Wednesday.

State House District 97

Fort Worth lawyer Dan Barrett, a Democrat who won the special election last year to finish Anna Mowery's term, starts the race for a full term with less than \$8,000 in the bank. He's unopposed in the Democratic primary.

Republican Mark Shelton, the physician who lost to Barrett in the runoff last month, has \$47,600 on hand. His primary opponent, Clint Roberts, raised no money during the reporting period.

State House District 96

Arlington Republican Bill Zedler said he's starting his race for a third term with about \$90,000. His primary opponent, Fort Worth police officer Lee Jackson, has raised nearly \$5,600 but had none of it left to start the



year. The winner of the Republican primary will face Democrat Chris Turner, who has yet to begin amassing a war chest.

Tarrant County sheriff

Republican Dee Anderson raised no money during the reporting period but still had \$12,020 on hand in his bid for a third term. His primary opponent, Dalworthington Gardens Police Chief **Bill Waybourn**, had nothing in the bank.

The only Democrat in the race, UT-Arlington police investigator Hank Pope, raised \$1,250 but had nothing in the bank to start the year.

Texas House District 93

There are no contested primaries in this race, but first-term incumbent Democrat Paula Pierson of Arlington has a cushion of about \$54,600 as she looks toward the November race against Republican Bill Burch. Burch's report was filed but not posted online, an aide said. It was not known how much money he starts with.

Online: www.ethics.state.tx.us

Aman Batheja, 817-390-7695 John Moritz , 512-476-4294jmoritz@star-telegram.com

Load-Date: January 17, 2008

End of Document

[Sheriff will face GOP challenger Tarrant County: House races fill up for party's March primary](#)

THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

January 3, 2008 Thursday, WEST EDITION

Copyright 2008 THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

DallasNews.com

Section: METRO; Pg. 1B

Length: 552 words

Byline: JEFF MOSIER, Staff Writer jmosier@dallasnews.com

Body

Tarrant County Sheriff Dee Anderson hasn't had to run a political campaign in more than seven years.



Now, for the first time since his election in 2000, he's facing a challenger, and the opposition comes from within his own party. **Bill Waybourn**, chief of the Dalworthington Gardens Department of Public Safety, is also running for sheriff in the March 4 Republican primary.

The deadline for filing for the party primaries was 6 p.m. Wednesday.

Chief Waybourn, who has held his current position for more than 23 years, said he has nothing personal against Sheriff Anderson. But he said that more should be done to train deputies, crack down on illegal immigrants who commit crimes and communicate with local police and other law enforcement agencies.

"The sheriff needs to become a consensus maker in the county," Chief Waybourn said. "He needs to reach out to other municipalities and county departments to create a solid front."

Sheriff Anderson said he's worried that the race could become ugly. He said that an unjustified ethics complaint filed against him by one of Chief Waybourn's supporters has already set a negative tone.

"I'm proud of our accomplishments," Sheriff Anderson said about his years in office. "With these early tactics, I'm wary about what will happen next."

Janette Kurban, an Arlington chiropractor, filed a complaint with the Texas Ethics Commission and sent a letter to the Tarrant County district attorney accusing the sheriff of repeatedly failing to file campaign finance reports.

Sheriff Anderson said he didn't file some reports because he did not spend any money and did not have a campaign treasurer. He said the state ethics commission assured him that he didn't have to file in those cases.

Dr. Kurban said she still believes that Sheriff Anderson violated campaign laws.

Sheriff Anderson, a former Arlington police spokesman, was first elected in 2000. He won a seven-candidate race outright in the 2000 Republican primary. He then defeated Democrat Luther Perry in the November general election by more than 100,000 votes.

He was unopposed in the GOP primary and general election in 2004. The winner of the GOP primary will face Democrat Hank Pope.

In other high-profile races, Republicans Mark M. Shelton, Clint L. Roberts, James Dean Schull and Bob Leonard are facing off to see who will challenge newly elected state Rep. Dan Barrett in the general election. Mr. Barrett defeated Dr. Shelton in a special election runoff last month for a District 97 seat held by Republicans for at least three decades.

Mr. Leonard, who held that seat in the 1970s and '80s, also ran but didn't win enough votes to make the runoff. Mr. Schull also was in the GOP special election.

Mr. Barrett is unopposed in the Democratic primary.

Another Republican official, state Rep. Bill Zedler of Arlington, is also facing a primary challenge. His opponent is Lee Jackson, outgoing president of the Fort Worth Police Officers Association.

The winner will face Democrat Chris Turner, an aide to U.S. Rep. Chet Edwards of Waco.

Republican state Rep. Charlie Geren of Fort Worth is also facing a primary challenge from optometrist Tom Annunziato.



GOP state Sen. Kim Brimer has no challenger in the primary, but he'll face Democrat Wendy Davis in the general election. Ms. Davis is a former Fort Worth City Council member.

Graphic

PHOTO(S): 1. Dee Anderson 2. **Bill Waybourn**

Load-Date: January 3, 2008

End of Document

[*Tarrant voters to have plenty of choices this year*](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

January 3, 2008 Thursday

Copyright 2008 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: B; Pg. 1

Length: 852 words

Byline: AMAN BATHEJA, Star-Telegram Staff Writer

Body

It's going to be a busy election year in Tarrant County.

The deadline for candidates to file for the March 4 primary was Wednesday. At every level of government, incumbents attracted challengers.

Eight of 10 Tarrant County state representatives attracted challengers from the opposing party. Two Republicans, Charlie Geren of Fort Worth and Bill Zedler of Arlington, have primary challengers.

District 97 is a priority for both parties. Democrat Dan Barrett beat Republican Mark Shelton in a special election runoff last month, ending 30 years of Republican representation from southwest Tarrant County. Now three Republicans -- Shelton, former state Rep. Bob Leonard and private equity manager Clint Roberts -- are vying for the nomination.

Democrats fielded slightly more candidates than in 2006 but continued a recent tradition by not offering challengers in most local judicial races.



Other races of note:

No Tarrant County-area U.S. representative received a primary challenger. All will face a general election opponent.

Tarrant County Sheriff Dee Anderson will face Dalworthington Gardens Police Chief **Bill Waybourn** in the Republican primary. The winner of that race will go against Democrat Hank Pope in the general election.

Six of eight county constables will face primary challengers.

THE CANDIDATES

These candidates have filed to run in Tarrant County primaries March 4. Incumbents are marked with an *.

President

Republicans: Hugh Cort, Rudy Giuliani, Mike Huckabee, Duncan Hunter, Alan Keyes, John McCain, Ron Paul, Mitt Romney, Fred Thompson, Hoa Tran

Democrats: Joe Biden, Hillary Clinton, Chris Dodd, John Edwards, Barack Obama, Bill Richardson

U.S. Senate

Republicans: John Cornyn*, Larry Kilgore

Democrats: Gene Kelly, Ray McMurrey, Rick Noriega, Rhett Smith

U.S. House of Representatives

District 6: Joe Barton (R)*, Steven J. Bush (D), Ludwig Otto (D)

District 12: Kay Granger (R)*, Tracey Smith (D)

District 17: Chet Edwards (D)*, Rob Curnock (R), Tim Kleinschmidt (R)

District 24: Kenny Marchant (R)*, Tom Love (D)

District 26: Michael Burgess (R)*, Ken Leach (D)

Statewide

Texas Railroad Commission: Michael Williams (R)*, Art Hall (D), Mark Thompson (D), Dale Henry (D)

Chief Justice, Texas Supreme Court: Wallace Jefferson (R)*, Jim Jordan (D)

Texas Supreme Court Justice, Place 7: J. Dale Wainwright (R)*, Baltasar D. Cruz (D), Sam Houston (D)

Texas Supreme Court Justice, Place 8: Susan Criss (D), Linda Reyna Yanez (D)

Court of Criminal Appeals Judge, Place 3: Thomas Price (R)*, Susan Strawn (D)

Court of Criminal Appeals Judge, Place 4: Paul Womack (R)*, J.R. Molina (D)

Court of Criminal Appeals Judge, Place 9: Cathy Cochran (R)*



State Board of Education, District 11:Patricia Hardy (R)*, Barney Maddox (R)

State Board of Education, District 13:Cindy Werner (R)

State Senate

District 9:Chris Harris (R)*, Melvin Willms (D)

District 10:Kim Brimer (R)*, Wendy Davis (D)

State House of Representatives

District 58:Rob Orr (R)*

District 61:Phil King (R)*, Charles William Randolph (D), Joe Tison (R)

District 90:Lon Burnam (D)*, Larry Keilberg (R)

District 91:Kelly Hancock (R)*, Chris Utchell (D)

District 92:Todd Smith (R)*, Kalandra N. Wheeler (D)

District 93:Paula Pierson (D)*, Bill Burch (R)

District 94:Diane Patrick (R)*

District 95:Marc Veasey (D)*

District 96:Bill Zedler (R)*, Lee Jackson (R), Chris Turner (D)

District 97:Dan Barrett (D)*, Bob Leonard (R), Clint L. Roberts (R), Mark M. Shelton (R)

District 98:Vicki Truitt (R)*, Nancy Moffat (D)

District 99:Charlie Geren (R)*, Tom Annunziato (R), Sheila Ford-Henderson (D)

District 106:Kirk England (D)*, Karen Wiegman (R)

Tarrant County

2nd Court of Appeals Justice, Place 7:Terrie Livingston (R)*

17th District Judge:Wade Birdwell (R), Mike Hrabal (R), Skip Reynolds (R), Randy Turner (D), Melody Wilkinson (R)

48th District Judge:David Evans (R)*

67th District Judge:Don Cosby (R)*, Warren Gould (D)

96th District Judge:Jeff Walker (R)*

153rd District Judge:Ken Curry (R)*

213th District Judge:Louis Sturns (R)*, Lisa Callaghan (R), Bill Ray (R)

342nd District Judge:Bob McGrath (R)*



348th District Judge:Dana Womack (R)*

352nd District Judge: Bonnie Sudderth (R)*

396th District Judge:George Gallagher (R)*

Criminal District Court No. 2 Judge:Wayne Salvant (R)*, Maureen R. Tolbert (D)

360th Family District Judge:Debra Lehrmann (R)*

Sheriff:Dee Anderson (R)*, Hank Pope (D), **Bill Waybourn** (R)

Tax Assessor-Collector:Betsy Price (R)*

County Commissioner, Precinct 1:Roy Brooks (D)*, Cora Mosley (D)

County Commissioner, Precinct 3:Gary Fickes (R)*, Jerry Lee Phillips (D)

Constable, Precinct 1:Jerry Crowder (R)*, Andy Bryant (R), Richard Aldridge (R)

Constable, Precinct 2:Antonio Molina Jr. (R), Robert J. McGinty (R)

Constable, Precinct 3:Zane Hilger (R)*, Jason L. McCaffity (R)

Constable, Precinct 4:Dub Bransom (R)*

Constable, Precinct 5:Sergio DeLeon (D)*, Ernesto Magallon (D)

Constable, Precinct 6:Joe Kubes (R)*

Constable, Precinct 7:Clint Burgess (R)*, Mike Arter (R)

Constable, Precinct 8:Chester Luckett (D)*, Michael Campbell (D), Chris Salone (D)

Democratic Party Chair:Steve Maxwell, J. Roddy Turner

Republican Party Chair:Stephanie Klick*

AMAN BATHEJA, 817-390-7695abatheja@star-telegram.com

Load-Date: January 3, 2008

End of Document

[Fort Worth police won't take 'no' for an answer](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

December 29, 2007 Saturday

Copyright 2007 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: B; Pg. 1

Length: 865 words

Byline: MELODY McDONALD, Star-Telegram staff writer

Body

Fort Worth Police Chief Ralph Mendoza announced Friday that the Fort Worth Police Department will crack down on drunken drivers this New Year's.

FORT WORTH -- Drunken drivers, consider yourself warned: The cops will be out for blood.

Motorists on Fort Worth roads who refuse to take a breath test after being stopped for suspected drunken driving on New Year's Eve and New Year's Day will have their blood drawn to determine whether they are impaired.

"If you refuse to take that blood test, we are going to ask for a warrant from a magistrate and come back and take your blood," said Fort Worth Police Chief Ralph Mendoza. "Basically, we are going to get our evidence one way or the other."

For the first time, Fort Worth police are launching a DWI No Refusal campaign in an effort to keep drunken drivers off the roads during the holiday.

In a news conference Friday morning, Mendoza, along with officials from the Tarrant County district attorney's office, Dalworthington Gardens, and Mothers Against Drunk Driving warned motorists not to get behind the wheel if they have imbibed.

"If you are stopped by a Fort Worth police officer and you are arrested for DWI, we are going to get a sample," said prosecutor Richard Alpert, who specializes in the prosecution of DWI and intoxication manslaughter cases. "We are going to get the evidence we need in court to prove your guilt. There is no way around it."

Defense attorney Abe Factor who routinely defends those arrested for DWI, said he believes that the campaign is little more than a publicity ploy and that the results will be lackluster, partly because the process will take time and many will score below the legal limit of 0.08.

"To me, it's more sizzle than steak," he said. "It's a good thing for them to have a press conference over, but the numbers are going to be fairly small. If they stop someone who is really intoxicated, they are going to have them videotaped all over the place anyway."

The idea for the no refusal holiday came from senior prosecutor Lloyd Whelchel of the Tarrant County district attorney's office.

Whelchel recently attended a training seminar and reminded officials that authorities in El Paso and Harris County had similar programs in place.

The campaign will run from 8 p.m. Monday to 5 a.m. Tuesday and from 8 p.m. Tuesday to 5 a.m. Wednesday. If a Fort Worth police officer pulls over a suspected drunken driver who refuses a breath test, the officer will seek a search warrant from a magistrate.

The suspect will then be taken to a room at the Fort Worth Police Department, where at least three officers with Dalworthington Gardens Public Safety Department will be on hand to take their blood.

"We are excited to be a small cog in this wheel," said Public Safety Chief **Bill Waybourn**, whose department runs a similar program year-round and whose officers have been medically certified to draw blood.

More than two years ago, Dalworthington Gardens, a town of 2,300 that is surrounded by Arlington and Pantego, refused to take no for an answer and began obtaining warrants for drivers who refused breath and sobriety tests, Waybourn said.

"For each DWI arrested, we took their blood," Waybourn said. "We have done that in over 150 cases. We've only had three out of those that have been below the legal limit. Everyone else has been above the legal limit and we have 100 percent conviction in our courts. Everything is true, tried and tested."

Susan Bragg, a spokeswoman for Mothers Against Drunk Driving, made it clear that she has no problem with people 21 or older drinking alcohol during the holiday. The problem comes, she said, when they choose to get behind the wheel.

"MADD's message today is that all of us deserve to arrive alive," she said.

Alpert said that using search warrants to obtain a blood samples for suspected drunken drivers is not new in Texas.

He promised that the district attorney's office will vigorously prosecute motorists arrested for DWI this holiday season.

"It is our hope that most people will hear this message and use common sense and not risk it," Alpert said. "Those who don't hear the message will face the consequences."

Sobering stats

More than 17,000 Americans lose their lives in DWI wrecks each year.

Fatality accidents in Fort Worth have increased 38 percent since 2003 (56 in 2003; 66 in 2004 and 2005; 77 in 2006)

DWI arrests in Fort Worth have increased 40 percent compared with last year.

To date this year, 81 fatality accidents have occurred with a total of 87 deaths. Of the 81 wrecks, 25 involved an impaired driver.

First offenders convicted of driving while intoxicated face up to 180 days in jail and a \$2,000 fine. Second DWI offenders face a year in jail and a \$4,000 fine. A third conviction for a DWI is a felony, punishable by up to 10 years in prison and a \$10,000 fine.

Drunken drivers who cause the death of someone face up to 20 years behind bars, unless they kill a police officer, firefighter or paramedic. In those cases, they face up to life in prison.



Police encourage people who have been drinking to call a cab, get a designated driver or don't go anywhere.

Source: Fort Worth Police Department

mjmcdonald@star-telegram.comMELODY McDONALD, 817-390-7386

Load-Date: December 29, 2007

End of Document

[FW police to try a new DWI strategy on reluctant suspects Balking at breath test over holiday to mean mandatory blood exam](#)

THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

December 29, 2007 Saturday, NORTH EDITION

Copyright 2007 THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

DallasNews.com

Section: METRO; Pg. 8B

Length: 420 words

Byline: WENDY HUNDLEY, Staff Writer whundley@dallasnews.com

Body

Fort Worth motorists who refuse alcohol breath tests will be required to give blood samples to determine whether they've been driving while intoxicated.

The mandatory "no refusal" initiative will be in effect over the New Year's holiday.

If a driver refuses to give a blood sample, police will obtain a search warrant requiring compliance.

"We're going to get our evidence one way or another," Fort Worth Police Chief Ralph Mendoza said.

DWI arrests have increased 40 percent over the last year, and fatal auto accidents in Fort Worth also continue to rise, he said.

In 2006, 77 people lost their lives in car crashes, up from 56 in 2003, according to Fort Worth police.

If the holiday initiative is successful, the "no refusal" program may become a permanent part of the Police Department's efforts to combat drunken driving, Chief Mendoza said.

The temporary testing program will be in effect from 5 p.m. to 8 a.m. Monday and Tuesday.



Richard Alpert, an assistant Tarrant County district attorney, said courts have upheld law enforcement's right to use search warrants to obtain evidence of blood alcohol levels, and the "no refusal" policy has been used successfully in other Texas counties.

"This is the future of DWI enforcement, in my opinion," Mr. Alpert said.

The Fort Worth initiative is patterned after "no refusal" programs in Houston, El Paso and Dalworthington Gardens, which started mandatory blood testing 21/2 years ago.

Since then, 13 of Dalworthington Gardens' 30 police officers and volunteers have been trained to draw blood specimens.

The evidence obtained from this evidence has resulted in convictions in every case, Dalworthington Gardens Police Chief **Bill Waybourn** said.

He believes the effort is changing people's attitudes toward drinking and driving.

"Last year on New Year's Eve, we arrested no one for DWI," he said.

Because Fort Worth officers are not yet trained as blood technicians, three of Dalworthington Gardens' trained officers will be working with the Fort Worth police during the holiday weekend.

They'll be the ones drawing blood from DWI suspects.

A magistrate will be on hand to sign search warrants for the blood evidence, if needed.

For officers working the hectic holiday weekend, the new technique might make things run a little smoother.

Lt. Dean Sullivan, a Fort Worth police spokesman, said it takes five minutes to draw blood as opposed to 25 minutes to run a breath test.

"There have been nights we've had them lining up at the door," he said.

"And one of those nights is New Year's Eve."

Load-Date: December 29, 2007

End of Document

[**Ethics complaint submitted against sheriff**](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

December 27, 2007 Thursday

Copyright 2007 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: B; Pg. 1



Length: 652 words

Byline: SUSAN SCHROCK, Star-Telegram staff writer

Body

Bill Waybourn

Dee Anderson

ARLINGTON -- A woman who says she is helping Dalworthington Gardens Police Chief **Bill Waybourn** explore a bid for Tarrant County sheriff submitted an ethics complaint Wednesday against incumbent Dee Anderson.

Janette Kurban, wife of retired Judge Roy Kurban, alleges in her letter to the Texas Ethics Commission that Anderson has violated state election codes by failing to file campaign contributions and expenditure reports since 2004, a claim Anderson disputes. She also sent a letter to Tarrant County District Attorney Tim Curry on Wednesday stating that she believes that Anderson has committed several Class B misdemeanors for failing to comply with local election codes.

"Anyone who commits a Class B misdemeanor, for example a DWI, should not receive a pass, especially the Sheriff. If we do not require our highest ranking county law enforcement officer to abide by the law, then how can we expect the average citizen to obey the law?" Kurban wrote in her letter to Curry.

Waybourn did not return telephone calls Wednesday seeking comment.

Anderson has filed to run for sheriff next year. He said he was surprised to learn about Waybourn's interest in running against him. Candidates have until Wednesday to file for the March 4 primary.

Anderson was first elected sheriff in 2000. He said he did not campaign in 2004, when he was unopposed in his bid for a second, four-year term. He said Wednesday that he has not filed any finance reports since July 2004 and was told by the Tarrant County Elections Office that he did not have to.

"They said as long as you don't have an active treasurer and don't raise or spend any money, you don't have to file. I haven't raised a dime or spent a dime," Anderson said. "Had I filed one, it would have just said zero."

Candidates are typically required to file reports in January and July and by certain deadlines before and after elections.

Candidates do not have to file biannual finance reports if they do not have an active treasurer and do not accept or spend more than \$500 for their campaign during the reporting periods, according to the Texas Ethics Commission Web site.

Anderson reported no contributions or expenditures on his January and July 2004 reports; he did list former Arlington police chaplain Harold Elliott as his treasurer, records show.

Kurban wrote to Curry that she was told by Brenda Clark of the Tarrant County Elections Office that Anderson had been notified after each reporting period after July 2004 that he had not filed a campaign finance report, but that "Anderson had continually failed to comply."



The Tarrant County Elections Office referred legal questions to the Texas Ethics Commission, which was closed Wednesday.

Steve Raborn, Tarrant County Elections administrator, said his office routinely notifies candidates and office holders by e-mail of campaign finance deadlines but had no records of correspondence sent specifically to Anderson about missed deadlines.

Kurban said she was asked last week by Waybourn, a longtime friend, to serve on an exploratory committee for a run for sheriff. She said one of the first things she did was call the elections office to request Anderson's campaign fundraising reports because "we need to know what we're up against."

"This is not personal," Kurban said. "The last thing I want to do is accuse someone of something they have not done."

The Ethics Commission has authority to impose fines for violations of state election code.

Anderson said he plans to file a finance report by the Jan. 15 deadline.

Staff writer Anthony Spangler contributed to this report.

Primary elections

Wednesday is the deadline for candidates to file for the general primary election. The primary is March 4.

Feb. 4 is the last day residents may register to vote in the primary election. Early voting begins Feb. 19.

Source: Texas Secretary of State

Susan Schrock, 817-548-5475sschrock@star-telegram.com

Load-Date: December 27, 2007

End of Document

[Chaplain also rescues the rescuers - during, after crises](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

July 21, 2007 Saturday

Copyright 2007 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: B; Pg. 4

Length: 594 words

Byline: PAUL BOURGEOIS, Star-Telegram staff writer



Body

"Sometimes someone might not be saying a thing, but their body might be saying they need help," says Wes McDuffie.

DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS -- Anyone not sure what a police chaplain does need only talk to Wes McDuffie.

"Police officers bring order," said McDuffie. "We bring hope."

And sometimes, the best way to do that is to not say or do anything.

"Sometimes it's just command presence. Just being there," said McDuffie, 46, police and fire chaplain in Dalworthington Gardens since 1994.

As chaplain, sometimes he's there to comfort victims of crime or tragedy. Sometimes he's the one who notifies the next of kin. Sometimes he's there to support police and firefighters, as he did in New York City in the days and weeks immediately after 9-11.

"When a firefighter brings out a dead baby, they might be going through some post-traumatic stress. A lot of times we just talk it through with them. If we can't reach them through the chaplaincy, we refer them to a psychologist."

The important thing, McDuffie said, is to try to get them talking about what happened and how they feel. Listening is the key, he said.

"To be a good chaplain, you need a good set of ears and eyes. You have to be willing to listen, both verbally and nonverbally. Sometimes someone might not be saying a thing, but their body might be saying they need help," said McDuffie, recently elected president of the International Conference of Police Chaplains. (More at www.icpc4cops.org)

The organization supports 2,700 chaplains in 21 countries. McDuffie is the first African-American to head the conference. He began a two-year term in June.

The chaplains are in their communities to help lift the burden from citizens and emergency responders -- to help them cope. McDuffie said the ICPC is there to help support the chaplains.

Many hats

It's been a big year for McDuffie. In January, he received a Sharing the Dream award, presented by the Arlington Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration Committee, for his service to the community.

Aside from being a family man -- McDuffie and his wife, Felita, have two teenage sons -- his full-time job is supervising mechanics who work on the trucks for United Parcel Service. He's also pastor at Mount Arie Baptist Church, a congregation of 60 in Kaufman, and chaplain to the Dallas field division of the federal Drug Enforcement Administration.

And he's one of three assistant chaplains in Arlington.



"Wes McDuffie is one of the finest men I've ever known," said Harold Elliot, chaplain of the Arlington Police Department. "He has a chaplain's heart. That means if anyone has a need he will break a limb to help them."

Role evolved

McDuffie said he never really aspired to be a chaplain. It came to him.

"About 25 years ago I had a friend who worked for DPS [Texas Department of Public Safety] and asked if he could come by and vent. Then the other guys in the department started coming by. It snowballed from there," McDuffie said.

Dalworthington Gardens Police Chief **Bill Waybourn** said McDuffie fills a vital role.

"We are a value-driven department," said Waybourn, "and he amplifies our values: integrity, honor and respect."

McDuffie said he doesn't just provide counseling after the fact.

At major crime scenes, he might be there alongside police and firefighters, helping to recover bodies and administering last rites.

"A chaplain can go where a pastor can't," he explained. "A pastor can't cross into a crime scene, but a chaplain has had the training. He knows where he can go and what he can touch and not touch."

pbourgeois@star-telegram.com Paul Bourgeois, 817-548-5412

Load-Date: July 21, 2007

End of Document

[Blood tests get results](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

November 25, 2006 Saturday

Copyright 2006 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: B; Pg. 1

Length: 289 words

Byline: NATHANIEL JONES, STAR-TELEGRAM STAFF WRITER

Body



No drunken-driving suspect who has been arrested in Dalworthington Gardens has been acquitted since the town began taking blood from suspects.

Since July 2005, 75 drivers in the city have been convicted of driving while intoxicated.

"I think people are looking at the evidence and saying, 'It's better to just plead out,'" Public Safety Chief **Bill Waybourn** said.

Dalworthington Gardens police began obtaining warrants to draw blood because a large number of drunken-driving suspects were refusing breath and field sobriety tests.

Only one person has asked a judge to have the evidence thrown out. His request was denied, meaning the results will be used against him during a court hearing.

Other departments around the state have inquired about the program. Arlington said it has no plans to adopt the program.

Waybourn said collecting blood samples would require a bigger financial and time commitment from larger departments.

Texas had the second-highest number of alcohol-related traffic fatalities in the nation in 2005, according to the local chapter of Mothers Against Drunk Driving, with 1,569. California led the nation with 1,719.

The convictions will have the biggest impact, said Pat Ortiz, a victim-service specialist with MADD.

"You're not going to wiggle out of that," Ortiz said. "You learn from your experience when you're facing serious punishment."

IN THE KNOW

By the numbers

1,569 the number of alcohol-related traffic deaths in Texas in 2005

75 number of cases of driving while intoxicated made since Dalworthington police began drawing blood from drunken-driving suspects.

1 number of cities in Tarrant County that require all drunken-driving suspects to submit to blood tests

Nathaniel Jones, 817-548-5414 njones@star-telegram.com

Load-Date: November 25, 2006

End of Document

[BINGO HAUL; Some landlords hit the jackpot while charities get consolation prizes](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

June 17, 2006 Saturday





Section: A; Pg. 1

Length: 4009 words

Byline: DARREN BARBEE, STAR-TELEGRAM STAFF WRITER

Body

Sheri Ford of Alvarado wins a bingo game at an Arlington bingo hall. Most money taken in at bingo halls is whittled down by prizes and other expenses before charities receive a penny.

Olivia Turner of Arlington marks a bingo card on a recent Thursday night. Texas caps prizes at \$750 a game.

Graph: Bingo revenue in Texas

Illus.

Graph: Tarrant bingo by the numbers, Charitable distributions shrinking

Bingo hall landlord John Schlueter owns a ranch near Emory that includes a 4,200-square-foot home. The property, which is about 100 miles east of Fort Worth, is valued at about \$240,000, according to records at the Rains County Appraisal District.

Chart: Texas bingo baron

The money would be waiting for him in an envelope.

The bingo games were supposedly benefiting a shelter for battered women. Instead, state records show that the proceeds were going to the people running the games. John Michael Schlueter, the man in charge, would stop by and pick up his cut: \$150 here, \$800 there.

It's one of bingo's big no-nos: running games when no charity is present and pocketing the money.

Although Schlueter won't talk about what happened more than a decade ago, it all worked out perfectly -- even after he got caught.

At 57, he is one of Tarrant County's barons of charity bingo, leasing out space for nonprofit groups to run their games. In the past five years, \$54 million has flowed through the four Tarrant County halls with which he's associated.

In many ways, his history with the game illustrates to critics all that is wrong with an industry that generated \$634 million last year in Texas. A *Star-Telegram* examination found the game can be lucrative for bingo's pros, but sometimes leaves little money -- or control -- in the hands of the charities it is supposed to benefit.



And that seems to be fine with some charities. Some have struck awkward alliances with a few fat cats and rogue characters who have run topless clubs or illegal gambling parlors with a touch of Vegas: free drinks.

Those middlemen aren't supposed to run bingo. The Texas Constitution requires charities to be in charge. That was the point: The game was legalized in 1980 so money would aid orphans, buy fire engines, provide scholarships and help others in need.

More than a quarter century later, bingo still conjures up images of steadfast community organizations -- the Lions Club, Knights of Columbus, Kiwanis -- that host dollar games for chain smokers with crumpled-up bingo sheets.

The intent was chivalrous. And since its inception, bingo charities have distributed more than \$800 million.

But the money passes through a lot of hands before charities get what's left.

Last year, Tarrant County bingo halls generated nearly \$69.4 million in revenue, the most among the state's urban counties. The charities' share -- the amount they're required to give away -- totaled \$1.67 million, just over 2 percent.

Some get even less. No bingo proceeds were reported being spent by more than 40 Texas groups conducting bingo last year, though they raised about \$11.5 million.

Cal Kost, a member of one Tarrant charity, sees a wide gulf. "It's a million-dollar business we're in, and we get \$40,000," he said.

Most revenues are eaten by prize payouts, which draw players into halls. Another big chunk goes to landlords. At two bingo halls under one roof in Arlington, for instance, charities paid a collective \$570,000 in rent last year at a building appraised at \$720,000. Texas landlords last year received about \$39 million in rent -- \$9 million more than charity bingos distributed, state records show.

Who is watching out for the charities' interest?

The state is the ultimate enforcer, but to some extent, charities are supposed to watch their own backs. That's hard to do when some people listed as overseeing Tarrant County bingo charities are dead, reside in assisted-living centers or are surprised to find out they are serving.

And some members of the committee that advises the Texas Lottery Commission on regulating the game have connections to bingo halls investigated for illegal use of gambling devices.

One recent member owes the U.S. Treasury Department more than \$130,000 for unpaid taxes and penalties related to an eight-liner operation, according to court documents. Two other members were involved with bingos where eight-liner machines were seized. Both said they had nothing to do with the machines.

Committee member Larry Whittington said administrative fines and aggressive enforcement are helping to rid the state of bad operators. If local charities have little to show for their games, that's a sign something isn't right and could bring an investigation, he said.

To Whittington, the real problem is declining attendance. He says the game is under pressure from out-of-state casinos and Internet gambling. So he wants the state to consider bigger payouts -- prizes are now capped at \$750 a game -- and expanded gambling options, with slot machines at bingo halls.



One of Texas bingo's most visible advocates, Austin attorney Stephen Fenoglio, said the system could stand some revision. For one thing, state enforcement, in his view, largely nitpicks charities. And the funding formula for charities isn't the best, said Fenoglio, who represents about 900 charities as well as landlords and other bingo industry professionals. But recent accounting changes have taken steps toward making charities more efficient, he said.

As for Schlueter, officials came down hard on what the state called "phantom games" being run at Seminary Drive Bingo in the name of the Women's Haven of Tarrant County.

In February 1997, officials denied renewal of the Seminary Drive license.

State records show no further action against Schlueter. Six months later, he applied for a new bingo license. Same place, new name: Town Center Bingo.

Last year, the hall brought in \$3.5 million.

Overseeing the game

The point of gambling is to separate a customer from his cash, says critic Weston Ware of Cedar Hill.

The professionals behind bingo do just that.

Landlords who charge the maximum allowed by the state can gross more in two weeks -- \$16,800 -- than some charity bingos give away in a year.

To try to keep the game on the up and up, the Texas Bingo Enabling Act limits who can be involved. Applicants must undergo a criminal background check. Anyone convicted of a felony, fraud, a gambling offense or a crime of moral turpitude within the past 10 years must be rejected.

Other acts of bad conduct are trivia to the state.

Billy Atkins, who oversees charitable bingo for the Lottery Commission, said a character test is "not a provision of the bingo enabling act."

That doesn't sit well with gambling foes such as Ware, who lobbies for Texans Against Gambling. Cash gambling brings an inherent risk of cheating, skimming and money laundering, he said.

"When bingo was passed in 1980, it was absolutely one of the requirements that people have good reputations before they could operate bingos," he said.

Ware was concerned when the *Star-Telegram* told him that some members of the state's advisory committee were involved, in varying degrees, with eight-liners. Under Texas law, the machines are illegal gambling devices if they pay out in cash or award more than token prizes.

Committee member Kimberly Rogers oversees various operations for charities at Circus Bingo in San Antonio. In 2003, Bexar County authorities and investigators for the Lottery Commission raided the hall after an undercover investigation found that it had eight-liners that paid cash prizes. Investigators believed the gambling operation generated more than \$220,000 in one year.

The authorities seized \$31,198 from bank accounts that investigators believed were tied to gambling.

The case was settled out of court, with the state retaining about \$13,000.



Rogers had control of some of the bank accounts, according to investigators.

She was never charged or arrested in connection with the machines, and she said she had nothing to do with them. It "wasn't my place to suspect or not suspect" whether the machines were illegal, she said.

Committee member Whittington faced a gambling charge after a raid at a bingo hall. The 2003 Dallas case was dismissed. The eight-liners at the bingo hall were not his, and they were legal, he says, blaming overzealous prosecutors. Authorities have not returned the machines.

Mario R. Manio owes the U.S. Treasury Department \$132,933 for unpaid taxes and penalties related to an eight-liner operation shut down by Garland and Dallas police. He left the state's Bingo Advisory Committee last month, more than a year after his term had officially expired, state officials said.

Manio acknowledged that he had a direct connection to the eight-liners at Longhorn Bingo, his hall in Garland. According to U.S. Tax Court documents, he and a Dallas man who owned the machines were splitting profits that reached an estimated \$450,000 in 2000.

Manio said the Internal Revenue Service initially sought a criminal case against him, and then dropped it. But the agency did pursue stiff fines.

Manio said he believed that the machines were in a legal "gray area." But he acknowledged that he came within a whisker of losing his ability to lease out his bingo hall to charities.

"I am not a criminal. I have made a mistake for which I'm paying right now," he said.

"I've been forthright with my dealings with charities at my hall. I have not stolen a single cent from them, nor will I do that."

Evin Brooks, a member of American Legion Post 53, which holds games at Manio's hall, said he trusts him.

"As far as I'm concerned, it's just a man trying to make a living," he said.

Legal troubles

Then there's Schlueter.

It's unclear why he got into the bingo business. Schlueter's relatives either didn't know or wouldn't comment.

University of Texas records indicate that a John Michael Schlueter earned a bachelor's degree in business administration with a major in accounting in 1972.

In 1981, a John Michael Schlueter was indicted by a Tarrant County grand jury on felony theft charges: He skimmed more than \$16,000 in interest from banking deposits from Hurst-Eules-Bedford Hospital, where he was comptroller, according to news reports at the time. He pleaded guilty to felony theft and received a sentence of deferred adjudication, meaning he was not convicted. He served about two years' probation, according to county records.

A hospital spokesman and a Tarrant County official said records were not available. Other government records show that the man involved had the same date of birth as the bingo baron and the same address later used to found one of Schlueter's bingo businesses.

Schlueter declined to comment.



In 1982, Texas' first bingo halls opened. It's not clear when Schlueter entered the business, but county records indicate that he had filed paperwork related to a bingo operation by 1991.

Schlueter entered the spotlight in 1995 when he invested \$1 million in Fantasy Sports, a topless club near the Fort Worth Zoo. The club's dancers tried to skirt city ordinances by wearing flesh-colored pasties. That didn't fly with the vice squad, and the city closed the club a few days after it opened for operating within 1,000 feet of a neighborhood.

Schlueter challenged the city up to the court of appeals. One argument: The city was sexually discriminating against a female dancer by not allowing her to go topless.

After the club was shut down, he took what could be read as a last swing at the city. He reopened the bar as a male strip club called Peckers. It closed a short time later.

About the same time, Schlueter was picking up cash-filled envelopes at Seminary Drive Bingo, according to state records. In 1997, officials in Austin revoked the license.

By the time the state took action, he had sold the business to his ex-wife, Karen Schlueter. She wouldn't comment.

Atkins, of the Lottery Commission, said that Schlueter would not have forfeited his other bingo licenses because the license itself, not the person who holds it, was apparently at issue. What happens at one bingo hall stays at that bingo hall.

"Each license in and of itself is viewed individually," he said.

Schlueter has also been the target of lawsuits. Among them, in 2003, DirectTV accused him and others across the country of buying equipment used to pirate satellite signals. The suit was settled; terms were not disclosed.

In 2004, Tarrant County officials sued Schlueter for \$1,400 in delinquent taxes on a White Settlement bingo hall.

In light of his past, some are shocked that Schlueter has been allowed to remain in the business.

"Why can they not manage to get his license away from him?" said Barbara Ewen, the former controller for Women's Haven.

Ewen pulled the charity out of Schlueter's hall because of conflict over his control. She also noted that one of her relatives was accused of stealing money at the hall -- but said she's always been upfront about that.

Fenoglio, the Austin attorney, said that if the records are true, he was also surprised that Schlueter's involvement in bingo had continued.

"I don't believe he should be involved in bingo," he said.

Schlueter's sister, Sharon St. John, said she doesn't know the details of her brother's bingo businesses but says he isn't active in running them.

"He ranches cattle. That's where he wants to be," she said in a brief interview. Schlueter owns ranch land near Emory, about 100 miles east of Fort Worth, including a 4,200-square-foot home worth about \$240,000, according to Rains County Appraisal District records.



Others understand why Schlueter might have kept running games at Seminary Bingo after the Women's Haven left, and don't see a problem with his remaining in the business.

One former employee who participated in the phantom games said Schlueter told him he was trying to get another charity to take the spot. The employee spoke on condition that his name not be used because he said he feared retaliation from Schlueter.

Tony Cranford, a Colorado businessman involved in the gaming industry, said the goal may simply have been to keep the hall open. Business would have been lost if games were halted because no charity was involved.

Cranford and his mother own the license for another hall, Lancaster Bingo, where he said Schlueter manages charity leases. Cranford said Schlueter manages the hall effectively.

Cranford said he wouldn't be surprised if Schlueter had helped out charities by forgiving rent at times. As for the Women's Haven incident, it wasn't a big deal, he said.

"To me, that's like a misdemeanor," Cranford said.

Pros run the show

The pitch to some charities is all about easy money.

Relax. Sit back. Stay out of the way and collect a check every three months. The professionals will take care of it all.

Just don't ask any questions.

Several representatives of Tarrant charities said their role is little more than that of passive observers. Others said they are vigilant or are directly in charge, though that doesn't always result in more money for the charity.

In any case, charities are supposed to be in control -- only they can obtain a license to conduct bingo, and a charity representative must be present when it is played.

That representative may be an outsider, though, who joined the charity so that he can run the games.

Many charities are run by volunteers. Some aren't good at paperwork or even keeping track of who is on their boards. At one Arlington charity, Webb Fraternal Organization, a person listed on 2004 forms as board president had been dead for six or seven years, according to two others listed as board members -- one of whom wasn't active with the organization.

At another charity, a woman listed as treasurer suffers from Alzheimer's disease and her husband said she hadn't been involved for years.

And 2003 and 2004 federal tax forms for charities supporting the Dalworthington Gardens Department of Public Safety and the volunteer fire department list DPS Chief **Bill Waybourn** as holding high-ranking positions.

Waybourn said he has not been actively involved in years.

After the *Star-Telegram* informed Waybourn that his name was on the documents, he sent a letter on DPS letterhead demanding that an Arlington bookkeeper correct the information.



Turns out, an Arlington bookkeeper whose address is on the forms said he didn't prepare them.

Instead, a different bookkeeper in Fort Worth did, said Robert De Los Santos, who signed the tax forms as a director. De Los Santos, a former Dalworthington Gardens officer, could only recall the bookkeeper's first name, Gary.

The charities are no longer conducting bingo operations because they were not making money, De Los Santos said.

He said he did not know how Waybourn's name appeared on the forms. He said the accountant told him "sign here, and that's what I did."

De Los Santos, who now works as a peace officer with the Dallas County fire marshal's office, said his job as a representative of the charities at Pioneer Bingo and Noon Bingo in Arlington was to "sit there."

That's why he says he didn't know there were eight-liners being used illegally at Pioneer Bingo.

As a peace officer, De Los Santos said he would have reported the gambling machines to authorities if he had known they were illegal -- and if he could have seen them. Problem was, it was too dark, he said, so he didn't get a good look at them. He also said he stayed by the door of the hall to be away from the cigarette smoke.

"The area was very smoky," he said.

Pioneer Bingo was raided and the Tarrant County district attorney's office seized 54 eight-liners and more than \$53,000 in cash and gift certificates, according to court records. Pioneer and Noon landlord Zack Mozley was sentenced in 2004 to 24 months' probation for keeping a gambling place. Mozley, who received deferred adjudication, did not respond to interview requests.

At the four bingo halls that Schlueter leases to charities, the man looking out for the charities' money is William Woodward, a former swimming pool and furniture salesman.

Woodward keeps the books for at least six nonprofit organizations, according to tax forms reviewed by the *Star-Telegram*. They're all incorporated at the same address: his mother's Fort Worth house.

He says that the charities' best interests are his focus. But he is entangled with the Schlueter family.

Woodward said he is a cousin of Schlueter's first wife, Karen Schlueter. And the charities he's connected with employ Schlueter's sons, Jeff and Jason, in a variety of roles, as directors or operators at some.

"They needed a job, and they're good workers," Woodward said.

Neither could be reached for comment.

Despite the family connections, Woodward said he didn't know the charities only conduct bingo at halls tied to Schlueter.

"I don't know who the halls are owned by," Woodward said. "I write checks to Westside Enterprises, Town Center Bingo, Davico and Lancaster Bingo."

Many officials of Woodward charities lauded him as a man of integrity. Several said that without him, they would not be a success.



Virgil Miller of Fort Worth said Woodward makes out payroll checks, ensures that paperwork is filled out correctly and performs other tasks. That has made it easier for Miller, who is listed on state records as the primary operator for two charities conducting games at Schlueter's halls.

Miller said he used to regularly participate, earning \$50 a session.

"Now, they just call me in when they want to," Miller said.

Woodward also won praise from Jack Adkison, a former River Oaks mayor and security officer at Lockheed Martin for 35 years, who says he pays careful attention to bingo games at Schlueter's hall for the River Oaks Lions Club.

"I feel like very lucky to have Bill [Woodward]," Adkison said.

But Adkison said he was unaware of Woodward's connection to Schlueter or of Schlueter's past.

"I will tell everybody that maybe we need to be more diligent," he said.

In years past, at least one charity tried to be more involved.

Linda Claridge, former president of the Northwest Kiwanis Club of Fort Worth and an administrator at the River Oaks Police Department, said she and other club members demanded financial information from Woodward in 2001.

Claridge said the organization ultimately was shown the door.

According to Kiwanis Club meeting minutes, Woodward said he felt he had been accused of wrongdoing and that as a result the club would no longer be conducting games at Cherry Lane Bingo.

The *Star-Telegram* obtained a tape recording of a meeting between Woodward and Kiwanis officials. On the tape, Woodward explains how charity funds are calculated. He also states that he is concerned about turning over financial information to charity officials because they might lose it or put the pages out of order.

At one point, a Kiwanis member who was the charity's primary operator for bingo tells Woodward, "I've got a title, but I ain't doing nothing."

"Your job ... is to sign papers from time to time," Woodward said. "That's all you have to do."

Woodward could not be reached to comment about the recording but said in an earlier interview that he was trying to cooperate with the club and that members made baseless allegations against him. Woodward said he runs a clean game. "As long as I'm watching things," he said, "we're doing things legally."

State regulation

The state has done little in the past few years to strengthen charities' hand or the rules governing the games.

It's not as though the state doesn't know there are problems.

A 2002 Sunset Advisory Commission staff report found that the state's bingo licensing model didn't follow the norms set by other state agencies. There were problems tracking complaints.

The report also pointed out that Texas charities get far less from bingo than other states that have legalized the game.



In half of the 22 states in a 1997 study, charities received 50 percent or more of bingo profits after subtracting prize payouts, according to findings by the National Council of Legislators from Gaming States. In Texas that year, less than a quarter of bingo profits went to charities.

In 2005, the charities' share of the profits slipped under 19 percent, according to the Lottery Commission.

Over the past five years, bingo money for charities in Tarrant County has declined, even as revenues have gone up. Atkins said that statewide, charitable distributions are up. The Texas Lottery Commission agreed with the commission's recommendations, and several problems have been addressed.

In 2004, the commission restructured its security division -- essentially firing about 30 longtime investigators. A commission spokesman said enforcement hasn't been hurt, and local charities say they're frequently audited by state investigators.

The Legislature has recently taken up some bingo bills designed to help charities operate more efficiently. The tricky part will be to get the Legislature to review the complex distribution of bingo revenues for charity, said Fenoglio, the bingo attorney.

Before money is distributed, the cost of prizes, supplies and other expenses are subtracted from bingo revenues. Charities get 35 percent of whatever is left, minus a deduction for expenses. Texas law requires nonprofit organizations to spend what's left on a charitable purpose.

Bingo player Fran Lamorgese of Venus couldn't believe how little the charities get.

On a recent night, she sat with about \$30 worth of bingo cards and a stack of \$1 bills in front of her, ready to play at SPJST Lodge 183 bingo hall in Arlington. She comes for the fun and to win, but in the back of her mind is the idea that it's also helping a charity.

She guessed that about half of the lodge's \$508,000 in revenue last year went to charity.

State records show that prize payouts and expenses whittled the lodge's distribution to \$118.

But the charity, which runs its own game, also donated \$9,000 from previous years' bingo proceeds to causes such as cancer research, said Kenneth Cepak, the lodge's bookkeeper.

"We keep hoping for things to get better," he said.

Researchers Cathy Belcher and Marcia Melton contributed to this report.

Darren Barbee, 817-390-7126 dbarbee@star-telegram.com

Load-Date: June 17, 2006

End of Document

[From Russia, with love](#)

Good Housekeeping

June 1, 2006



Section: Pg. 140; Vol. 242; No. 6

Length: 1937 words

Byline: Mimi Swartz

Body

Thousands of miles away, four orphaned boys had no home and no hope. Then a Texas police chief and his wife opened their hearts.

The moment that changed **Bill Waybourn's** life occurred on a blissfully ordinary Sunday in November 2002. Because his wife, Laura, was at home caring for a sick relative, Bill went to church alone. He was, on that day, a very happy man, with a life in nearly perfect order: He was a robust 43, immensely proud of his two grown children, Heather and Travis, and thrilled to be a grandfather. He loved his job as police chief of Dalworthington Gardens, a quiet suburb of Fort Worth, Texas. Most of all, Bill had found great happiness with Laura, his second wife, a gregarious and fun-loving former investigative officer with Child Protective Services. Bill was certain that Laura, then 30, was a woman with whom he could share his "walk with Christ," as he calls it, the deep faith that led him to the church pew that day.

As it happened, the minister's sermon was particularly wrenching. He spoke about a sad-eyed 14-year-old boy named Kirill, whose grandmother had died four years earlier. Kirill's mother wasn't able to take care of him, so the authorities sent him to live in an orphanage in Shumerly, a town in western Russia. At first, Kirill was happy—a favorite of the staff—but as months turned to years and his mother never came for him, he withdrew. In the summer of 2002, Kirill visited the Fort Worth area under the sponsorship of the Gladney Center for Adoption and met many members of Bill's church. The minister had learned that Kirill would soon have to leave the orphanage so that room could be made for younger children. If Kirill wasn't adopted, he'd be living alone, possibly on the streets.

It was all Bill could do to keep from offering to take Kirill on the spot, but he controlled himself long enough to get home to Laura. The couple were always taking in strays—family members, friends, anyone who needed a port in a storm. Would this be so different? "I almost did something in church," he remembers telling Laura carefully when he walked into their neat, orderly home, the one she often described at the time as "bigger than we need." Sitting in the serenity of their living room, Laura studied his face with her shrewd blue eyes and tried not to express her shock. Back then, the Waybourns had no children of their own, though they wanted them. "I believe I didn't get pregnant because I was supposed to adopt," she says now.

Within a matter of weeks, the Waybourns were busy filling out forms, gathering certified copies of tax records and birth certificates and their marriage license, raising money for adoption fees and travel expenses—and reassuring friends and family that, yes, adopting a 14-year-old Russian boy was something they really wanted to do.

Kirill had promised his best friend from the orphanage that he would save him

The plight of Russian orphans has grown ever more dire since the collapse of the Soviet Union in the 1990s. There are over four million orphans now, many living in state-run institutions. When children "age out" of the orphanages, they are sent to live on their own, which has added to the already difficult problem with homelessness. But bringing these kids to the United States requires resourcefulness—and resources.



The Waybourns didn't have anywhere near the \$25,000 they needed for the adoption and its related expenses, but their community came through for them: Their church, their friends, even the local karate school all raised money. In July 2003, Bill and Laura stood in a Russian courtroom, face-to-face with a wan, shy, dark-haired boy with a half-moon scar under his left eye. "The judge told Kirill, 'You can't act like a baby over there,'" Bill remembers. "He said Kirill should 'show Americans how good Russians are.'" Kirill promised he would, and soon after, Kirill, Laura, and Bill boarded a plane, bound for their new life in Texas.

The first weeks in Dalworthington Gardens were hard on everyone. The food was strange to Kirill, and there was more of it than he had seen in his life; sometimes, all he'd eat in a day at the orphanage would be three bowls of oatmeal. The fact that Bill was a policeman frightened Kirill; he knew about American police only from TV, and he thought they killed many men each day. Also, Kirill knew that Russian police were corrupt, and he feared Bill might be the same.

The adoption forms suggested that Kirill pick an American name. The Waybourns had given him a choice. He rejected their favorite, Lucas, because it means "onion" in Russian and settled on Daniel, which he shortened to Dan (though it was several months before he started using it). Since Kirill spoke no English and the Waybourns spoke no Russian, the family used a Web site that provided instant translations. Thanks to Gladney, Kirill quickly connected with other Russians living in Texas, and he e-mailed them often. Still, Kirill seemed lonely. One day he explained: He had promised his best friend from Russia, Slava, that he would rescue him from the orphanage. Only nine months younger than Kirill, Slava, too, was in danger of being turned out on his own.

The Waybourns had met Slava and remembered him as charming and ever vigilant about looking after his little brother Sergei, then seven. While Kirill was still at the orphanage, the three had befriended another boy, Zhenya, who was two years younger than Slava. Zhenya had never known his family, and he, Slava, and Sergei had formed a close bond. They even looked alike-which turned out to be no coincidence: When orphanage workers checked their records, they found that the three had the same mother.

Officially, there was nothing Laura and Bill could do to help Slava or his brothers, since none was on the international adoption list. When Kirill insisted there had to be some way to save his friends, Bill told him to pray, and Kirill did so, intensely. Two months later, Laura received an e-mail update from Gladney and happened to check the eligibility list. "To this day, I still don't know why I checked it," she says. "But as soon as I did, I called Bill. The boys were ours in our hearts by that night." When the Waybourns told Kirill that they would adopt his friends, Kirill was stunned. "It was the most emotion I'd ever seen in him," Laura jokes.

For most people, the pleasures and pressures of adopting four boys, then ages eight to 16, would be more than enough. But shortly before the adoption of Kirill's friends became final, friends of Bill's former in-laws contacted him: They knew someone with a pregnant daughter who had not decided what to do with her baby. Would Bill talk to the girl? Because he was a police chief, people often turned to him for this kind of help. But it was Laura who ended up meeting the young woman. The two felt an immediate connection, and Laura and Bill agreed to adopt the child. Just four days later, Laura kept the young mom company in the delivery room, and it was Laura who took the baby boy home from the hospital.

The Waybourns named him Lucas-he got the name Kirill refused-and when he was seven weeks old, they left him with Laura's parents and flew back to Russia with Kirill, who had finally asked to be called Dan. Three ecstatic Russian boys met them at the Shumerly train station, each holding a red rose as a gift for their new mother. Back in the same courtroom, Dan told the judge that he hadn't let him down. "We got Dan because we were supposed to, just like we were supposed to get Joe and Zhenya and Reagan," Laura says. (Slava picked the name Joe, and Sergei took Reagan, a name Bill and Laura suggested because the former president had such a deep impact on the Soviet Union. Zhenya agreed to Douglas but doesn't use it.) When the new, extended Waybourn family arrived in Texas early in December 2004, each boy was



delighted to greet Lucas. They all wanted to hold him. It was important to hold babies, Zhenya told Laura, with Dan translating. No one had ever held Zhenya before.

This is a house of craziness, I tell you," Laura says, and indeed, a year after the adoptions, the Waybourn home feels like a bustling dorm, complete with a huge whiteboard listing chores, menus, the grocery list, and a daily Bible verse. Toys carpet the floor, books in both Russian and English adorn the coffee table. Reagan, a thin, blue-eyed, perpetually grinning ten-year-old, does his homework on the dining-room table. Blond baby Lucas, with two jauntily crooked front teeth, crawls along the floor, hiding the telephone in sofa cushions and cabinets. Zhenya, who likes the attention his Russian name gets him, is solicitous with the iced tea and snacks and as outgoing as his older brothers, Joe and Dan, are quiet.

In many ways, they are indistinguishable from other American teenagers. Dan drives a Kia Rio ("a cheap little car with a warranty," Laura laughs), Joe listens to country music, they all play video games. But Dan and Joe have a seriousness that Zhenya and Reagan lack, as if the memories of their painful pasts and desperate, narrowly escaped futures can never be erased. "Dan's character was in place when he got here—he has honesty, integrity," Bill says. "Joe was right there too. He was squared away." No one knows better than Bill and Laura that creating this family remains a work in progress. They want the boys to know God, and they want them to know that, as Bill puts it, "families are here to stay."

Laura ranks as one of her most fulfilling moments the time when Dan asked her to take his photograph while he jumped joyously into the swimming pool. Dan's transition was the hardest. But things changed for the better once the other boys arrived; suddenly, he had his best friend for company and a house full of Russians to translate for. All the boys are learning English at a rapid clip, and all except Joe are now homeschooled. Joe, after taking ESL courses for his first semester, is getting almost all A's at a nearby public school. Zhenya has become a great reader as well as a movie fan. He likes to practice movie lines in front of the mirror in his bedroom, then tease his little brother: Quoting from *Madagascar*, he recently informed Reagan in a Russian accent that "you are embarrassing me and yourself."

Still, there have been many struggles as the boys have made the shift from living in an institution, where everyone is out for himself, to being in a family, where they must function as a team. They've also had to learn to respect their parents—respect being an alien concept for all four, Laura says: "It's the basic teenage thing of 'Who are you to tell me what to do?' though the explanation for the attitude is somewhat different." Zhenya, in particular, had trouble getting used to family life, never having experienced it. Late one night, Bill and Laura heard a squeaking noise coming from his bedroom. They entered to find him rocking himself to sleep, as he had done all his life in the orphanage.

For the Waybourns, every day is an exercise in barely contained chaos. And yet they could not be happier. Laura is the emotional center of the family, soft and compassionate when the time is right, tough when necessary. "You've heard of drama queens?" cracks Laura. "We have drama kings. I tell them, 'You can cry and talk at the same time—go ahead.'" The family is currently preoccupied with one last friend of the boys, Vitaly, who remains in the orphanage. They'd love to find a couple who could take him in and find the joy they've found. "People ask to hear our story all the time, but we don't mind telling it," Laura says. "It's a good story."

Load-Date: May 24, 2007

End of Document

[**Blood-draw program for DWIs noticed by other departments**](#)





Section: B; Pg. 6

Length: 793 words

Byline: MARK AGEE, STAR-TELEGRAM STAFF WRITER

Body

In eight months of drawing blood from drunken-driving suspects in an interview room at the police station, no one has physically resisted, Public Safety Chief **Bill Waybourn** said.

There was one rather large man covered in tattoos who refused at first because he was scared of needles.

"We asked him how in the world he got all those tattoos. He said he was drunk when he got them," Waybourn said. "We said, 'You're drunk now!' " Then he said, 'Oh, OK,' and let us take the blood."

A new policy, which allows Dalworthington Gardens police to obtain warrants to take blood from drunken-driving suspects, has resulted in better evidence, stronger sentences and less time that officers have to spend in court, Waybourn said.

Other departments around the state are taking notice and considering doing the same.

"We realize that we're one of the first places to do this, and people are watching us to see how it goes," Waybourn said. "We think that in the next few years, this will be commonplace."

Police in the town of 2,300, which borders Pantego and is surrounded by Arlington, began obtaining warrants in July because a large number of drivers were refusing breath and sobriety tests.

Officers have drawn blood from 39 suspects, Waybourn said. Of those, 38 were driving illegally with a blood-alcohol content over .08 percent; the other had cocaine in his blood and was charged with a felony, Waybourn said.

Of those cases, nine have already been to court. All nine suspects pleaded guilty and were sentenced to jail time, Waybourn said.

"There is no better evidence in these cases than a blood test," Waybourn said.

State law requires blood to be drawn after fatal accidents in which drunken driving is suspected.

But it is rare for police departments to obtain search warrants to have hospital workers draw blood after routine DWI traffic stops.



It is, as far as local authorities know, unique for the officers to draw blood themselves. That is what Dalworthington Gardens police officers -- most of whom are cross-trained as paramedics and emergency medical technicians -- are doing.

Richard Alpert, chief of the Tarrant County district attorney's misdemeanor division, said the prosecutions have been "as smooth as we could want them to go."

"At the seminars that I speak at, I hold them up as an example," Alpert said. "It's a good idea for a small department; I don't know if it would be practical for a big department. But I encourage any department that is interested in trying it to do so."

Waybourn said he expects a suspect to eventually challenge the constitutionality of the policy, though he said it will stand up to scrutiny.

Frank Colosi, an attorney with the American Civil Liberties Union, said he expects a challenge as well.

The U.S. Supreme Court approved of search warrants for blood draws in the 1960s because they were done by medical personnel at hospitals, which was deemed safe, Colosi said. They might take a different view of officers taking blood themselves, he said.

"Governments try something new, and sometimes it takes a while for citizens to realize there may be something wrong with it," Colosi said. "I would be surprised if that issue doesn't come up."

Alpert said he doubts there is an avenue to mount a successful legal challenge.

"We have a very active and good defense bar here," he said. "If there was a way to challenge it, I think they would do so."

While Dalworthington Gardens and county officials await a challenge, departments around the state are watching to see how the policy is going.

Elgin Assistant Police Chief Phillip Taylor said his department is one of them.

He and the Elgin chief read about Dalworthington Gardens in a national police magazine. They are considering training officers to take blood themselves as well.

"It caught our eye because we're seeing a lot of breath-test refusals," which is the same problem Dalworthington Gardens officers had, Taylor said. "We've seen a lot of our cases being lost because of this reason."

"Suspects are learning that all they have to do is shut up and not say a thing. Then they go to court and make the officer prove they were drunk," Taylor said. "We need to do something to make our prosecutions easier."

HOW THE PROCESS WORKS

After a driver has failed a field sobriety test, the suspect is taken into custody.

At the police station, police conduct a videotaped interview and ask the suspect to voluntarily submit to giving a blood sample.

If the suspect refuses, police take the evidence they have and seek an evidentiary search warrant. Several judges in the area have volunteered to be on call to sign warrants.



If the judge approves the warrant, police take a blood sample.

SOURCE: Dalworthington Gardens Department of Public Safety

Mark Agee, (817) 548-5421 rmagee@star-telegram.com

Load-Date: April 12, 2006

End of Document

Officer is newest truancy weapon

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

March 13, 2006 Monday

Copyright 2006 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: B; Pg. 1

Length: 619 words

Byline: MITCH MITCHELL, STAR-TELEGRAM STAFF WRITER

Body

David Woodruff, a Dalworthington Gardens police officer, works with the Arlington school district on trancies.

David Woodruff searches Arlington malls, parks and streets for children whose parents think they are in school.

Woodruff, a truant officer with the Arlington school district and a Dalworthington Gardens police officer, is a new weapon in the war to keep Arlington's students in class.

Woodruff can detain and transport truant students to school, to court or, if need be, to a juvenile detention center or jail. Truant officers who are not state-certified police officers do not have that authority.

Before a signed agreement between the school district and the Dalworthington Gardens Police Department, Arlington truant officials called Arlington police to return students to school. Sometimes, there would be an hour wait for officers to arrive, Woodruff said. Now those truant officers call Woodruff.

"I'm the truancy police," Woodruff said. "If the kids are not in school, it's a good bet that whatever they are doing, it's not anything good."



Woodruff is the only officer working in the AISD/Dalworthington Gardens Truancy Partnership, which began in September when it received approval by the Arlington school board, said **Bill Waybourn**, Dalworthington Gardens police chief.

Since October, Woodruff has made 13 arrests from warrants and has returned 116 students to school.

Woodruff also delivers judges' orders for children and their parents to appear in court for truancy. He has served 50 truant warrants since October.

While Woodruff is picking up Arlington students who are cutting classes, he is able to determine whether they have outstanding warrants from other jurisdictions. If the student is also breaking state laws, that student can earn a trip to jail.

"Truancy is a predictor of future criminal activity," Woodruff said.

Woodruff can also issue tickets to parents for their children's truanancies. Typically, if a student is 15 or older, the student receives the first ticket and the parent receives any subsequent tickets, Woodruff said. Parents receive tickets for students younger than 15, Woodruff said. In nearly every circumstance involving a truant student, the parents are notified by the school system, Woodruff said.

The children cutting school sometimes take that opportunity to commit crimes, said Mac Bernd, Arlington school superintendent.

While no one has any long-term statistics, Bernd said, "We'd be glad to talk to anyone about expanding the program because it's been working real well right now."

Before the agreement between the school district and the Police Department, students would appear in the justice of the peace court and agree to community service but not follow through.

The judge would issue a warrant that would go unserved as busy police officers and constables focused on more pressing crimes. Often, those warrants would just sit because of a truant officer's lack of authority, said Linda Davis, Precinct 2 Justice of the Peace.

"We had lots of warrants that would be recalled because no one was working them," Davis said. "Those warrants would be stuck in the system."

It would be comparable to the Arlington police saying that they would no longer arrest people for outstanding traffic tickets, Woodruff said.

"What we would get was voluntary compliance," Woodruff said. "We were not getting any enforcement. No one feared enforcement."

The program provides information about students who are involved in criminal activity while they are not in school, and something more important, Davis said.

"It sends the message to the kids that we really care about them going to school," she said.

ONLINE: www.aisd.net

Mitch Mitchell, (817) 548-5411 mitchmitchell@star-telegram.com

Load-Date: March 13, 2006



[News pilots help track suspect](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

February 10, 2006 Friday

Copyright 2006 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: B; Pg. 4

Length: 433 words

Byline: MARK AGEE and DEANNA BOYD, STAR-TELEGRAM STAFF WRITERS

Body

Dalworthington Gardens police arrested a suspect accused of leading police and television news helicopters on a chase throughout Tarrant County on Thursday morning.

William Storey, 23, was taken into custody about 5 p.m. at his mother's home on Sagebrush Court, near Interstate 20 and U.S. 287, on suspicion of felony evasion of arrest, Dalworthington Gardens Police Chief **Bill Waybourn** said. No bail had been set late Thursday.

The chase began about 10 a.m. when a Fort Worth police helicopter spotted a motorcyclist speeding and driving recklessly on eastbound Interstate 20 at Campus Drive, said Lt. Dean Sullivan, a Fort Worth police spokesman.

The helicopter pilot tried to help patrol cars stop the motorcycle, but the vehicles could not catch it and Fort Worth officers never officially gave chase, Sullivan said.

The helicopter followed the bike into Northeast Tarrant County and Irving, watching as it sped across highways, residential streets and parking lots.

The motorcyclist zipped through Southlake, Grapevine, Irving, Dallas/Fort Worth Airport and Euless before heading toward Arlington, authorities said. The pilot last saw the man in Arlington, near Green Oaks Boulevard and Pioneer Parkway, before the helicopter needed to be refueled, Sullivan said.

Sullivan said a television helicopter continued to follow the motorcyclist.

Arlington officers trailed the man but never tried to pull him over, said Christy Gilfour, Arlington police spokeswoman.

"He wasn't speeding or driving recklessly while we followed him," so officers peeled off, Gilfour said.



But as the man went through Dalworthington Gardens, a motorcycle officer tried to pull him over, Waybourn said.

News cameras filmed the man pretending to pull over, then taking off again and swerving as if he were going to hit the officer. Then the driver fled at over 100 mph, Waybourn said.

The news helicopters followed the man to Sagebrush Court and what turned out to be the home of Storey's mother, Waybourn said. The suspect might not have been caught otherwise.

"We sure are grateful for that," Waybourn said.

Sullivan said Fort Worth cannot charge Storey with evading arrest because patrol cars never got close enough to try to pull the motorcycle over. Officers also did not clock an official speed, but Fort Worth police may show prosecutors the chase video to see if it is enough to support charges of reckless driving, Sullivan said.

Waybourn said Storey could also face assault charges for allegedly swerving toward the officer.

Mark Agee, (817) 548-5421 rmagee@star-telegram.com Deanna Boyd, (817) 390-7655 dboyd@star-telegram.com

Load-Date: February 10, 2006

End of Document

DWI blood tests draw interest

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

January 23, 2006 Monday

Copyright 2006 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: B; Pg. 1

Length: 451 words

Byline: O.K. Carter, Star-Telegram Staff Writer

Body

Predictions that this city's pioneering strategy of taking blood samples from drunken-driving suspects would lead to a wave of litigation have so far proved inaccurate.



The Dalworthington Gardens Police Department is the only law enforcement agency in Texas that routinely takes blood samples at DWI stops and the only department with a large number of officers certified to draw blood.

DWG is a small city of 2,300 surrounded by Arlington and Pantego, so the sample of DWI cases thus far - about 30 -- is small, averaging four or five a month. But to Police Chief **Bill Waybourn**, the results have been encouraging. "So far we have a 100 percent conviction rate," Waybourn said.

It works like this. Once a potential DWI is pulled over, the driver is asked to submit to having blood drawn for alcohol level testing. About half the drivers decline, Waybourn said. In those cases, blood cannot be drawn until a court-ordered search warrant is issued by a court of record, such as Dalworthington Gardens Municipal Court.

"From the time we stop them until we obtain a warrant typically runs two to 2 1/2 hours," the police chief said. "We've not had to forcibly take any blood. Once we present them with a warrant in which the judge has ordered us to take a sample of blood, they thus far have all said OK."

DWI cases are heard in the county court. Only six cases have concluded, and all six defendants pleaded guilty or no contest, Waybourn said, adding that if a blood test determined that intoxication was not involved, the case would be swiftly dropped.

"We haven't had to spend a single minute tying officers up in court with the cases," Waybourn said.

Though the decision to use the virtually uncontestable blood test did not come without criticism -- some fairly intense -- Waybourn strongly defends the policy.

"I don't know how it feels to be a pioneer, but I do think we're committed to doing what is right, particularly on the DWI issue," he said. "I think we took this particular offense too lightly for years and years and we're just killing people left and right. We're killing more people with DWIs in this country than bullets and bombs are in Iraq."

Though Dalworthington Gardens continues to be the only Texas city using the blood test, it may not be for long. Sheriff's departments in Wise, Williamson and Wilson counties are studying the city's strategy and outcomes, as is the Weatherford Police Department.

"None have instituted it so far as I know," Waybourn said.

"But I predict that it's coming."

O.K. Carter's column appears Sundays, Mondays and Thursdays. Carter also co-hosts "P3: People, Politics and Possibilities" at 9:30 nightly on Comcast cable channel 16. (817) 548-5428 okc@star-telegram.com

Load-Date: January 23, 2006

End of Document

[Wilson to stick it to DWI suspects](#)

San Antonio Express-News

January 14, 2006 Saturday, METRO Edition



Section: A SECTION; Pg. 1A

Length: 756 words

Byline: George Zarazua, EXPRESS-NEWS STAFF WRITER

Body

Drunken drivers beware.

Wilson County is going for blood when it comes to testing motorists to see how inebriated they are. And it's willing to use force if it has to.

The county, which borders San Antonio to the southeast, is joining a small list of jurisdictions in Texas to enact a program that could require motorists suspected of drunken driving to submit to blood tests.

County Attorney Russell Wilson said every law enforcement agency in the county, including state troopers, will be able to seek a court warrant for a blood sample when a motorist refuses to take a Breathalyzer test.

Wilson said he wants the program to target weekend offenders, and a local justice of the peace has volunteered to be on call to issue the necessary search warrants if needed.

Precinct 1 Justice of the Peace Emilio Flores said blood tests are an effective tool in prosecuting drunken drivers.

The American Civil Liberties Union of Texas cautioned that the practice could be abused if not handled properly.

"The ACLU feels that public drunkenness, in itself, is not a justification to deprive somebody of their freedom from an unwarranted search," said Tracey Hayes, a project leader with the ACLU of Texas. "However, we do recognize there are certain acts that people commit while they are drunk that are dangerous, and those need to be addressed."

Frank Colosi, a civil rights attorney in Fort Worth, said the U.S. Supreme Court has ruled the practice is constitutional when a warrant is obtained and the blood is drawn properly.

"It is grotesque, and I don't agree with it, but I'm afraid it has been decided," he said.

Texas already requires blood to be drawn if a driver is involved in a fatal crash or one resulting in serious injuries.

The legal procedure of drawing blood from drunken-driving suspects in even misdemeanor cases is relatively new in Texas, and only a handful of jurisdictions have similar programs.

Only one Texas police department, the Dalworthington Gardens Department of Public Safety near Arlington, has trained officers to be certified to draw blood themselves, the police chief there said.

Chief **Bill Waybourn** said Dalworthington Gardens began blood testing last summer to reduce the number of refusals from motorists unwilling to take a breath test. He said many chose to have the state revoke their driver's license for 180 days rather than face the stiffer punishment a DWI conviction could carry.



But no one has fought the blood test, Waybourn said. He estimates the department has acquired warrants for blood in about 30 cases since the campaign, dubbed "We just can't take no for an answer" began in late July.

"Everybody has complied that was presented with a warrant," he said. "We've not had to use any force in taking the blood."

Officials in other jurisdictions with similar programs said they have not lost a case in which a blood sample has been obtained.

"It is very powerful evidence," said Tim Cole, district attorney for the 97th Judicial District that covers Archer, Clay and Montague counties. "That blood test is about as good as it gets."

Cole said all of the 300 or so offenders that have been prosecuted with their blood as evidence since the program began a year and a half ago have pleaded guilty.

Carolyn Olson, assistant county attorney in Colorado County, said only one person has taken his case to trial since the county instituted its program a year ago, and that person lost.

"It does make a difference in the prosecution of a case," Olson said.

Cole said the practice also cuts the time officers need to be in court testifying against drunken drivers.

Wilson County Judge Marvin Quinney said he doesn't anticipate officers having problems getting cooperation from suspects once they are warned about the blood tests.

Floresville-based Department of Public Safety Trooper Bryan Jarzombek said officers welcome the initiative wholeheartedly.

"I think it's a good idea as a member of the department and as a citizen of the community," Jarzombek said.

jarazua@express-news.net

Case file

Testing for alcohol: Wilson County is urging all peace officers in the county to require motorists suspected of drunken driving to submit to blood tests if they refuse a Breathalyzer test.

Getting warrants: An officer can seek a court warrant for a blood sample; a justice of the peace has volunteered to issue warrants on weekends.

Who does it now: The policy is in place in the 97th Judicial District, which spans three North Texas counties; Colorado County; and the Dalworthington Gardens Police Department near Dallas-Fort Worth.

Graphic

Cracking down (info box and map) GRAPHIC: MIKE FISHER/STAFF



Load-Date: January 16, 2006

End of Document

[BAND OF BROTHERS; Jedi knights and laundry days - that's what life is like for Bill and Laura Waybourn and their new family of five sons as they mark a year of transition from adoption to adaptation](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

January 8, 2006 Sunday

Copyright 2006 Fort Worth Star-Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: G; Pg. 1

Length: 2414 words

Byline: HEATHER SVOKOS, STAR-TELEGRAM STAFF WRITER

Body

The Waybourns keep track of their busy lives with the "battle board," which has a calendar, shopping list, word of the day and daily Bible verse.

In a photo taken Dec. 2, 2004, at Dallas/Fort Worth Airport, Laura Waybourn introduces Joe to baby Lucas.

Bill Waybourn holds Sergei at the orphanage in Shumerly, Russia, in November 2004. Sergei now goes by his middle name, Reagan.

Seventeen-year-old Dan Waybourn, left, recently passed his driving test;

Joe Waybourn has taken to wearing Western boots and jeans.

Reagan Waybourn is 10 and a huge "Stars Wars" fan.

Zhenya Waybourn knows it's important to hold and play with his youngest brother, Lucas, because he was never held as a baby, Zhenya told his mother, Laura Waybourn.

In the kitchen, a Jedi battle rages. At stake are the very legacies of Dark and Light.

"If so powerful you are ... then why leave? *Bzzzhhh, bzzzhhh!*"

This particular Yoda speaks in a lovely Russian accent.



As he duels his imaginary foe, The Force is most decidedly with him. A Force powered by faith, love and uncommon destiny.

This place in Dalworthington Gardens, once a relatively quiet household of two, has morphed -- seemingly overnight -- into a chaotic haven for five boys and two adults, where apples and oranges are gobbled up faster than the speed of light. It's a universe that burbles with laughter, an infant's wails, the constant buzz of the Xbox, and impassioned light-saber battles. All with a lovely Russian accent.

Four teens and a baby

A little more than a year ago, Bill and Laura Waybourn had just closed the book on a most unusual adoption odyssey. It began in 2002, when they learned, through their church, of the plight of a Russian orphan named Kirill. At 14, he was dangerously close to "aging out" of the orphanage, headed for a life of his own uncertain making. Bill and Laura were so overwhelmed by Kirill's story that they decided they would give him a home. It was their mission.

At the time, Kirill -- who eventually chose to go by the American name Dan -- was change enough for the couple. Bill already had two grown children from a previous marriage. And Dan was a good kid, but between the language barrier and his brooding silences, Laura walked around heartsick -- aching to break through.

The last thing Bill and Laura could have imagined was a return trip to the same orphanage. Not to adopt another child. Not to adopt two more. Would you believe *threemore*?

One was Dan's best friend, Slava, who, at 14, was creeping into the danger zone of aging out of the orphanage, too. The other two were Slava's younger brothers, Zhenya and Sergei.

Just before they were preparing for that trip in November of 2004, fate would jolt this familial roller-coaster once more: A troubled family friend was about to give birth to a baby boy she couldn't keep. Her family wanted Bill and Laura to adopt him. But the Waybourns had three Russian adoptions pending -- a new world of adolescent upheaval. To take on an infant in the midst of all this would be almost unthinkable. But that's just what they did.

Loads of laundry

Eventually, the miracle gives way to the mundane. After a 2004 spent waiting and worrying in airports, train stations, embassies and courthouses, the Waybourns' cast of characters had finally, miraculously, assembled. By comparison, the story line for 2005 was a breeze -- almost jarring in its normalcy.

Not that things would appear normal to much of the outside world.

If the washer or dryer ever stopped running at the Waybourn household, the silence would be deafening. With at least five loads of wash a day, one or the other is constantly chugging away.

And then there's the fruit. Laura remembers the bananas most vividly. Not long ago, she lugged home 40 bananas from the supermarket.

They were gone in 18 hours.

Nowadays, the family gulps down a gallon and a half of milk a day -- roughly 45 gallons a month. "And that's when they're *in school*," Laura says.

"We need a milk cow," Bill adds, shaking his head in mock exasperation.



Bill is police chief of Dalworthington Gardens, and Laura home-schools Dan -- that is, when she's not tending to 14-month-old Lucas. So there's less time for Mom and Dad to talk to each other. In the rare moment they're alone together, usually in the car, they find themselves racing through a breathless game of catch-up:

"This one was grounded. This one improved. Oh yeah, I forgot to tell you, Great Uncle So-and-So died two weeks ago. So-and-so's in the hospital. Really? I didn't even know he was sick."

Amid the bedlam, a new family has melded together. Nothing says it more perfectly, or casually, than the items on the living room coffee table on any given day: A Russian Bible. Remote control. *The Pokey Little Puppy*. A copy of the New Testament in English and Russian. Photos from Russia, tucked into an album emblazoned with red, white and blue hearts.

School: Making the grades

To be a fly on the wall of the Waybourns' house is to hear a charming tapestry of expressions.

"You don't know the power of the Dark Side."

"Is it OK to say 'Yo, whatsup?' to the teacher?"

"Well, boys, it's gonna be ice-cold sushi for breakfast."

"94.9 FM -- safe for the whole family."

"Just smile and wave, boys; smile and wave."

"Hey, you -- get away from my wife!"

Many are parroted lines from movies like *Shrek*, *Madagascar*, and yes, *Star Wars*.

There is the education that pop culture brings, and then there is traditional schooling.

Dan, 17, is now the only one continuing home-schooling with Laura. His best friend, Slava, who now goes by Joe, is 16. He and Zhenya -- who turns 15 tomorrow -- attend Arlington's Workman Junior High School, which has a program for English as a second language, or ESL. And 10-year-old Reagan -- the Jedi formerly known as Sergei -- is almost fully mainstreamed at Key Elementary School, where ESL accounts for just 50 minutes of his day.

But some lessons don't come with a report card. For these boys, one of the biggest challenges is something most of us take for granted: living as part of a family.

"It's learning to trust, learning to obey," Laura says. "And learning that relationships are important, and that no matter what you do, you're not in an institution anymore. And we're not gonna go away. We're not gonna just say: 'Oh, well, you're not worth it.' And that is the biggest thing."

So beyond the Cirque du Soleil balancing act of raising their "Russian Federation," and herding them as a group, Bill and Laura face the bigger issue: How, exactly, do they get to know these four boys as individuals, to understand the personalities that started forming long before they met them?

"The hardest thing," Laura says, "is to pay attention to one but not ignore the others, to be able to draw all of them out and have a good relationship with them individually at the same time."



Dan: Taking the wheel

Dan has had two big milestones this year -- one worthy of celebration; one of grieving.

The first, although thrilling to Dan, was terrifying to his parents: He's driving. An automobile. A silver Kia Rio, to be exact. Which he washes religiously.

The 17-year-old got his license in mid-October, which is when Laura went from calm to panicked in 10 seconds. But she returned to an even keel soon enough.

"After I got over the heart attack of realizing that he's actually driving," she says, "it's actually pretty helpful. He offers: 'You need some milk? OK, I'll go.'"

When asked about his foray into the world of the highway, Dan, known for stoicism, patiently answers the visitor's questions.

How's the driving going?

"Good."

Do you like driving?

"Yes."

Are you a safe driver?

Pause. "I will say yes."

As always, his economy of speech and bone-dry humor cause the room to burst into laughter.

When you're surrounded by loved ones -- best friend, new parents -- it's perhaps easier to deal with loss.

As a young boy, Dan had been living with his mother and grandmother, who was his primary caretaker. When his grandmother died, his home life grew unstable. Based on a variety of complaints, the 10-year-old boy was removed from his mother's care by Russia's version of Child Protective Services and placed in the orphanage.

A few months ago, Dan found out that his birth mother had died. There were no details.

His reaction spoke to his own strength of character, and to the stability he's found in Texas.

"He responded very maturely, with both sadness and resolve," family friend Bill Hines said. He knew that she was at peace now. "It just showed me he worked through issues with his mom, better than we would have thought."

Joe: A cowboy's way

Bill Waybourn is proud of all his sons, but there's a special gleam in his eye when he notes there has been a "conversion" in the house: 16-year-old Joe is now a wearer of cowboy boots and hat and a Western belt buckle.

He's a courtly young man, magically present whenever there's a door to hold open for a lady.



He's a quiet perfectionist. An athlete and a scholar. "He's turning in straight-A report cards left and right," Bill says. "My oldest son, Travis [from a previous marriage], said: 'You know, it's interesting to see a Waybourn boy with those kinds of grades.' "

For now, Joe attends the ESL school at Workman Junior High.

"It was the best choice we had at the moment," Laura says, adding that Joe's grades are indeed stellar.

"But as far as getting credits, it's been difficult," she says. "He's 16 years old, and they didn't give him any credit for English, so they started him as a ninth-grader. And while he is very, very bright and could catch up, we want him to have somewhat of a normal experience and we have yet to figure out how to be able to do that. We don't want him to be 21 when he graduates from high school."

This year, Joe's parents held their breath and let him take a big step: an airplane trip by himself. Clad in his white straw cowboy hat and brown boots, his Russian-laced speech would be the only hint that this was a Texan-in-the-making. Joe was off to Midland, Mich., to visit a friend he'd known in the orphanage whom he hadn't seen for 2 1/2 years. He was going to attend a homecoming dance.

And the friend is?

"Yelena, my girlfriend," Joe says, blushing furiously.

Zhenya: Learning to trust

Well before the adoption was formalized, Bill and Laura were calling Zhenya "The Wild Card."

All four Russian boys were orphans, but Zhenya's back story was a bit different.

When Joe and Reagan were placed at the orphanage at ages 9 and 3, they met an impish 7-year-old named Zhenya. They wouldn't learn until three years later -- through a fluke of clerical revelation -- that Zhenya was their blood brother.

Unlike Joe and Reagan, Zhenya had been abandoned at birth. His whole life had been lived in institutions. He had no clue what a traditional family was.

So far, the Wild Card has lived up to his label. While the other boys quickly adopted their American middle names as their first names, Zhenya has remained steadfastly Zhenya.

He's still an imp (the family lovingly refers to him as a weasel), loves the spotlight and has developed a habit of pestering girls at school. He wants to be a policeman like his dad, and his oldest brother, Travis.

While the other boys are quicker to trust their parents, Zhenya questions things, large and small.

When he has aches and pains, Laura will hand him some Advil.

"Are you sure I should take this?" he asks.

"I'm the mom," Laura will tell him. "I believe that this is the right thing to do, and you need to trust me."

As Laura explains this persisting dynamic, Zhenya picks up baby Lucas and bounces him as any parent would.

It's a quiet but potent gesture. The other brothers care for their youngest sibling, too, but it's clear that Zhenya cherishes his time with Lucas.



He explained this to Laura once.

"Babies that don't get rocked, it's not the same," he said.

"You didn't get rocked when you were a baby?" Laura asked.

"No."

Reagan: A Jedi in training

A Jedi in training needs his nourishment.

At 10, Reagan is still rail-thin, hovering close to 60 pounds. Which is shocking, considering the boy's eye-popping food intake. Fortunately for his system, when he packs it away, it's not pizza, hamburgers and candy bars.

What's your favorite thing to eat, his mother asks him.

"Apples," he says softly.

One recent Thursday afternoon, in the span of one hour, Regan devoured four oranges and an apple.

He'll dance for company, say family friends Bill and Cathy Hines, and ask lots of questions. One of Cathy's favorites was: "Can older people get married?"

He dressed as Yoda this year for his first Halloween, and when he grows up, he would like very much to become a Jedi knight.

"That's possible," Zhenya interjects, in such a deadpan that you're not sure whether he's being sarcastic.

Life contains a treasure trove of simple pleasures that we all take for granted. But for someone like Reagan, carefree youth is a relatively new gift. So, when you hear him recite one of his favorite things about America -- "When you can wake up Saturday morning and the parents are sleeping and you can watch cartoons" -- its sweet simplicity is enough to make the heart swell.

Bumps and bliss

When you shift from an orphanage into a family, it's only natural that people want to know. Parents, friends, strangers, all ask: Is life better here than it was there?

Sometimes, the answer is yes. Other times, the answer is startling in its nonchalance.

"Yeah, it's good here; it was good there."

Laura giggles. "How *touching!*"

Better that reaction than a haunted silence.

As friends who watch from the outside, the Hineses have marveled at what they've witnessed over a year's time. At first, when Dan's friends joined him as brothers, he was the bridge to their new American family. As translator, as the one with the experience, he had an almost uncle-like quality to him, says Bill Hines.

The Hines family watched that mantle start to melt away, giving way to more of an equality -- brothers in earnest.



But the boys still face their challenges. In the orphanage, they stuck together to the end -- a united front in uncertain times. In this new world, they find themselves still adapting to family life -- some learning to trust their parents, some struggling to assert their individuality.

It's a bumpy, beautiful road. Sadly, it's one that not every orphan gets to travel. That ugly truth continues to gnaw at Bill and Laura Waybourn. But that won't stop the bliss that bubbles under the surface of an average day. They'll just sigh, laugh and turn the washer on. Again.

Heather Svokos, (817) 390-7686 hsvokos@star-telegram.com

Load-Date: January 8, 2006

End of Document

[Police are trained to take blood samples for DWI](#)

Star-Telegram

September 14, 2005 Wednesday FINAL EDITION

Copyright 2005 Fort Worth Star Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: B; BRIEF; Pg. 1

Length: 1134 words

Byline: By Mark Agee; Star-Telegram Staff Writer

Body

Some Dalworthington Gardens police are certified to take blood for DWI cases. They use a kit, which includes gloves and a vial.

Sgt. Mike Taylor of the Dalworthington Gardens Department of Public Safety holds a vial from a kit used to collect blood.

Thirteen Dalworthington Gardens police officers are now trained to draw blood samples from motorists suspected of drunken driving in an effort to speed up arrests and gather better evidence than traditional breath tests.

And when suspects don't voluntarily agree to give blood, officers are getting search warrants allowing them to collect a sample. The anti-drunken-driving campaign is called "We Just Can't Take No for an Answer."

"This is just another tool for us, another arrow in our quiver," said **Bill Waybourn**, chief of the 34-member Dalworthington Gardens Department of Public Safety.



The city of about 2,300 borders Pantego and is surrounded by Arlington. It has the only law enforcement agency in Tarrant County taking such aggressive steps, said Richard Alpert, misdemeanor division chief for the Tarrant County district attorney's office.

Tela Mange, a Texas Department of Public Safety spokeswoman, said she had not heard of Texas agencies enacting such a policy.

State law requires that investigators collect blood tests in accidents involving fatalities or serious injuries. Some cities, such as Fort Worth, obtain warrants for blood samples in cases involving repeat offenders, Alpert said.

But most agencies don't go to the trouble of obtaining warrants for blood in run-of-the-mill arrests for driving while intoxicated, he said.

Alpert, Waybourn and other law enforcement sources said more suspects, especially those who have been through the criminal justice system, are refusing to cooperate with police during drunken-driving stops.

The suspects refuse because they are afraid to register more than the legal limit of 0.08 percent, police said.

Sgt. Mike Taylor said the Dalworthington Gardens policy became necessary because many drunken-driving suspects were refusing breath tests.

Those who refuse breath tests can have their driver's license revoked for 180 days by the state, "but DWI penalties are so stiff, people still refused," Taylor said.

Mange said the state DPS started license revocation proceedings against 50,679 Texas drivers during 2004 for refusing breath tests.

And when suspects do cooperate, their attorneys often challenge the accuracy of breath tests, Alpert said.

"It is much harder for the defense to mount a successful challenge to a blood test," Alpert said.

Waybourn said his department still owns breath tests but will only use them in special cases, such as when a medical condition precludes drawing blood.

Alpert said prosecutors routinely prove driving-while-intoxicated cases without a breath or blood test, but only with the arresting officer's testimony, and it's much more difficult.

"Most of the cases we try are refusal cases," Alpert said. "But with blood evidence, the cases are very solid. I wouldn't be surprised if the Dalworthington Gardens officers didn't even have to show up in court much. Their suspects will probably plead guilty."

Training officers

About 38 percent of the Dalworthington Gardens police force has received blood technician certification since June, said Sgt. Mike Taylor, who supervised the effort.

The curriculum for the program was approved by the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education, Taylor said.

Waybourn said the department's small size made the training affordable.



A doctor who volunteers as a medical adviser for the department led the 20 hours of classroom training, Waybourn said. The doctor also supervised as officers practiced drawing blood at Arlington Memorial Hospital before being certified as blood technicians, he said.

"Most of the cost was work hours for our officers," Waybourn said.

As a public safety department -- a combined police and fire department -- all officers are cross-trained as paramedics or emergency medical technicians, too, so they already had some medical knowledge, Waybourn said.

By having officers take samples, police hope to trim the average time between arrest and blood extraction from three to four hours to 90 minutes, Waybourn said.

Frank Colosi, a cooperating lawyer with the Greater Fort Worth Chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union, had not heard of the Dalworthington Gardens policy and said he did not know whether convictions based on such evidence would stand up to appeals.

"As far as the constitutional implications on the face of it, I'm not sure of the legality because it's so new -- but it's kind of eerie," Colosi said. "It's kind of grotesque that the government can come and take your blood."

The first trial of one of the 10 suspects arrested under the new DWI policy is scheduled for next month, Taylor said.

Taylor said the change was necessary because enforcement hasn't put much of a dent in DWIs.

"We had to do something to try and save lives," Taylor said. "This is what we came up with to ensure that we can still get a conviction if the suspect refuses to give us a sample."

Tim Cole, the district attorney for Montague, Archer and Clay counties, said officers in his jurisdiction and several others seek search warrants for blood samples when the subject refuses a breath test. Agencies in Cole's jurisdiction implemented the policy about a year ago, he said.

"I talked with other DAs, and we had noticed that a lot of people, especially those who were repeat offenders, had been advised to refuse Breathalyzers, or even refuse a walk-and-turn test," Cole said.

"It was a real trend, and I thought we should do something about it," Cole said. "And blood tests are the best evidence you can have in DWI cases."

Waybourn said he is already fielding calls from other agencies interested in learning more about the policy and how his officers are doing.

"While it's very intensive to get started, we think it's worth it," Waybourn said. "We've got to do something to try and keep drunk drivers off the streets and keep them from circumventing prosecution."

IN THE KNOW

How the process works

After a driver has failed a field sobriety test, the suspect is taken into custody.



At the police station, police conduct a videotaped interview and ask the suspect to voluntarily submit to giving a blood sample.

If the suspect refuses, police take the evidence they have and seek an evidentiary search warrant. Several judges in the area have volunteered to be on call to sign warrants, said **Bill Waybourn**, chief of the Dalworthington Gardens Department of Public Safety.

If the judge approves the warrant, police take a blood sample.

SOURCE: Dalworthington Gardens Department of Public Safety

MAP: DWI POLICY; STAR-TELEGRAM DAVE SEYMOUR

Mark Agee, (817) 548-5421 rmagee@star-telegram.com

Load-Date: September 14, 2005

End of Document

[Police arrest students with truancy warrants](#)

Star-Telegram

August 9, 2005 Tuesday ARLINGTON EDITION

Copyright 2005 Fort Worth Star Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: B; Pg. 1

Length: 424 words

Byline: By L. Lamor Williams; Star-Telegram Staff Writer

Dateline: ARLINGTON

Body

Dalworthington Gardens Senior Warrant Officer Dennis Gotcher, left, discusses warrants with Capt. Joby Berkley before arresting those with truancy-related offenses. There are outstanding warrants for about 60 students and parents, authorities said.

Tarrant County Constable Clint Burgess leads Arlington resident Nellie Ruiz, who was arrested on an outstanding truancy warrant Monday, into the Dalworthington Gardens Jail.



Making students attend class every day is not as easy as it sounds even when students and their parents risk fines and arrest.

Area constables and police arrested students and parents with truancy-related warrants on Monday. A parent was arrested if the warrant stated that the parent contributed to the student's non-attendance.

The offenders have warrants for failure to take care of citations and fines from as far back as three or more school years, authorities said. "The message simply is: It's against the law to skip school and to allow your children to skip school," Dalworthington Gardens Police Chief **Bill Waybourn** said.

When school begins on Monday, officers will be on the lookout for truant students and will take them to school, Waybourn said.

Dalworthington Gardens and Arlington police and Tarrant County constables joined forces to round up the Arlington school district students and parents with outstanding warrants. There are still warrants for about 60 students and parents, authorities said.

Warrants were issued for students who have missed between 30 and 45 days of school during a semester, Dalworthington Gardens Senior Warrant Officer Dennis Gotcher said.

"I worked for six years at Nichols Junior High, and there were kids who only came to school Tuesday through Thursday," he said. "They never came on Fridays, that's test day."

Gotcher helped develop a new program for keeping track of truancy warrants. He said that in the past, students and parents would get tickets from school resource officers for truancy, but the tickets were not being put into the system.

"We offered to put those people into the system and arrest and jail those individuals," Gotcher said. "There was no teeth in the program. The students felt like no one was going to arrest them."

Gotcher said the program started about two years ago. He also said that warrants in Texas don't go away so judges are hearing more and more truancy related cases.

"One time, I arrested a 26-year-old guy who had been at his job for five years and had a daughter," Gotcher said.

L. Lamor Williams, (817) 548-5494 llwilliams@star-telegram.com

Load-Date: August 24, 2005

End of Document

[Big stash of cash found in tire](#)

Fort Worth Star Telegram (Texas)

June 3, 2005, Friday, ARLINGTON EDITION

Copyright 2005 Star-Telegram Newspaper, Inc.



Section: METRO;

Length: 271 words

Byline: SUSAN SCHROCK; Star-Telegram Staff Writer

Body

A former Dalworthington Gardens police officer found more than half a million dollars hidden in a vehicle's spare tire during a traffic stop last month in Troy.

David Seward, who became the Troy police chief in February, was acting on a tip when he made the traffic stop May 24 in the small town north of Temple.

Seward said he asked the driver for

permission to search the vehicle after noticing the rear of the car appeared weighted down.

"The spare tire was incredibly heavy. We bounced it on the highway, and when we stopped it from bouncing we still felt stuff inside shaking," said Seward, who was assisted by two officers. "We cut it open and one by one we pulled out green cellophane-wrapped packages of money."

The driver, a man from Eagle Pass, said he had been in Mansfield visiting his relatives and did not know where the money in the tire came from, Seward said. The man was arrested but released pending the investigation.

Seward had been a patrol sergeant for the Dalworthington Gardens Department of Public Safety, where he worked for 12 years.

"He was always a smart traffic cop," said Dalworthington Gardens police Chief **Bill Waybourn** said. "I'm glad to hear he's doing so well."

The money was seized by the Drug Enforcement Administration, Seward said. The city of Troy will receive part of the money, which totaled \$537,030. Seward said he plans to use the money for improvements at the Police Department, which has five officers, and

the city park.

Susan Schrock, (817) 548-5475 sschrock@star-telegram.com

-PHOTO-

1. head shot:

David Seward

Load-Date: June 7, 2005

End of Document

A SERIES OF FORTUNATE EVENTS

Fort Worth Star Telegram (Texas)

December 26, 2004, Sunday, FINAL EDITION

Copyright 2004 Star-Telegram Newspaper, Inc.

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: SUNDAY LIFE;

Length: 5779 words

Byline: HEATHER SVOKOS; Star-Telegram Staff Writer

Body

DEAR READER: We are happy to tell you that the story you are holding in your hands is very pleasant. It tells the happy -- even miraculous -- tale of four Russian orphans and two incredible people named Bill and Laura Waybourn. If you prefer reading something that ends in disaster, put this down immediately. Otherwise, be forewarned that this story just might change your life.

* * *

On the midnight train to Shumerly, Russia, a 16-year-old boy gazes out the window at the dark, snowy landscape and train yards as they chug past. He silently notes each stop on the route he knows well. With olive skin and dark, haunted eyes, Dan is the



picture of sullen, brooding James Dean cool. As if to underscore the image, a crescent-shaped scar hooks out from the corner of his left eye.

You'd never know he was on the journey of a lifetime: to save his best friend.

He twists the thin silver band on his middle finger. It was a gift he received a few months before, inside a letter from his best friend, Slava, half a world a way.

Slava has a matching ring; he keeps his in his pocket.

On the band, there is an inscription in Cyrillic letters.

It translates: God be with us, and keep us safe.

A year and a half ago, in July 2003, on a train heading the opposite direction, Dan was the one being saved.

As a 10-year-old boy, Dan was seized from his home in Cheboksary by Russia's version of Child Protective Services. Then known by his Russian name of Kirill, he had been living with his mother and grandmother, who was his primary caretaker. When his grandmother died, he no longer had a stable home life. Based on a variety of complaints, he was removed and taken to the orphanage at Shumerly, about 400 miles east of Moscow.

It took Kirill awhile to adjust to this new life. A quiet, independent boy, he worked hard to stay away from bad influences.

Because of his strong will and tendency to isolate himself, other kids made fun of him. No pushover, Kirill fought back when pressed. In his mind, "If you can stand up for yourself, people will not make fun of you again."

For a time, Kirill waited for his mother to come back for him, even running away once. But the weeks turned into months, with no letter, no word.

The orphanage director, Luba Shinkorenko, watched as her darling boy changed before her. The shining eyes and precocious smile gave way to a trancelike expression and hunched shoulders.

"He was always just a little bit sad," Luba said, "and he looked very abandoned and lost in this life."

Thousands of miles away, two strangers would find him.



*

Bill Waybourn sat in a pew at Christ Chapel Church in Fort Worth. At 43, his life was in place. Police chief of Dalworthington Gardens since 1984, this amiable man had a wife, two grown children from a previous marriage, and a grandson.

But on this Sunday two years ago, the good pastor's words would set off a chain reaction that no one could have ever predicted.

The Rev. Ted Kitchens told the poignant story of a teen-age Russian boy who had visited America recently in hopes of finding a family through the Gladney Center's Bright Futures adoption program. Russian children are invited to the United States for 10 days, hosted by American families. Ideally, the visit will lead to permanent adoption.

At 14, Kirill was teetering on the brink of a grim destiny.

He was about to "age out" of the orphanage. Russian orphans who haven't been adopted by 15, 16 or 17 are cast out as young adults to struggle with life on their own. There simply isn't room for them anymore. Some head back to unstable families; others turn to drugs and crime; many make up the street population of Russia. They're born into the world with little or no chance.

And there was **Bill Waybourn**, taking all this in. He is methodical, cautious -- a cop to the hilt. "I never thought of myself as an impetuous person," he said.

Yet, listening to Kirill's story, he almost had to pin down his right arm to keep it from shooting into the air. Right there, in front of God and everyone, he was ready to announce: "Search over -- we've got it."

He restrained himself long enough to go home and discuss it with Laura, then 30, his wife of four years, who had stayed home from church that day to care for a sick grandson.

Adoption was not on their radar; they hoped and prayed that maybe another family would take up the yoke, and Kirill would be fine.

But the boy still pulled at them.

They debated. They prayed some more. Laura talked to her parents.



"And suddenly," Bill said, "it was like: Let's go for it."

*

At the orphanage, Kirill kept mostly to himself. He had learned much too early not to trust easily and not to put much stock in hope.

It would take a 9-year-old named Slava to open the door a crack.

Not long after Kirill landed at Shumerly, the orphanage welcomed two new boys: Slava and his 3-year-old brother, Sergei. Like Kirill, they had been removed from their home, in the Chuvashian region of Russia.

Slava had a shy, warm smile and sandy hair. He was quiet, generous and responsible -- at 9, already a father figure to his little brother.

Both athletes and music lovers, Slava and Kirill played soccer, marched through the woods and devoured whatever Russian pop music they could get their hands on.

The trust built slowly, as they helped each other adjust to school and orphanage life.

Eventually, the boys came to know a funny, impish 7-year-old named Zhenya. Abandoned at birth, Zhenya had bounced in and out of institutions his whole life. He had always dreaded the thought that he was alone in the world.

Still, the boy often managed a smile that spread slyly, crookedly beneath eyes that glimmered with mischief.

From the start, Slava felt Zhenya was someone special.

Now, looking at Slava, Sergei and Zhenya, with their sandy hair, boomerang eyebrows and chiseled porcelain faces, it makes perfect sense. But Slava wouldn't learn the truth for three years.

One day in 2002, the orphanage director, by a complete fluke, stumbled upon an amazing clerical revelation. And the feeling that kept tugging at Slava was confirmed.

Zhenya was their lost brother.

*

Kirill, Slava, Zhenya and Sergei were just a handful of the more



than 100 orphans at Shumerly and of the 700,000 in Russia.

Along a path riddled with disappointment and pain, it was chance that brought together this community of boys -- brothers by blood and by bond.

But it's doubtful their love for each other would be enough to save them from a painful fate.

*

Laura Waybourn was on the verge of throwing up. She was more nervous for him than for her.

In April 2003, she was in Russia for the first time in her life.

In an orphanage, face to face with the 14-year-old who was about to become her son.

"Is there anything about me that's gonna make him uncomfortable?" she thought. "Is he gonna think we're weird -- what is he thinking?"

Standing before her was a sweet, honest, painfully shy young teen-ager, who at the moment was scared to death. "It was kind of like a blind date," Laura said. "If it were a blind date where it were a pre-arranged marriage."

As part of the adoption, Kirill would need a middle name. Bill and Laura had one in mind: Lucas, or Luke.

Kirill objected, surprisingly strongly. He settled on Daniel.

Months later, Bill and Laura would learn why: If you say "luk" to a Russian, it means onion.

"He thought we were trying to name him Onion Waybourn," Bill said, laughing.

It took two trips to Russia and piles of paperwork and embassy red tape before the Waybourns headed back home with their new son.

Kirill was leaving behind everything he knew and loved -- his motherland, the tight-knit community at Shumerly, where the staff treated him as their golden boy. And, worst of all, he was leaving his best friend.

Before he left for America in November 2003, Kirill gave Slava some of his few possessions -- mostly clothes. He promised him they



would be friends forever, and that they would always stay in touch.

A despondent Slava wanted to believe, but he had his doubts.

*

For months, Kirill was so withdrawn that it made Laura ache. Her son walked around the house with downcast eyes, a silent stranger.

He refused to use any term to refer to his new mother and father. Finally, they drafted a long list of options and drew a line in the sand: You will pick something.

Kirill chose Ma and Pa.

Kirill's English improved rapidly with Laura's home-schooling, although there were still plenty of what Bill likes to call "Ricky Ricardo moments."

Bill and Kirill bonded over dove hunting and skeet shooting, and the whole family took up karate. Kirill cultivated a mean front snap kick and a winning streak. And like any teen-age boy in America, he spent hours in the den, conquering video games.

In July 2003, on his first birthday in the States, Kirill announced: "I think I want to go by my American name. Not Daniel but Dan."

When Dan first came to America, he mentioned that he'd be happy to be a mechanic. Within a year, he started talking about the possibility of college. And when his old orphanage director visited the States on business, she told Bill and Laura: "He seems very happy. He cares very much for you. He told me: 'This is a great country. Do you know that I can do anything I want, except be president?' "

The opportunities were in America. But back in his home country, his best friend was waiting on a promise.

*

A visitor arrived at the orphanage in Shumerly with a hand-carried delivery from the States. It was Anne Ivy, a Fort Worth woman who was there to adopt a boy named Dmitry, a friend of Zhenya's.

She had something for Slava: a Walkman, from Dan -- from Kirill.



He hadn't forgotten.

The Waybourns could hardly forget Slava, either.

Dan had filled Ma and Pa with stories of his friend: how, like an informal disciplinarian, he watched over the other kids in the orphanage; how he was a caretaker to his little brothers; and how he would spend what little money he earned on them.

This March, a hand-carried letter from Slava provoked delight, then worry.

Just shy of 15, Slava was getting close to aging out of the orphanage.

"I was worried about him because life there [in Chuvashia] is pretty difficult," Dan said. "I just wanted him to get out of there and have a good life and still be with his brothers."

"He never directly came out and said: 'Hey, will you all adopt Slava?' but he kinda hinted around toward it," Bill said. "And we had a frank conversation with him and said: There's nothing that we can do -- he's not up for international adoption. But in the Waybourn house, what we do is pray for him."

That's what Dan did.

And they went on about their life.

*

It's not often that a routine e-mail check changes your life.

But what's routine in the life of the Waybourns? While scanning her e-mail, Laura came across a new Gladney posting of Russian kids up for adoption.

She immediately called Bill at work. Her voice was more high-pitched than normal. "You're not going to believe this," she said.

"There's a slew of names on the list," Bill recalled. "And there they were, bigger'n Dallas."

Slava.

Zhenya.

Sergei.



"Oh my God," Bill thought. "We're going back to Russia."

This was just two months after Bill told Dan to pray for Slava.

"This convinced us that Dan was a pretty good prayer warrior," Bill laughed.

The boys were scheduled to come over for the Bright Futures camp, and the Waybourns were the natural host family.

In July, the three brothers reunited with their old friend -- the American.

Dan and Slava would stay up all night talking, mulling the possibility that one day, they would officially become brothers.

Bill and Laura watched them all closely, but it was hard to take their eyes off Sergei. With elfin ears and wide, dancing eyes, he is achingly cute. His broad smile comes as easily as rain and is sometimes comically punctuated by one sharp, solitary nod of approval.

"They were incredible kids, and we had such a great time," Bill said. "It became crystal clear that these four boys needed to be together."

But Dan still wouldn't give himself over to blind hope.

"I just don't want to disappoint myself," he said. "I believe in today, not tomorrow."

*

It was enough to make even their closest friends take pause. How could Bill and Laura flip their lives upside down to adopt one Russian teen-ager, and then turn around and adopt his best friend and two brothers? Three trips to Russia, tens of thousands of dollars in adoption fees, the chaos of a language barrier, a home uprooted and the prospect of four sets of college tuitions -- all on the salary of a public servant.

Were they well people?

For as long as the Rev. Bill Hines can remember, the Waybourns had taken in troubled teens, children in need, parents in search of help for their children. For weeks, months or even a year at a time, they've all had a home at the Waybourns.

Bill Waybourn grew up one of eight children. Together, with his



24 years in law enforcement -- 20 years as chief -- and Laura's years in Child Protective Services, they had witnessed much pain.

As a former investigative case worker for Child Protective Services, Laura understood the horrors more deeply than most. One of her cases, in particular, left an indelible mark.

In 1999, in an apparent double murder-double suicide, the Nunez family of Fort Worth was found dead in their car. Two parents, two young sons. The tragedy was probably triggered by a child abuse investigation and severe financial problems.

"It was one of the worst things I've ever gone through -- that anybody on the case had ever gone through," she said. She was proud of her work with CPS, proud of the agency, but the Nunez tragedy prompted her to quit.

"I've seen some stuff that's similar in Russia, as far as neglect," Laura said. "I've seen it directly. I've stood knee to knee with the people who are doing it."

But paramount in this decision was the couple's faith.

"They certainly see it as a Christian ministry -- they're very devoted to Christ," said Hines, a longtime friend. "Love is given without requirement."

And so was sacrifice.

"When your attitude toward life is a life of service," Hines said, "then you're not as concerned about buying that second home on the lake, or that expensive vacation you're not gonna be able to take."

As for footing the bill, Bill and Laura trust that they'll be able to make it work. "God will provide what we need," Bill says. "As far as resources, we hope we'll continue to be wise with what we have."

Every now and then, Hines or his wife, Cathy, will get a call, letting them know of something wacky and wonderful that's happening at the Waybourn house. "I say: What else is new? It's a wild and crazy place to be."

Three new sons on the way, but there was something no one knew yet. Life was about to get even crazier.



*

In the lobby of the Moscow Sheraton Palace, Laura Waybourn fidgets with her gloves and shifts in her chair. A blunt, sharp-witted woman, she squirms backward, forward and sideways. It's just after 10:30 at night on a recent Sunday, and the family is within a hairsbreadth of their boys.

Once at the train station, they will board an overnight railcar to Shumerly, home to the orphanage.

If it were up to Laura, she wouldn't bother with the train. She would convert her chair into an ejector seat and catapult herself those 400 miles eastward, to scoop up her boys. She has lost every shred of patience. "I want to see them right now, I want to see them yesterday," she groans.

Bill is antsy, too, but more outwardly calm. Sitting back in his boots, his trench coat riding up around his shoulders, he is a transplanted cowboy in Moscow.

But coolest of all is Dan, slumped back in his chair. His parents kid him about his stoicism.

"This is Dan excited," Laura says, morphing her face into the blankest, most impassive expression possible.

Everyone cracks up. Even Dan.

*

"I see Slava," someone says, as the train pulls to a stop.

At the Shumerly station, no one expected the sight: Waiting outside the Waybourns' train car are three grinning brothers, each holding out a single rose for his new mother.

It's cold outside, so the reunion is quick -- a warm tangle of hugs and laughter, peppered with chatter in Russian and English.

It is a quick car ride to the orphanage. The building that was home to Dan and his friends is primitive and clean, and since Dan's departure, now sports a new pine-walled gym, complete with ropes, rings and stationary bikes. Paintings and crafts and smiling photos dot the walls.

The Shumerly orphanage defies any expectation of a Dickensian nightmare, where children live in filth and neglect, and where



infants lie still, deprived of the human touch. Here, there is the presence of joy.

Tangible love flows among the children and from Luba and some of the staffers there. The music teacher, Elena Vasilievna Yezhova, is a veritable Twyla Tharp for the under-15 set, choreographing elaborate musical numbers to be done in a brightly colored performance room. On this special day, the adult audience is treated to a Russian folk dance, a grasshopper dance, a modern dance, and a solo ballad by Zhenya.

One number, however, shocks Bill's conservative Texas sensibilities: Three young boys -- one of them his son-to-be Sergei -- take the stage in white tutus and leotards. There is some eye-rolling discussion of this later, when Bill and Laura are shopping, eager to ditch Sergei's pink-striped sneakers in favor of more weather-appropriate black boots.

"No more pink shoes for my boy," Laura announces in the store.

"No pink shoes, and no tutus," Bill adds. "We're goin' to Texas."

As they tour the orphanage for their second time, Bill and Laura are eager to see a 13-year-old boy named Vitaly. They're also a little heartbroken. They met this polite, precious, smiley boy in July at the Bright Futures camp. He is the only child from that group still waiting to be adopted.

"Nobody stepped up," Bill said.

*

There will be many memories of the day when a judge in Cheboksary, Russia, made the adoptions official: the numbing cold, the suit and tie that Dan couldn't wait to peel off, the interminable waiting, the nerves, the boredom, the long-awaited jubilation.

But one thing, from that night's celebratory dinner, will always leap to the front of Laura's mind. Everyone at the dinner gave a toast, including these four found brothers.

All eyes were on young Sergei as he raised his glass in a subtle toast to Zhenya, the brother he might never have known. "To a good family," he said, "and for no one else to get lost again."



*

Zhenya struggles to lift himself off the bed, but it's futile.
His head is trapped in the vice of a Dan Waybourn leglock.

For the American parents, who don't understand much Russian,
these moments of horseplay become their window to the boys' world.

They watch.

In the hotel, where the four of them spill onto the bed,
laughing and wrestling and chatting in their mother tongue, or
where the older ones sit, plugged into their portable CD and tape
players, sharing the latest Russian dance music.

In the restaurant, where all the boys grow more silent than
normal.

In the American Embassy, where Dan drapes his arm over Zhenya's
shoulder, and playfully, repeatedly, bonks him on the back of the
head.

But beyond reading body language, the parents know that they are
easily shut out of this secret fraternity.

At first, it drove Laura crazy -- in July, when the boys visited
the States. "I wanted to know exactly what everybody was saying all
the time," she said. But in Russia, she was ready for it.

"I think it's great now," she said. "Let them have their time."

Plus, she's developed a system. "I started just watching them,"
she said. "I'm not right all the time -- maybe 30 percent, I know
what they're thinking, and with the 10 words I do know, I know if
they need something."

She thinks this transition will be much easier than the one with
Dan, partly because they have a built-in translator in him, and
partly because of personality differences. "As shy as any of them
are alone," Laura says, "if you put them all together, none of them
are as shy as he was.

"The only time it drives me crazy is if I've asked Dan to ask
them something for me and he doesn't really tell me what they
said."

Still, she's prepared for a lifetime of these secret moments.



"They can shut you out," she says. "I can see that happening, especially as they learn more English."

But as long as they're respectful, she says, she'll roll with it.

*

They call Zhenya the wild card. Because he's been institutionalized his whole life, Bill and Laura know he may be the slowest to assimilate to family life.

He's already a hold-out in one respect. When the Waybourns were in Russia, his two blood brothers had, early on, decided they would go by their American names -- perhaps on Dan's recommendation that it would make life easier. Slava will go by Joe, and will allow Laura to occasionally call him Joey. Sergei was the first to announce that he was going by Reagan, which Bill and Laura chose for Ronald Reagan and his role in ending the Cold War.

So far, though, Zhenya is Zhenya. He's shown no interest in going by his middle name, Douglas.

*

Reagan is a slip of a boy, but he can eat like a trucker: He packs away the cabbage soup, fish-and-onion sandwiches, and stabs into vegetables as if they might scurry off the plate.

But by Thanksgiving Day, his appetite has waned, along with his infectious smile; he and the other boys are quiet and tired -- especially Dan. As the trip's unofficial translator, this aloof young man is having a rough time, bouncing back and forth between Russian and English, in complete cultural limbo. At times, he struggles to communicate in either language.

Still, on this American holiday, celebrated in Russia, at an Italian cafe, he helps his brothers order from the menu. No turkey and mashed potatoes -- it's pizza, lasagna and carbonara for the Waybourns this November.

Reagan sits very still in his chair, his head lowered. The waitress delivers his plate, upon which sits a calzone bigger than his head. He looks up, the eyes widen, the grin returns, and the table bursts into laughter. They laugh harder when they watch him take bites so huge they protrude from inside his cheeks as if he's



storing nuts for the winter.

For the moment, the happy little eating machine is back.

A new Thanksgiving, and a new Waybourn family: Bill, Laura, and the Russian Federation, as Bill calls his new brood. The picture is almost complete.

"The only thing is, we're missing a little Onion," Laura says.

"That's killing me."

Even if the new boys understood English, they wouldn't have known what Laura was talking about. A surprise awaited the newest Waybourn sons. "Onion" was code for the final twist in this adoption odyssey.

*

A month earlier, in the midst of waiting on word of the Russian adoptions, fate knocked once again at the Waybourn house.

It took the form of a longtime acquaintance of Bill's, a very pregnant woman going through a rough time.

True to form, the Waybourns gave counsel to the woman and her family; Bill put them in touch with a prospective family, to start a private adoption.

But the would-be adoptive mother dropped a bomb on Laura.

The woman didn't think she and her husband were the right parents for the child. But she knew a couple who was.

"I think it's your baby," the woman told Laura.

Laura the chatterbox was dumbstruck.

When she and Bill sat down to discuss it over coffee, the questions poured out: Why now? Is this what we're supposed to do? What about Bill's age? How would we do it with the other boys?

They just would.

And the pieces fell into place. The birth mother agreed to the plan on Wednesday. The baby was born on a Thursday. They named the baby Lucas, or Luke -- their original choice for Dan, who didn't want to go through life an Onion.

Laura and Bill were bursting to tell everyone, but they didn't



want Luke's adoption to complicate their pending Russian adoptions. They would keep it a secret, all through the Russia trip. Until they landed at the Dallas/Fort Worth airport.

*

The plane was late. It was 1 in the morning, but they all gathered to greet the new Waybourn clan: Laura's parents; Bill's children, Travis, 23, a rookie cop in Pantego, and Heather, 21, a sophomore at Tarrant County College; longtime friends Bill and Cathy Hines; Anne Ivy and her son Dmitry. And, of course, Lucas, age 9 weeks.

According to plan, Dan introduced the boys to their new baby brother, and, Laura hoped, gave a brief explanation of what in the world had just happened. They seemed to comprehend the news, judging by their smiles and their eagerness to cradle him in their arms.

Lest there was any confusion, Laura told Dan: "Can you make sure they know that I wasn't pregnant?"

*

Zhenya dives onto the couch as if he's lived there all of his 13 years. Reagan skips around the house in his red Pokemon T-shirt, counting the minutes until he can watch the Shrek DVD for the 100th time. Dan and Slava -- Joe -- hole up in the den, immersed in a video game.

Laura says the boys have taken to rocking their new baby brother in his swing. They talk to him and try to make him smile. Because he's a pudgy little fellow, they call him Mr. Tolsty -- tolsty is Russian for fat.

Out of the unnatural environment of hotel rooms, courtrooms and embassies, the boys burst to life again, and their natural curiosity speeds up considerably. Zhenya wants to repeat everything, and Reagan sits and compares his feet with Luke's.

Like Dan, the boys will be home-schooled at first, while they assimilate and learn English. Next year, Dan plans to go to Temple Christian school.

Dan and Joe will share a bunk-bed room, as will Zhenya and Reagan.



Extra room, drywall and major renovations are courtesy of "Mr. Safety," the man more commonly known as Laura's dad, Larry Morris.

*

When **Bill Waybourn** took a seat on that pew in November 2002, in the middle of Fort Worth, he had no earthly clue about the plight of the Russian orphan. Three trips abroad and four Russian children later, he's a 45-year-old man with a family of nine and a whole new life.

"I just sat down and listened to a minister preach, and . . . my goodness."

He's an adoption convert now, a kind of missionary.

"It's an amazing thing, what Gladney's doing," he says. "I really applaud them for going in this direction."

He and Laura hope that by telling their family's story, it will open the door to more adoptions -- they're especially hoping to find a home for Vitaly.

"Our heart breaks for the Russian orphan," he said. "But hopefully, somebody else will step up to the plate. Because I know that there are families out there that have the resources, the time, the love . . ."

Their friend, Bill Hines, says it'll be hard for Bill and Laura to pass up kids like Vitaly.

"I think one of the big challenges for them now -- such a large family and still in the business of caring for people -- is that they're going to be looking for more and more people like themselves that they can funnel people to," Hines said. "People that have the same heart and same sort of mission."

The Waybourn house? It's a little full right now.

IN THE KNOW

Gladney Center programs and sessions

The Gladney Center for Adoption, based in Fort Worth, is one of the country's oldest adoption agencies. Gladney handles both domestic and international adoptions, and since its founding in 1887 has placed more than 26,000 children in homes and served more than 36,000 birth mothers.



In the summer, Gladney holds the Bright Futures camp, where older Russian orphans (over age 7) get a glimpse of America through a 10-day visit, where they are hosted by American families in the hope of adoption.

In January, Gladney will hold several information/education sessions on international adoption from Bulgaria, China, Guatemala, Kazakhstan, Russia and Ukraine. A session will be held in Dallas on Jan. 11 and in Fort Worth on Jan. 13.

For more information on adoption, the Bright Futures Camp, or the informational sessions, contact Gladney at (817) 922-6088 or (800) 452-3639, or visit www.gladney.org.

The cost of adoption

Standard fees for adopting from Russia:

* Gladney Adoption Fee: \$2,500 for first child, \$500 for related sibling, no fee is assessed for additional related siblings.

* Gladney Post Placement Fee: \$2,050 for completing and processing reports for 3 years. (Russian requirement).

* In-country fee: \$4,500

* Including other non-Gladney fees, the total estimate is about \$12,000, not including travel.

* The federal government also offers an adoption tax credit, which can reduce adoption expenses.

(www.irs.gov/publications/p968/index.html)

Russia's orphans: Who's left behind?

There were over 700,000 orphans in Russia in 2000, although unofficial estimates indicate that there may be as many as 2 million orphans in Russia, including street children and the homeless.

Of the total, 95 percent of these children are "social orphans," meaning their parents are living but have been deemed unfit to parent because of neglect, alcohol or drug abuse, or financial hardships.

About 15,000 children leave Russian orphanages each year, once



they are 16 to 18 years old. Of these:

* 5,000 are unemployed

* 6,000 are homeless

* 3,000 turn to crime

* approximately 1,500 commit suicide

* roughly half the girls are forced into prostitution.

Thousands of children are abandoned to the state at a rate of 113,000 a year for the past two years, up dramatically from 67,286 in 1992.

Russia did not allow foreigners to adopt its orphans until 1992, after perestroika was in place. In 1997, Russia became the No. 1 source of international adoptions for the United States.

SOURCES: Russian Orphan Aid Foundation, Ministry of Education of the Russian Federation, Russian Information Services, Russian Life magazine, CoMission for Children at Risk, 2002.

Special Thanks to Victoria Nemonezhnaya, the Russian Translator; Vera Malakhova, An Adoption Coordinator for the Gladney Center; and Luba Shinkorenko, Shumerly's Orphanage Director.

Heather Svokos, (817) 390-7686 hsvokos@star-telegram.com

-PHOTO-

1. Photo: Tom Pennington Star-Telegram

Talisman. A Russian Orthodox ring holds special meaning for best friends Dan and Slava, who met in a Russian orphanage.

2. Photo: Tom Pennington Star-Telegram

Sweet relief. Laura Waybourn expresses joy when Bill tells her the good news: An error in Sergei's passport won't make an already wearying adoption process even longer.

3. Photo: Tom Pennington Star-Telegram

A new home. Sergei, now named Reagan in honor of the late president, was used to sharing a room with 14 other boys at the orphanage. Now, he and brother Zhenya will have a room to themselves. Zhenya has chosen to keep his Russian name, while Slava now goes by Joe.

4. Photo: Tom Pennington Star-Telegram



Overnight train. Dan, whose Russian name is Kirill, gazes out a train window on his way back to Russia with his parents. They are all on a mission that will change six lives.

5. Photo: Tom Pennington Star-Telegram

Waiting to celebrate. Shortly after a judge made the adoptions official, the Waybourn family sits down to a celebratory feast at a Russian hotel.

6. Photo: Tom Pennington Star-Telegram

Sergei says goodbye. Sergei, 9, snaps some photos of friends at the orphanage in Shumerly, Russia, before leaving forever with the Waybourns.

7. Photo: Tom Pennington Star-Telegram

Bonding with a new son. Laura keeps an eye on Sergei as they walk to a Moscow grocery store. Although he is the youngest and smallest of the brothers, he's known for his hearty appetite.

8. Photo: Tom Pennington Star-Telegram

Quiet joy. Dan was 10 when he was removed from his home in Russia and put in an orphanage. These days, the teen-ager is grinning a lot more, thanks to a stable home life in Texas and a recent reunion with his best friend.

9. Photo: Tom Pennington Star-Telegram

Dan's in the house. After a long train ride, Dan, once the golden boy at Shumerly, reconnects with Slava and other old friends at the orphanage. At right is Vitaly, 13, who is still waiting to be adopted.

10. Photo: Tom Pennington Star-Telegram

Getting comfortable. Reagan (Sergei) rips around the back yard of his new home in Dalworthington Gardens, where Laura will homeschool the boys.

11. Photo: Tom Pennington Star-Telegram

Nine is enough? The new Waybourn family. From left, sitting are Laura, Lucas and Bill. Standing on either side are Travis and Heather, Bill's grown children; standing in the middle (left to right) are the adopted Russian boys: Joe (Slava), 15; Reagan (Sergei), 9; Zhenya, 13; and Dan (Kirill), 16.

12. Photo: Tom Pennington Star-Telegram

Revelation at D/FW. Once back in the United States, Laura Waybourn



gauges the boys' reaction to a 9-week-old surprise.

13. Photo: Tom Pennington Star-Telegram

Hotel roughhousing. Dan pins Zhenya on the bed in a Russian hotel room, while Slava and Sergei do little to help their brother.

14. Photo: Tom Pennington Star-Telegram

Court day. Dan gets necktie assistance from Bill. Today is the day Dan and his parents will appear before a judge in Cheboksary, Russia, and the adoptions of Slava, Zhenya and Sergei will become official.

15. Photo: Tom Pennington Star-Telegram

Getting to know you. **Bill Waybourn** holds Sergei after arriving at the orphanage to meet the boys. Bill has two other children from a previous marriage: Travis, 23, and Heather, 21.

16. head shot: Tom Pennington Star-Telegram

Zhenya

17. head shot: Tom Pennington Star-Telegram

Sergei

18. head shot: Tom Pennington Star-Telegram

Slava

Load-Date: December 28, 2004

End of Document

[A SERIES OF FORTUNATE EVENTS](#)

Star-Telegram

December 26, 2004 Sunday TARRANT ARL/NE EDITION

Copyright 2004 Forth Worth Star Telegram All Rights Reserved

Star-Telegram
Found on DFW.com

Section: G; BRIEF; Pg. 1

Length: 5436 words

Byline: By Heather Svokos; Star-Telegram Staff Writer



Body

Talisman. A Russian Orthodox ring holds special meaning for best friends Dan and Slava, who met in a Russian orphanage.

Sweet relief. Laura Waybourn expresses joy when Bill tells her the good news: An error in Sergei's passport won't make an already wearying adoption process even longer.

A new home. Sergei, now named Reagan in honor of the late president, was used to sharing a room with 14 other boys at the orphanage. Now, he and brother Zhenya will have a room to themselves. Zhenya has chosen to keep his Russian name, while Slava now goes by Joe.

Overnight train. Dan, whose Russian name is Kirill, gazes out a train window on his way back to Russia with his parents. They are all on a mission that will change six lives.

Waiting to celebrate. Shortly after a judge made the adoptions official, the Waybourn family sits down to a celebratory feast at a Russian hotel.

Sergei says goodbye. Sergei, 9, snaps some photos of friends at the orphanage in Shumerly, Russia, before leaving forever with the Waybourns.

Bonding with a new son. Laura keeps an eye on Sergei as they walk to a Moscow grocery store. Although he is the youngest and smallest of the brothers, he's known for his hearty appetite.

Quiet joy. Dan was 10 when he was removed from his home in Russia and put in an orphanage. These days, the teen-ager is grinning a lot more, thanks to a stable home life in Texas and a recent reunion with his best friend.

Dan's in the house. After a long train ride, Dan, once the golden boy at Shumerly, reconnects with Slava and other old friends at the orphanage. At right is Vitaly, 13, who is still waiting to be adopted.

Getting comfortable. Reagan (Sergei) rips around the back yard of his new home in Dalworthington Gardens, where Laura will homeschool the boys.

Nine is enough? The new Waybourn family. From left, sitting are Laura, Lucas and Bill. Standing on either side are Travis and Heather, Bill's grown children; standing in the middle (left to right) are the adopted Russian boys: Joe (Slava), 15; Reagan (Sergei), 9; Zhenya, 13; and Dan (Kirill), 16.

Revelation at D/FW. Once back in the United States, Laura Waybourn gauges the boys' reaction to a 9-week-old surprise.

Hotel roughhousing. Dan pins Zhenya on the bed in a Russian hotel room, while Slava and Sergei do little to help their brother.

Court day. Dan gets necktie assistance from Bill. Today is the day Dan and his parents will appear before a judge in Cheboksary, Russia, and the adoptions of Slava, Zhenya and Sergei will become official.

Getting to know you. **Bill Waybourn** holds Sergei after arriving at the orphanage to meet the boys. Bill has two other children from a previous marriage: Travis, 23, and Heather, 21.

Zhenya



Sergei

Slava

DEAR READER: We are happy to tell you that the story you are holding in your hands is very pleasant. It tells the happy -- even miraculous -- tale of four Russian orphans and two incredible people named Bill and Laura Waybourn. If you prefer reading something that ends in disaster, put this down immediately. Otherwise, be forewarned that this story just might change your life.

* * *

On the midnight train to Shumerly, Russia, a 16-year-old boy gazes out the window at the dark, snowy landscape and train yards as they chug past. He silently notes each stop on the route he knows well. With olive skin and dark, haunted eyes, Dan is the picture of sullen, brooding James Dean cool. As if to underscore the image, a crescent-shaped scar hooks out from the corner of his left eye.

You'd never know he was on the journey of a lifetime: to save his best friend.

He twists the thin silver band on his middle finger. It was a gift he received a few months before, inside a letter from his best friend, Slava, half a world away.

Slava has a matching ring; he keeps his in his pocket.

On the band, there is an inscription in Cyrillic letters.

It translates: God be with us, and keep us safe.

A year and a half ago, in July 2003, on a train heading the opposite direction, Dan was the one being saved.

As a 10-year-old boy, Dan was seized from his home in Cheboksary by Russia's version of Child Protective Services. Then known by his Russian name of Kirill, he had been living with his mother and grandmother, who was his primary caretaker. When his grandmother died, he no longer had a stable home life. Based on a variety of complaints, he was removed and taken to the orphanage at Shumerly, about 400 miles east of Moscow.

It took Kirill awhile to adjust to this new life. A quiet, independent boy, he worked hard to stay away from bad influences.

Because of his strong will and tendency to isolate himself, other kids made fun of him. No pushover, Kirill fought back when pressed. In his mind, "If you can stand up for yourself, people will not make fun of you again."

For a time, Kirill waited for his mother to come back for him, even running away once. But the weeks turned into months, with no letter, no word.

The orphanage director, Luba Shinkorenko, watched as her darling boy changed before her. The shining eyes and precocious smile gave way to a trancelike expression and hunched shoulders.

"He was always just a little bit sad," Luba said, "and he looked very abandoned and lost in this life."

Thousands of miles away, two strangers would find him.



Bill Waybourn sat in a pew at Christ Chapel Church in Fort Worth. At 43, his life was in place. Police chief of Dalworthington Gardens since 1984, this amiable man had a wife, two grown children from a previous marriage, and a grandson.

But on this Sunday two years ago, the good pastor's words would set off a chain reaction that no one could have ever predicted.

The Rev. Ted Kitchens told the poignant story of a teen-age Russian boy who had visited America recently in hopes of finding a family through the Gladney Center's Bright Futures adoption program. Russian children are invited to the United States for 10 days, hosted by American families. Ideally, the visit will lead to permanent adoption.

At 14, Kirill was teetering on the brink of a grim destiny.

He was about to "age out" of the orphanage. Russian orphans who haven't been adopted by 15, 16 or 17 are cast out as young adults to struggle with life on their own. There simply isn't room for them anymore. Some head back to unstable families; others turn to drugs and crime; many make up the street population of Russia. They're born into the world with little or no chance.

And there was **Bill Waybourn**, taking all this in. He is methodical, cautious -- a cop to the hilt. "I never thought of myself as an impetuous person," he said.

Yet, listening to Kirill's story, he almost had to pin down his right arm to keep it from shooting into the air. Right there, in front of God and everyone, he was ready to announce: "Search over -- we've got it."

He restrained himself long enough to go home and discuss it with Laura, then 30, his wife of four years, who had stayed home from church that day to care for a sick grandson.

Adoption was not on their radar; they hoped and prayed that maybe another family would take up the yoke, and Kirill would be fine.

But the boy still pulled at them.

They debated. They prayed some more. Laura talked to her parents.

"And suddenly," Bill said, "it was like: Let's go for it."

At the orphanage, Kirill kept mostly to himself. He had learned much too early not to trust easily and not to put much stock in hope.

It would take a 9-year-old named Slava to open the door a crack.

Not long after Kirill landed at Shumerly, the orphanage welcomed two new boys: Slava and his 3-year-old brother, Sergei. Like Kirill, they had been removed from their home, in the Chuvashian region of Russia.

Slava had a shy, warm smile and sandy hair. He was quiet, generous and responsible -- at 9, already a father figure to his little brother.

Both athletes and music lovers, Slava and Kirill played soccer, marched through the woods and devoured whatever Russian pop music they could get their hands on.

The trust built slowly, as they helped each other adjust to school and orphanage life.



Eventually, the boys came to know a funny, impish 7-year-old named Zhenya. Abandoned at birth, Zhenya had bounced in and out of institutions his whole life. He had always dreaded the thought that he was alone in the world.

Still, the boy often managed a smile that spread slyly, crookedly beneath eyes that glimmered with mischief.

From the start, Slava felt Zhenya was someone special.

Now, looking at Slava, Sergei and Zhenya, with their sandy hair, boomerang eyebrows and chiseled porcelain faces, it makes perfect sense. But Slava wouldn't learn the truth for three years.

One day in 2002, the orphanage director, by a complete fluke, stumbled upon an amazing clerical revelation. And the feeling that kept tugging at Slava was confirmed.

Zhenya was their lost brother.

Kirill, Slava, Zhenya and Sergei were just a handful of the more than 100 orphans at Shumerly and of the 700,000 in Russia.

Along a path riddled with disappointment and pain, it was chance that brought together this community of boys -- brothers by blood and by bond.

But it's doubtful their love for each other would be enough to save them from a painful fate.

Laura Waybourn was on the verge of throwing up. She was more nervous for him than for her.

In April 2003, she was in Russia for the first time in her life. In an orphanage, face to face with the 14-year-old who was about to become her son.

"Is there anything about me that's gonna make him uncomfortable?" she thought. "Is he gonna think we're weird -- what is he thinking?"

Standing before her was a sweet, honest, painfully shy young teen-ager, who at the moment was scared to death. "It was kind of like a blind date," Laura said. "If it were a blind date where it were a pre-arranged marriage."

As part of the adoption, Kirill would need a middle name. Bill and Laura had one in mind: Lucas, or Luke.

Kirill objected, surprisingly strongly. He settled on Daniel.

Months later, Bill and Laura would learn why: If you say "luk" to a Russian, it means onion.

"He thought we were trying to name him Onion Waybourn," Bill said, laughing.

It took two trips to Russia and piles of paperwork and embassy red tape before the Waybourns headed back home with their new son.

Kirill was leaving behind everything he knew and loved -- his motherland, the tight-knit community at Shumerly, where the staff treated him as their golden boy. And, worst of all, he was leaving his best friend.



Before he left for America in November 2003, Kirill gave Slava some of his few possessions -- mostly clothes. He promised him they would be friends forever, and that they would always stay in touch.

A despondent Slava wanted to believe, but he had his doubts.

For months, Kirill was so withdrawn that it made Laura ache. Her son walked around the house with downcast eyes, a silent stranger.

He refused to use any term to refer to his new mother and father. Finally, they drafted a long list of options and drew a line in the sand: You will pick something.

Kirill chose Ma and Pa.

Kirill's English improved rapidly with Laura's home-schooling, although there were still plenty of what Bill likes to call "Ricky Ricardo moments."

Bill and Kirill bonded over dove hunting and skeet shooting, and the whole family took up karate. Kirill cultivated a mean front snap kick and a winning streak. And like any teen-age boy in America, he spent hours in the den, conquering video games.

In July 2003, on his first birthday in the States, Kirill announced: "I think I want to go by my American name. Not Daniel but Dan."

When Dan first came to America, he mentioned that he'd be happy to be a mechanic. Within a year, he started talking about the possibility of college. And when his old orphanage director visited the States on business, she told Bill and Laura: "He seems very happy. He cares very much for you. He told me: 'This is a great country. Do you know that I can do anything I want, except be president?'"

The opportunities were in America. But back in his home country, his best friend was waiting on a promise.

A visitor arrived at the orphanage in Shumerly with a hand-carried delivery from the States. It was Anne Ivy, a Fort Worth woman who was there to adopt a boy named Dmitry, a friend of Zhenya's.

She had something for Slava: a Walkman, from Dan -- from Kirill.

He hadn't forgotten.

The Waybourns could hardly forget Slava, either.

Dan had filled Ma and Pa with stories of his friend: how, like an informal disciplinarian, he watched over the other kids in the orphanage; how he was a caretaker to his little brothers; and how he would spend what little money he earned on them.

This March, a hand-carried letter from Slava provoked delight, then worry.

Just shy of 15, Slava was getting close to aging out of the orphanage.

"I was worried about him because life there [in Chuvashia] is pretty difficult," Dan said. "I just wanted him to get out of there and have a good life and still be with his brothers."



"He never directly came out and said: 'Hey, will you all adopt Slava?' but he kinda hinted around toward it," Bill said. "And we had a frank conversation with him and said: There's nothing that we can do -- he's not up for international adoption. But in the Waybourn house, what we do is pray for him."

That's what Dan did.

And they went on about their life.

It's not often that a routine e-mail check changes your life.

But what's routine in the life of the Waybourns? While scanning her e-mail, Laura came across a new Gladney posting of Russian kids up for adoption.

She immediately called Bill at work. Her voice was more high-pitched than normal. "You're not going to believe this," she said.

"There's a slew of names on the list," Bill recalled. "And there they were, bigger'n Dallas."

Slava.

Zhenya.

Sergei.

"Oh my God," Bill thought. "We're going back to Russia."

This was just two months after Bill told Dan to pray for Slava. "This convinced us that Dan was a pretty good prayer warrior," Bill laughed.

The boys were scheduled to come over for the Bright Futures camp, and the Waybourns were the natural host family.

In July, the three brothers reunited with their old friend -- the American.

Dan and Slava would stay up all night talking, mulling the possibility that one day, they would officially become brothers.

Bill and Laura watched them all closely, but it was hard to take their eyes off Sergei. With elfin ears and wide, dancing eyes, he is achingly cute. His broad smile comes as easily as rain and is sometimes comically punctuated by one sharp, solitary nod of approval.

"They were incredible kids, and we had such a great time," Bill said. "It became crystal clear that these four boys needed to be together."

But Dan still wouldn't give himself over to blind hope.

"I just don't want to disappoint myself," he said. "I believe in today, not tomorrow."

It was enough to make even their closest friends take pause. How could Bill and Laura flip their lives upside down to adopt one Russian teen-ager, and then turn around and adopt his best friend and two brothers?



Three trips to Russia, tens of thousands of dollars in adoption fees, the chaos of a language barrier, a home uprooted and the prospect of four sets of college tuitions -- all on the salary of a public servant.

Were they well people?

For as long as the Rev. Bill Hines can remember, the Waybourns had taken in troubled teens, children in need, parents in search of help for their children. For weeks, months or even a year at a time, they've all had a home at the Waybourns.

Bill Waybourn grew up one of eight children. Together, with his 24 years in law enforcement -- 20 years as chief -- and Laura's years in Child Protective Services, they had witnessed much pain.

As a former investigative case worker for Child Protective Services, Laura understood the horrors more deeply than most. One of her cases, in particular, left an indelible mark.

In 1999, in an apparent double murder-double suicide, the Nunez family of Fort Worth was found dead in their car. Two parents, two young sons. The tragedy was probably triggered by a child abuse investigation and severe financial problems.

"It was one of the worst things I've ever gone through -- that anybody on the case had ever gone through," she said. She was proud of her work with CPS, proud of the agency, but the Nunez tragedy prompted her to quit.

"I've seen some stuff that's similar in Russia, as far as neglect," Laura said. "I've seen it directly. I've stood knee to knee with the people who are doing it."

But paramount in this decision was the couple's faith.

"They certainly see it as a Christian ministry -- they're very devoted to Christ," said Hines, a longtime friend. "Love is given without requirement."

And so was sacrifice.

"When your attitude toward life is a life of service," Hines said, "then you're not as concerned about buying that second home on the lake, or that expensive vacation you're not gonna be able to take."

As for footing the bill, Bill and Laura trust that they'll be able to make it work. "God will provide what we need," Bill says. "As far as resources, we hope we'll continue to be wise with what we have."

Every now and then, Hines or his wife, Cathy, will get a call, letting them know of something wacky and wonderful that's happening at the Waybourn house. "I say: What else is new? It's a wild and crazy place to be."

Three new sons on the way, but there was something no one knew yet. Life was about to get even crazier.

In the lobby of the Moscow Sheraton Palace, Laura Waybourn fidgets with her gloves and shifts in her chair. A blunt, sharp-witted woman, she squirms backward, forward and sideways. It's just after 10:30 at night on a recent Sunday, and the family is within a hairsbreadth of their boys.

Once at the train station, they will board an overnight railcar to Shumerly, home to the orphanage.



If it were up to Laura, she wouldn't bother with the train. She would convert her chair into an ejector seat and catapult herself those 400 miles eastward, to scoop up her boys. She has lost every shred of patience. "I want to see them right now, I want to see them yesterday," she groans.

Bill is antsy, too, but more outwardly calm. Sitting back in his boots, his trench coat riding up around his shoulders, he is a transplanted cowboy in Moscow.

But coolest of all is Dan, slumped back in his chair. His parents kid him about his stoicism.

"This is Dan excited," Laura says, morphing her face into the blankest, most impassive expression possible. Everyone cracks up. Even Dan.

"I see Slava," someone says, as the train pulls to a stop.

At the Shumerly station, no one expected the sight: Waiting outside the Waybourns' train car are three grinning brothers, each holding out a single rose for his new mother.

It's cold outside, so the reunion is quick -- a warm tangle of hugs and laughter, peppered with chatter in Russian and English.

It is a quick car ride to the orphanage. The building that was home to Dan and his friends is primitive and clean, and since Dan's departure, now sports a new pine-walled gym, complete with ropes, rings and stationary bikes. Paintings and crafts and smiling photos dot the walls.

The Shumerly orphanage defies any expectation of a Dickensian nightmare, where children live in filth and neglect, and where infants lie still, deprived of the human touch. Here, there is the presence of joy.

Tangible love flows among the children and from Luba and some of the staffers there. The music teacher, Elena Vasilievna Yezhova, is a veritable Twyla Tharp for the under-15 set, choreographing elaborate musical numbers to be done in a brightly colored performance room. On this special day, the adult audience is treated to a Russian folk dance, a grasshopper dance, a modern dance, and a solo ballad by Zhenya.

One number, however, shocks Bill's conservative Texas sensibilities: Three young boys -- one of them his son-to-be Sergei -- take the stage in white tutus and leotards. There is some eye-rolling discussion of this later, when Bill and Laura are shopping, eager to ditch Sergei's pink-striped sneakers in favor of more weather-appropriate black boots.

"No more pink shoes for my boy," Laura announces in the store.

"No pink shoes, and no tutus," Bill adds. "We're goin' to Texas."

As they tour the orphanage for their second time, Bill and Laura are eager to see a 13-year-old boy named Vitaly. They're also a little heartbroken. They met this polite, precious, smiley boy in July at the Bright Futures camp. He is the only child from that group still waiting to be adopted.

"Nobody stepped up," Bill said.



There will be many memories of the day when a judge in Cheboksary, Russia, made the adoptions official: the numbing cold, the suit and tie that Dan couldn't wait to peel off, the interminable waiting, the nerves, the boredom, the long-awaited jubilation.

But one thing, from that night's celebratory dinner, will always leap to the front of Laura's mind. Everyone at the dinner gave a toast, including these four found brothers.

All eyes were on young Sergei as he raised his glass in a subtle toast to Zhenya, the brother he might never have known. "To a good family," he said, "and for no one else to get lost again."

Zhenya struggles to lift himself off the bed, but it's futile. His head is trapped in the vice of a Dan Waybourn leglock.

For the American parents, who don't understand much Russian, these moments of horseplay become their window to the boys' world.

They watch.

In the hotel, where the four of them spill onto the bed, laughing and wrestling and chatting in their mother tongue, or where the older ones sit, plugged into their portable CD and tape players, sharing the latest Russian dance music.

In the restaurant, where all the boys grow more silent than normal.

In the American Embassy, where Dan drapes his arm over Zhenya's shoulder, and playfully, repeatedly, bonks him on the back of the head.

But beyond reading body language, the parents know that they are easily shut out of this secret fraternity.

At first, it drove Laura crazy -- in July, when the boys visited the States. "I wanted to know exactly what everybody was saying all the time," she said. But in Russia, she was ready for it.

"I think it's great now," she said. "Let them have their time."

Plus, she's developed a system. "I started just watching them," she said. "I'm not right all the time -- maybe 30 percent, I know what they're thinking, and with the 10 words I do know, I know if they need something."

She thinks this transition will be much easier than the one with Dan, partly because they have a built-in translator in him, and partly because of personality differences. "As shy as any of them are alone," Laura says, "if you put them all together, none of them are as shy as he was."

"The only time it drives me crazy is if I've asked Dan to ask them something for me and he doesn't really tell me what they said."

Still, she's prepared for a lifetime of these secret moments.

"They can shut you out," she says. "I can see that happening, especially as they learn more English."

But as long as they're respectful, she says, she'll roll with it.



They call Zhenya the wild card. Because he's been institutionalized his whole life, Bill and Laura know he may be the slowest to assimilate to family life.

He's already a hold-out in one respect. When the Waybourns were in Russia, his two blood brothers had, early on, decided they would go by their American names -- perhaps on Dan's recommendation that it would make life easier. Slava will go by Joe, and will allow Laura to occasionally call him Joey. Sergei was the first to announce that he was going by Reagan, which Bill and Laura chose for Ronald Reagan and his role in ending the Cold War.

So far, though, Zhenya is Zhenya. He's shown no interest in going by his middle name, Douglas.

Reagan is a slip of a boy, but he can eat like a trucker: He packs away the cabbage soup, fish-and-onion sandwiches, and stabs into vegetables as if they might scurry off the plate.

But by Thanksgiving Day, his appetite has waned, along with his infectious smile; he and the other boys are quiet and tired -- especially Dan. As the trip's unofficial translator, this aloof young man is having a rough time, bouncing back and forth between Russian and English, in complete cultural limbo. At times, he struggles to communicate in either language.

Still, on this American holiday, celebrated in Russia, at an Italian cafe, he helps his brothers order from the menu. No turkey and mashed potatoes -- it's pizza, lasagna and carbonara for the Waybourns this November.

Reagan sits very still in his chair, his head lowered. The waitress delivers his plate, upon which sits a calzone bigger than his head. He looks up, the eyes widen, the grin returns, and the table bursts into laughter. They laugh harder when they watch him take bites so huge they protrude from inside his cheeks as if he's storing nuts for the winter.

For the moment, the happy little eating machine is back.

A new Thanksgiving, and a new Waybourn family: Bill, Laura, and the Russian Federation, as Bill calls his new brood. The picture is almost complete.

"The only thing is, we're missing a little Onion," Laura says. "That's killing me."

Even if the new boys understood English, they wouldn't have known what Laura was talking about. A surprise awaited the newest Waybourn sons. "Onion" was code for the final twist in this adoption odyssey.

A month earlier, in the midst of waiting on word of the Russian adoptions, fate knocked once again at the Waybourn house.

It took the form of a longtime acquaintance of Bill's, a very pregnant woman going through a rough time.

True to form, the Waybourns gave counsel to the woman and her family; Bill put them in touch with a prospective family, to start a private adoption.

But the would-be adoptive mother dropped a bomb on Laura.



The woman didn't think she and her husband were the right parents for the child. But she knew a couple who was.

"I think it's yourbaby," the woman told Laura.

Laura the chatterbox was dumbstruck.

When she and Bill sat down to discuss it over coffee, the questions poured out: Why now? Is this what we're supposed to do? What about Bill's age? How would we do it with the other boys?

They just would.

And the pieces fell into place. The birth mother agreed to the plan on Wednesday. The baby was born on a Thursday. They named the baby Lucas, or Luke -- their original choice for Dan, who didn't want to go through life an Onion.

Laura and Bill were bursting to tell everyone, but they didn't want Luke's adoption to complicate their pending Russian adoptions. They would keep it a secret, all through the Russia trip. Until they landed at the Dallas/Fort Worth airport.

The plane was late. It was 1 in the morning, but they all gathered to greet the new Waybourn clan: Laura's parents; Bill's children, Travis, 23, a rookie cop in Pantego, and Heather, 21, a sophomore at Tarrant County College; longtime friends Bill and Cathy Hines; Anne Ivy and her son Dmitry. And, of course, Lucas, age 9 weeks.

According to plan, Dan introduced the boys to their new baby brother, and, Laura hoped, gave a brief explanation of what in the world had just happened. They seemed to comprehend the news, judging by their smiles and their eagerness to cradle him in their arms.

Lest there was any confusion, Laura told Dan: "Can you make sure they know that I wasn't pregnant?"

Zhenya dives onto the couch as if he's lived there all of his 13 years. Reagan skips around the house in his red Pokemon T-shirt, counting the minutes until he can watch the Shrek DVD for the 100th time. Dan and Slava -- Joe -- hole up in the den, immersed in a video game.

Laura says the boys have taken to rocking their new baby brother in his swing. They talk to him and try to make him smile. Because he's a pudgy little fellow, they call him Mr. Tolsty -- tolstyis Russian for fat.

Out of the unnatural environment of hotel rooms, courtrooms and embassies, the boys burst to life again, and their natural curiosity speeds up considerably. Zhenya wants to repeat everything, and Reagan sits and compares his feet with Luke's.

Like Dan, the boys will be home-schooled at first, while they assimilate and learn English. Next year, Dan plans to go to Temple Christian school.

Dan and Joe will share a bunk-bed room, as will Zhenya and Reagan.

Extra room, drywall and major renovations are courtesy of "Mr. Safety," the man more commonly known as Laura's dad, Larry Morris.



When **Bill Waybourn** took a seat on that pew in November 2002, in the middle of Fort Worth, he had no earthly clue about the plight of the Russian orphan. Three trips abroad and four Russian children later, he's a 45-year-old man with a family of nine and a whole new life.

"I just sat down and listened to a minister preach, and . . . my goodness."

He's an adoption convert now, a kind of missionary.

"It's an amazing thing, what Gladney's doing," he says. "I really applaud them for going in this direction."

He and Laura hope that by telling their family's story, it will open the door to more adoptions -- they're especially hoping to find a home for Vitaly.

"Our heart breaks for the Russian orphan," he said. "But hopefully, somebody else will step up to the plate. Because I know that there are families out there that have the resources, the time, the love . . ."

Their friend, Bill Hines, says it'll be hard for Bill and Laura to pass up kids like Vitaly.

"I think one of the big challenges for them now -- such a large family and still in the business of caring for people -- is that they're going to be looking for more and more people like themselves that they can funnel people to," Hines said. "People that have the same heart and same sort of mission."

The Waybourn house? It's a little full right now.

IN THE KNOW

Gladney Center programs and sessions

The Gladney Center for Adoption, based in Fort Worth, is one of the country's oldest adoption agencies. Gladney handles both domestic and international adoptions, and since its founding in 1887 has placed more than 26,000 children in homes and served more than 36,000 birth mothers.

In the summer, Gladney holds the Bright Futures camp, where older Russian orphans (over age 7) get a glimpse of America through a 10-day visit, where they are hosted by American families in the hope of adoption.

In January, Gladney will hold several information/education sessions on international adoption from Bulgaria, China, Guatemala, Kazakhstan, Russia and Ukraine. A session will be held in Dallas on Jan. 11 and in Fort Worth on Jan. 13.

For more information on adoption, the Bright Futures Camp, or the informational sessions, contact Gladney at (817) 922-6088 or (800) 452-3639, or visit www.gladney.org

The cost of adoption

Standard fees for adopting from Russia:



Gladney Adoption Fee: \$2,500 for first child, \$500 for related sibling, no fee is assessed for additional related siblings.

Gladney Post Placement Fee: \$2,050 for completing and processing reports for 3 years. (Russian requirement).

In-country fee: \$4,500

Including other non-Gladney fees, the total estimate is about \$12,000, not including travel.

The federal government also offers an adoption tax credit, which can reduce adoption expenses. (www.irs.gov/publications/p968/index.html)

Russia's orphans: Who's left behind?

There were over 700,000 orphans in Russia in 2000, although unofficial estimates indicate that there may be as many as 2 million orphans in Russia, including street children and the homeless.

Of the total, 95 percent of these children are "social orphans," meaning their parents are living but have been deemed unfit to parent because of neglect, alcohol or drug abuse, or financial hardships.

About 15,000 children leave Russian orphanages each year, once they are 16 to 18 years old. Of these:

5,000 are unemployed

6,000 are homeless

3,000 turn to crime

approximately 1,500 commit suicide

roughly half the girls are forced into prostitution.

Thousands of children are abandoned to the state at a rate of 113,000 a year for the past two years, up dramatically from 67,286 in 1992.

Russia did not allow foreigners to adopt its orphans until 1992, after perestroika was in place. In 1997, Russia became the No. 1 source of international adoptions for the United States.

SOURCES: Russian Orphan Aid Foundation, Ministry of Education of the Russian Federation, Russian Information Services, Russian Lifemagazine, CoMission for Children at Risk, 2002.



Special Thanks to Victoria Nemonezhnaya, the Russian Translator; Vera Malakhova, An Adoption Coordinator for the Gladney Center; and Luba Shinkorenko, Shumerly's Orphanage Director.

Heather Svokos, (817) 390-7686 hsvokos@star-telegram.com

Load-Date: December 26, 2004

End of Document

ARLINGTON & AREA BRIEFS

Fort Worth Star Telegram (Texas)

December 17, 2004, Friday, ARLINGTON EDITION Correction Appended

Copyright 2004 Star-Telegram Newspaper, Inc.



Section: METRO;

Length: 1092 words

Byline: Star-Telegram

Body

City Council approves interlocal police pact

DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS -- The City Council approved a pact Thursday night that would streamline procedures for Arlington and Dalworthington Gardens police officers working cases in each other's cities.

Currently, officers can ticket or arrest violators outside their city but must call a local officer to the scene to take over the case. Under the interlocal agreement, which has been negotiated off and on since 2001, the local department could allow the arresting officer to work through the case.

Officials said the contract will also clarify jurisdiction when officers are summoned by a neighboring police force in an emergency.

"It's a good agreement," said **Bill Waybourn**, director of



Dalworthington Gardens' Public Safety Department. "It's going to save time for officers from both cities."

Dalworthington Gardens has had a similar agreement with Pantego for at least two years, and Pantego finalized its agreement with Arlington this week, Waybourn said.

-- Robert Cadwallader

Fiscally troubled church scheduled for auction

ARLINGTON -- Mount Sinai Community Baptist Church will be auctioned next month after missing payments on a \$268,000 loan. The 11-year-old church is about \$22,000 behind on its payments, said the Rev. Edward Williams, the founding pastor. The church developed financial difficulties after trying to purchase another property in Arlington, Williams said. The church also reported being burglarized in June, according to the Arlington Police Department. Mount Sinai's property, at 3109 Medlin Drive, is valued at \$153,309, according to Tarrant County Appraisal District records. It is scheduled to be auctioned Jan. 4.

-- Darren Barbee

Stadium advocate files for City Council race

ARLINGTON -- Robert Rivera filed Thursday to run for the City Council District 3 seat in May. The seat is being vacated by senior Councilman Wayne Ogle, who represents southeast Arlington. Rivera is the former president of the Convention & Visitors Bureau Board and co-chairman of Touchdown Arlington!, a Cowboys stadium advocacy group.

-- Sally Claunch

Ex-state lawmaker to undergo surgery

Former state Rep. Bill Carter is scheduled to have his gallbladder removed this morning at a Fort Worth hospital, family members said Thursday.

Christine Fredric, a spokeswoman for Plaza Medical Center, said that Carter was in stable condition Thursday. She said privacy rules barred her from releasing more information.

Carter's wife, Virginia, said her husband was attached to a breathing machine in the hospital's intensive care unit. Carter



began complaining of nausea, fever and abdominal pain after undergoing hip replacement surgery Dec. 1, she said. Tests determined that he had a blood infection that doctors believed was related to the inflamed gallbladder, Virginia Carter said.

Carter, of Fort Worth, was a Republican state representative for 18 years. He retired from the Legislature in 2002.

-- John Kirsch

President, HR chief put on paid leave

WEATHERFORD -- Weatherford College's embattled president has been shown the door.

President Don Huff and Human Resources Director Douglas Jakubik were put on paid administrative leave for the remainder of their contracts after a six-hour closed meeting of the board of trustees Wednesday.

Huff declined to comment after the meeting, and Jakubik ran from the room.

Both men have been in their posts since 1998. The leaves were effective immediately.

Putting the administrators on leave "was the only choice we had," board Secretary Lin Bearden said Thursday. "The college was hemorrhaging" because of "divisiveness" and "friction," Bearden said.

Trustee Pat Hamilton said, "The college needed to go a new direction."

In September, trustees voted not to renew Huff's contract when it expires Aug. 31. In his motion Wednesday to place Huff on leave, Bearden referred to that action.

"At that time, it was hoped that such a decision would create an atmosphere that would again allow the college to flourish, free from a contentious culture that has so often been evident over the previous several months," the motion states. "In my judgment, this positive change has not been evidenced."

Bearden also made the motion to put Jakubik on leave. Jakubik's contract also expires Aug. 31.

-- Gale M. Bradford



Music fund-raiser to help Crime Stoppers

FORT WORTH -- Johnny Greenman and the Greenmen will headline a Crime Prevention Resource Center fund-raiser tonight to benefit the Crime Stoppers program.

The event, from 4 p.m. Saturday until 2 a.m. Sunday at the Stagecoach Ballroom, 2516 E. Belknap St., will also include music from Greg Westfall, a local lawyer, and his band, Texas Theater; Neighbor Ed, a band of police officers from Arlington; and Texas Water, a country-folk trio. Admission is \$10. All musicians are donating their time, officials said.

The center took over Tarrant County Crime Stoppers in August 2003 after the nonprofit agency lost major sponsorship and did not meet state recertification requirements. The Crime Stoppers program collects tips and uses state grants, court fees and donations to pay for rewards.

Driver in wrong-way accident legally drunk

IRVING -- A 21-year-old single mother who was killed in a car accident after driving the wrong way on Texas 183 last week had three times the legal limit of alcohol in her system, police said Thursday.

Samantha Lively's blood alcohol level was 0.24 on Dec. 8 when she made a U-turn under the Valley View Bridge on Texas 183, drove about a mile and collided with a semitrailer truck.

Lively, a senior at the University of Texas at Arlington, was pinned against the median of the highway near the Esters Road exit and died instantly, police said. The highway was closed to traffic for more than five hours.

The truck driver, Gustavo Paniagua, 32, of Haltom City, suffered minor injuries.

-- Leila Fadel

Woman injured when struck by pickup

FORT WORTH -- A woman was critically injured Thursday evening when she was struck by a pickup while crossing a street in west Fort Worth, police said.

The woman, who was not identified, crossed the 3100 block of



Cherry Lane at a spot without streetlights. She was struck by a northbound pickup, police said. The woman, who lived nearby, was taken to John Peter Smith Hospital. The accident is under investigation.

Correction

CLARIFICATION: Robert Rivera filed his campaign treasurer report Thursday for Arlington's May City Council race for District 3. The brief does not specify what documents were filed.

Correction-Date: December 21, 2004

Load-Date: December 22, 2004

End of Document

[Mourning a rocker; North Texans fondly recall ex-Pantera star REACTION: Fans pay tribute to a virtuoso guitarist who was a down-to-earth friend](#)

Fort Worth Star Telegram (Texas)

December 10, 2004, Friday, FINAL EDITION

Copyright 2004 Star-Telegram Newspaper, Inc.

Star-Telegram
Found on DFW.com

Section: NEWS;

Length: 1325 words

Byline: JOHN AUSTIN;SUSAN SCHROCK; Star-Telegram Staff Writers

Body

ARLINGTON--Even those who saw "Dimebag" Darrell Abbott play as a teen-ager knew that the young guitarist who emerged from local keg parties to rock the metal-music world with Pantera was headed to the top.

"My gosh, I saw that kid and I wanted to give up," said Alan Petsche, a guitarist who played in the Penguins and first saw



Abbott perform at a club called the Loft. "He was probably 14 years old. It was just unnatural."

Nathan Gale, 25, fatally shot Darrell Lance Abbott, 38, as he performed with Damageplan -- the band he formed with his brother after leaving Pantera -- in Columbus, Ohio, on Wednesday night. Five died in the shooting, including Gale, who was killed by a police officer at the scene.

Dalworthington Gardens police, who guarded the gate at Abbott's home Thursday, said the family was waiting to make a statement to the media until brother Vinnie Paul Abbott, 40, Damageplan's drummer, and other relatives come home.

But friends' and fans' memories of Darrell Abbott, who like his brother Vinnie attended Arlington High School, burn bright in North Texas, where the brothers continued to live even after career conquests took them around the world and led to Grammy nominations in 1995 and 2001.

"They didn't move to LA like everybody else," said Jason West, a former Pantera roadie from Dallas who toured with the band in the late '80s. "They hang out at all the bars. They go see all the bands."

Petsche said that despite the tattoos, dyed purple beard and long hair, Darrell Abbott was "the nicest guy."

Scott Biere of Arlington recalls how on Halloween the "tall, scraggly" brothers would emerge from their Arlington home, which they used to share with their mother, to escort his two children past the decorations to the porch so the children wouldn't be scared.

"I just thought it was kind of cool that people would look out for kids like that," Biere said.

Terri Reed, 39, remembers Pantera playing keg parties in what was then rural south Arlington in the early years.

"Darrell was the most talented guitar player I've ever seen," Reed said. "It was just different. It was like having Eddie Van Halen Jr. walk in."

The brothers always knew they'd make it, but fame didn't go to their heads, she said.



"You know, where I would run into them was the grocery store," in the middle of the night, even in recent years, Reed said.

"They had Tupperware," she said. "You didn't think about Pantera needing Tupperware."

Ricky Lynn Gregg lived behind the Pantego Sound Studio and knew Abbott as a skinny teen-ager with big hair in the early 1980s.

It was about that time that Pantera formed. They went on to cut their first four records at Pantego Sound, where their dad, Jerry Abbott, worked. After years of hustling, the band broke through with Power Metal in 1988. Cowboys From Hell followed in 1990 and propelled Pantera into the big time.

Gregg remembered a guitar contest at the old Agora Ballroom in Dallas. Darrell Abbott shredded competitors who were years older.

"At 14, he blew everybody away," said Gregg, who led the local band Savvy in the '80s and is now based in Tennessee. "He was just a maniac virtuoso."

Though Petsche said Abbott gained his "Dimebag" moniker in the days when he was so broke that he could only afford \$10, or a "dime bag," worth of marijuana, the guitarist wasn't a druggie, Gregg said.

"They were never dopies," said Gregg, who remained so close to the brothers that he was able to reach Vinnie Abbott on his cellphone less than two hours after the shooting. "They drank, but they were never dopies."

Of course, Darrell Abbott was no choirboy: Campo Verde restaurant has been one of Darrell and Vinnie's hangouts since high school. MTV even interviewed the band last July at the popular Mexican restaurant on Pioneer Parkway.

Bartender and restaurant manager Maranda McElvany said the brothers would usually order shots of Crown Royal and Coke and rattlesnake fajitas.

"I don't know if they really liked them because they were drunk. They were a blast every time," said McElvany, 27.

This year, Dalworthington Gardens Police Chief **Bill Waybourn** noticed Darrell Abbott on the cover of a guitar magazine wearing a



patch on his leather jacket that read "Ambassador to DWG." Waybourn had once told Abbott that he considered him the city's ambassador.

Nonetheless, being ambassador didn't confer diplomatic immunity: Abbott ran into minor trouble with the law a couple of years ago after he and a friend "got a little crazy with their car" and ran over soccer goals and rutted up the grass at Elkins Park, Waybourn said.

When Waybourn asked Abbott about the damage, he recalled Abbott saying, "Dude, Chief, it's rock 'n' roll and sometimes people get carried away."

Hundreds of fans and friends came to Abbott's two-story brick house in Dalworthington Gardens throughout the day Thursday. They left behind bouquets, cards, signs -- even a shot of Crown Royal, Abbott's favorite liquor.

Danny Flores, 21, was in the crowd and knew the house well.

Every time he goes by Abbott's house, he said, "I put it in park and yell out 'Pantera,' as loud as I can."

"He's a god among men," said Flores, who got the bad news Wednesday night. "I cried."

He and some buddies recently drove up to the house and knocked on the door. The guitarist answered the door and invited the strangers in for some Jack Daniel's.

"A lot of my friends took off work today," said Flores, who went to his pizza-delivery job late so that he could pay his respects. "I told 'em I'm sorry. You can dock my check, whatever you want."

The death also drew tributes from the Dallas Stars hockey team. Pantera composed a fight song for the 1999 Stars NHL championship team.

The Stanley Cup was dented at a party at Vinnie Abbott's house.

"It really got dented when Guy Carbonneau threw it off my balcony into my pool," Vinnie Abbott said in The Wall Street Journal at the time. "The cup floats really good, till you get two or three people on it."

Linda Kreitinger said the Abbotts lived across from her west Arlington home for 12 years. When her son Scott was a teen-ager, he



would often play drums or guitar with the brothers in their garage, she said.

"He always thought they were cool," Kreitinger said. "He said 'They are going to be big someday, Mom.' "

Fans in black Pantera and Damageplan T-shirts attended a candlelight vigil Thursday night in Dallas at The Clubhouse, a strip club partly owned by Darrell Abbott.

Heavy metal boomed from inside and the crowd cheered when a dancer named Serenity took the stage to Damageplan. Other dancers could be seen crying and consoling one another.

Abbott was worshipped by local musicians, said guitarist Michael Wayne Smith, aka "Mongo."

"Guitarists look at him and their jaws drop, like 'How the hell did he do that?' " Smith said.

At Abbott's house, fans piled flowers and cards.

One fan's letter simply ended, "P.S. -- I hope they got guitars in Heaven."

Staff Writers Mark Agee, Dave Ferman and L. Lamor Williams contributed to this report.

-PHOTO-

1. Photo: SPECIAL TO THE STAR-TELEGRAM/BILL JANSCHA
Fans contribute to a memorial outside The Clubhouse in Dallas, partly owned by "Dimebag" Darrell Abbott.

2. Photo: SPECIAL TO THE STAR-TELEGRAM/BRIAN LAWDERMILK
Thea Koury places a sign outside the house of "Dimebag" Darrell Abbott in Dalworthington Gardens on Thursday.

3. Photo: SPECIAL TO THE STAR-TELEGRAM/BRIAN LAWDERMILK
A letter left outside Darrell Abbott's house Thursday pays tribute to the slain guitarist.

4. Photo: STAR-TELEGRAM ARCHIVES/TOM PENNINGTON
"Dimebag" Darrell Abbott, shown performing with the heavy metal band Pantera at a Dallas concert in 1997, later formed Damageplan with his brother Vinnie Paul Abbott.

Load-Date: December 13, 2004



Citizens look out for their police

Fort Worth Star Telegram (Texas)

November 25, 2004, Thursday, ARLINGTON EDITION

Copyright 2004 Star-Telegram Newspaper, Inc.



Section: METRO;

Length: 511 words

Byline: SUSAN SCHROCK; Star-Telegram Staff Writer

Highlight: * Dalworthington Gardens residents and local businesses make generous contributions to the city's Department of Public Safety.

Body

DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS--Everywhere he turns, Dalworthington

Gardens public safety chief **Bill Waybourn** sees the generosity of the city's residents.

From new computers to a patrol car, from desks to desserts, residents of this city of 2,300 routinely give their time and money to support the Department of Public Safety, Waybourn said.

"In Dalworthington Gardens, we are so blessed. Even though everyone has these busy lives in 2004, there is still a tremendous sense of community you would find in 1950s America," Waybourn said.

"The people we serve are gracious and have large hearts."

Waybourn estimates that this year residents, local businesses and corporate sponsors have donated between \$40,000 and \$50,000 in equipment, furniture, software and supplies to aid the city's 19 paid and 40 volunteer police, 911 dispatchers and firefighters.

Rose Goerdel, who has lived in Dalworthington Gardens with her husband, Al, since 1969, enjoys making desserts and snacks for the



firefighters and officers to show her appreciation for all they do.

"We love all of them," Goerdel said. "They watch our house while we're away. They're good to us."

Walking around the station on Roosevelt Drive, Waybourn points out numerous items recently donated -- a couch and television in the employee break room, \$15,000 in computers and office equipment, software -- even the Fugitive Team's patrol car used to track down and transport scofflaws to jail. The 2001 Pontiac Firebird, loaded with donated equipment, is worth about \$20,000, Cpl. Dennis Gotcher said.

Residents also volunteer hundreds of hours a year to help the department host events such as the annual Day With the Law, an educational event that introduces children to the police officers from all over North Texas.

"The generosity of our citizens is phenomenal," Deputy Chief T.L. "Snoopy" Campbell said. "We have residents that bring us cakes and cookies all the time. People seem to appreciate our commitment to them and they seem to be really committed to us."

Campbell, who has worked for the city for more than 20 years, said residents have always been generous but the close-knit community has seemed to grow even tighter in the recent years.

"I think 9-11 really brought it home that we all need to work together and pull together as Americans and as neighbors," Campbell said.

Many people who drop off checks or give gifts don't even want recognition, Waybourn said.

"These are just people who show up and want to give back to the community," Waybourn said. "We have great citizens."

Susan Schrock, (817) 548-5475 sschrock@star-telegram.com

-PHOTO-

1. Photo: STAR-TELEGRAM/R. JEENA JACOB

Police Chief **Bill Waybourn** and Krysten Jeter, an administrative assistant, work daily with donated equipment including cubicle partitions, desks, file cabinets and more.

2. Photo: STAR-TELEGRAM/R. JEENA JACOB



This 2001 Pontiac Firebird, loaded with equipment, is among the helpful items donated to the city.

Load-Date: November 25, 2004

End of Document

Citizens look out for their police

Star-Telegram

November 25, 2004 Thursday ARLINGTON EDITION

Copyright 2004 Forth Worth Star Telegram All Rights Reserved



Section: B; Pg. 1

Length: 472 words

Byline: By Susan Schrock; Star-Telegram Staff Writer

Dateline: DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS

Body

Police Chief **Bill Waybourn** and Krysten Jeter, an administrative assistant, work daily with donated equipment including cubicle partitions, desks, file cabinets and more.

This 2001 Pontiac Firebird, loaded with equipment, is among the helpful items donated to the city.

Everywhere he turns, Dalworthington Gardens public safety chief **Bill Waybourn** sees the generosity of the city's residents.

From new computers to a patrol car, from desks to desserts, residents of this city of 2,300 routinely give their time and money to support the Department of Public Safety, Waybourn said.

"In Dalworthington Gardens, we are so blessed. Even though everyone has these busy lives in 2004, there is still a tremendous sense of community you would find in 1950s America," Waybourn said. "The people we serve are gracious and have large hearts."

Waybourn estimates that this year residents, local businesses and corporate sponsors have donated between \$40,000 and \$50,000 in equipment, furniture, software and supplies to aid the city's 19 paid and 40 volunteer police, 911 dispatchers and firefighters. Rose Goerdel, who has lived in Dalworthington Gardens with her husband, Al, since 1969, enjoys making desserts and snacks for the firefighters and officers to show her appreciation for all they do.



"We love all of them," Goerdel said. "They watch our house while we're away. They're good to us."

Walking around the station on Roosevelt Drive, Waybourn points out numerous items recently donated -- a couch and television in the employee break room, \$15,000 in computers and office equipment, software -- even the Fugitive Team's patrol car used to track down and transport scofflaws to jail. The 2001 Pontiac Firebird, loaded with donated equipment, is worth about \$20,000, Cpl. Dennis Gotcher said.

Residents also volunteer hundreds of hours a year to help the department host events such as the annual Day With the Law, an educational event that introduces children to the police officers from all over North Texas.

"The generosity of our citizens is phenomenal," Deputy Chief T.L. "Snoopy" Campbell said. "We have residents that bring us cakes and cookies all the time. People seem to appreciate our commitment to them and they seem to be really committed to us."

Campbell, who has worked for the city for more than 20 years, said residents have always been generous but the close-knit community has seemed to grow even tighter in the recent years.

"I think 9-11 really brought it home that we all need to work together and pull together as Americans and as neighbors," Campbell said.

Many people who drop off checks or give gifts don't even want recognition, Waybourn said.

"These are just people who show up and want to give back to the community," Waybourn said. "We have great citizens."

Susan Schrock, (817) 548-5475 sschrock@star-telegram.com

Load-Date: November 25, 2004

End of Document

ARLINGTON AREA BRIEFS

Fort Worth Star Telegram (Texas)

October 22, 2004, Friday, ARLINGTON EDITION

Copyright 2004 Star-Telegram Newspaper, Inc.

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: METRO;

Length: 984 words

Byline: Star-Telegram

Body



5 Sam Houston girls are cited for fighting

ARLINGTON -- Five girls were cited for fighting in public after a lunchroom melee at Sam Houston High School, police said. The fight apparently started between two girls after one cut in front of the other in the lunch line about 12:30 p.m., Arlington police Sgt. Curt Magee said. At least three other girls joined in. "It happened to get out of hand real quick in a confined area," said Magee, who added that additional officers were called to the school to assist. One officer used pepper spray to break up the fight, Magee said. No injuries were reported.

-- Susan Schrock

Kennedale schools will abolish 'D'

KENNEDALE -- The school board Thursday night dropped the "D" from the high school grade scale and made C the minimum passing score. The change will bring Kennedale in line with virtually all other school districts, which switched to a four-grade system -- A, B, C and F -- when the Legislature raised the minimum passing grade to 70 in 1981. Kennedale's "C" grade will apply to scores of 70 to 79. In the past, Kennedale students earned a "D" if they averaged 70 to 74 in a class. The board's approval also included Trustee Mike Walker's suggestion that the D-to-C changes be applied retroactively, altering grades all the way back to the students' freshmen year. Superintendent Gary Dugger said he would check with the state to make sure it's permissible. "What we're doing is morally right, but legally -- I don't know," Dugger said. He noted that if retroactive changes aren't allowed, the board can tweak the policy at its next meeting.

--Robert Cadwallader

Trustees appoint assistant principal

ARLINGTON -- School district trustees Thursday appointed Kristin Cantrell as the assistant principal of Ferguson Junior High School. Cantrell was a biology teacher and coach at Bowie High School. Cantrell joined the district's staff in 2001. She has a bachelor's degree from the University of Georgia and a master's degree from the University of North Texas.



-- L. Lamor Williams

Violators are ticketed at railroad crossings

ARLINGTON -- Police issued 49 tickets Thursday morning to motorists who disregarded railroad crossing arms or signals at intersections in Arlington and Grand Prairie. The two police departments teamed up with Union Pacific Railroad employees to catch violators who drove around crossing arms that blocked the tracks or who disregarded flashing red lights at the intersections. Officers also issued 66 tickets for other traffic violations.

-- Susan Schrock

Mansfield Fall Festival is seeking participants

MANSFIELD -- Businesses and organizations are invited to participate in Mansfield's Fall Festival. The annual event, coordinated by the Mansfield Police Department's Community Resource Division, aims to provide a safe alternative to door-to-door trick-or-treating for kids. Businesses and organizations can set up booths, carnival games and give away candy and treats. The event will also feature air jumps, a hayride, fire safety house, clowns, a petting zoo and food booths. The Fall Festival will be held from 6 to 10 p.m. Oct. 30 at Katherine Rose Park, 303 N. Walnut Creek Drive. Those interesting in participating or who would like more information can call officer David Looney at (817) 473-1658 or officer Nike Duckett at (817) 473-1657.

DPS will buy truck, equipment with grants

DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS -- The city's Public Safety Department has received two grants that will be used to help fight brush fires and improve communication and enforcement. The department plans to buy a brush truck with a \$40,000 grant from the Texas Forestry Service, DPS Chief **Bill Waybourn** said. The city also plans to buy two-way radios, a pager system and a thermal imager with a \$17,000 grant from the Department of Homeland Security, he said.

-- Susan Schrock

Wine-sales backers exceed needed signers

ARLINGTON -- Wine-sales advocates said they have collected more than 28,000 signatures to force a February vote for off-site



consumption. The advocate group K.A.\$.H. (Keeping Arlington's Sales Tax Here) needed to collect 24,500 signatures to force the vote. The Tarrant County Elections Office must verify that the signatures are from registered voters. Councilman Joe Bruner said if voters approve the local option, \$300,000 to \$400,000 per year in sales tax revenue could be added to city coffers.

-- Sally Claunch

Man, 28, charged with aggravated robbery

FORT WORTH -- A 29-year-old Fort Worth man who was arrested while trying to sell a stolen coin collection at a Grand Prairie gallery was indicted Wednesday by a Tarrant County grand jury. Byron Gamble is charged with aggravated robbery in connection with a July 14 home invasion in which his accomplice was fatally shot. Gamble told police that he was shot in the right thigh and foot as he fled a Fairways apartment, off North Texas 360. Police said the coin collection was worth about \$5,000 and consisted mainly of 1920s and 1930s silver dollars. The owner of the coins told police that he shot the two intruders as they fled his third-floor apartment. He was not charged in the fatal shooting. Under Texas law, people have the right to protect themselves and their property.

-- Anthony Spangler

-PHOTO-

1. Photo: STAR-TELEGRAM/DARRELL BYERS

Visit from an author

With the help of students Jake Taylor, left, Caitlin Snell and Syreana Jones, children's author Laurie Myers explains the language difficulty that the members of the Lewis and Clark expedition faced when trading for horses with the Shoshone. Myers, who wrote the Texas Bluebonnet Award-nominated Lewis and Clark and Me: A Dog's Tale, spoke to fifth-graders at Crow Elementary School on Thursday.

Load-Date: October 25, 2004

End of Document

ARLINGTON AREA BRIEFS

Fort Worth Star Telegram (Texas)



Copyright 2004 Star-Telegram Newspaper, Inc.

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: METRO;

Length: 465 words

Byline: Star-Telegram

Body

Decomposed body found in wooded area

ARLINGTON -- Police are investigating the death of a man whose decomposed body was discovered in a east Arlington wooded area. The body, which has not been identified, was discovered near the corner of Sanford and Truman streets about 3 p.m. by a man who flagged down a passing officer. Sgt. Mark Simpson said no foul play was readily apparent, and the man, who appears to have been homeless, may have died naturally or from a drug overdose. The body may have been in the woods for 30-60 days, Simpson said. Neighbors call the trail that runs through the woods and along a small creek "Ghost Trail," Ray Davis, 14, said.

-- Mark Agee

Ohio official hired as deputy city manager

ARLINGTON -- The city announced today that Ron Olson will replace former Deputy City Manager David Kunkle. Olson has been the city manager of Middletown, Ohio, since 1992. He is a board member of the Middletown Economic Development Corp. and a member of the International City/County Management Association and the Ohio City Management Association. He has bachelor's and master's degrees in public administration from Brigham Young University. He will start his job in late November with an annual salary of \$135,000.

-- Sally Claunch

School trustees to pick assistant principal



ARLINGTON -- Arlington school district trustees are scheduled to appoint an assistant principal for Ferguson Junior High School. No items are scheduled for discussion at the meeting which begins at 7 p.m. at the district administration building, 1203 W. Pioneer Parkway.

-- L. Lamor Williams

City Council to decide on second police dog

DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS -- With Jenny the police dog getting on in years, the Public Safety Department is looking to get her some help. The City Council tonight plans to consider a proposal that could provide the department its second police dog. The council would have to agree to lease a volunteer officer's vehicle for \$10 a year and insure it. A donor has offered to pay for a dog and its training, worth \$8,000 to \$9,000, Public Safety Director **Bill**

Waybourn said. "I've always been very, very pro-dogs, because they save us time and money," Waybourn said. The new dog's primary responsibility would be tracking and searching, but it could be trained to share drug-sniffing duties with Jenny, the department's 10-year-old black Labrador retriever. Also at the 7 p.m. council meeting at City Hall, 2600 Roosevelt Drive, the council will consider authorizing the sale of \$1.25 million in certificates of obligation for street and sewer projects. The council approved the funds last month.

-- Robert Cadwallader

-PHOTO-

1. head shot:

Ron Olson

Load-Date: October 22, 2004

End of Document

[Pantego wins first-ever intercity softball tourney](#)

Fort Worth Star Telegram (Texas)

August 22, 2004, Sunday, FINAL EDITION

Copyright 2004 Star-Telegram Newspaper, Inc.



Section: METRO;

Length: 114 words

Byline: Star-Telegram

Body

DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS--Pantego city employees won 7-6 in the first intercity softball tournament Saturday against Dalworthington Gardens.

The tournament, held at the R.W. Grimes Field in Dalworthington Gardens, brought together the cities' personnel who often find themselves working the same emergency calls.

After the game, employees and residents gathered for a barbecue in the park.

Pantego police Capt. Sandra Blackney challenged Dalworthington Gardens Police Chief **Bill Waybourn** to post her town's victory on the sign in front of his public safety building.

Waybourn, who played right field, joked that he would, but only from midnight to 2 a.m.

Load-Date: August 24, 2004

End of Document

[Camp helps Russian kids find homes](#)

Fort Worth Star Telegram (Texas)

July 30, 2004, Friday, FINAL EDITION

Copyright 2004 Star-Telegram Newspaper, Inc.

Section: METRO;

Length: 458 words

Byline: PAUL BOURGEOIS; Star-Telegram Staff Writer

Body

FORT WORTH--Still bleary-eyed from a 5,800-mile trip, 20 Russian orphans got their first glimpse of the United States and an official welcome Thursday at the Fort Worth-based Gladney Center for Adoption.

The youths, ages 5 to 16, are here for Gladney's third Bright Futures Camp, a 12-day visit during which they will live with American host families.

For some families, however, it is a trial period before proceeding with adoption.

"We're ready," said Bill Landy, a recent Army retiree who teaches at McLean Middle School.

He and Linda Landy, his wife of 16 years, are on the fringe of 40 and have no children. Bill Landy said they are finding out that international adoptions can be faster and easier than domestic adoptions.

International adoption rules are also generally more flexible when it comes to the age of the adoptive parents. Domestically, the process gets more difficult when the parents are over the age of 40, a group many of the 13 families hosting this year would fall into.

Linda Landy said her only concern is communication, and she's hoping a pair of phrase books will be enough to help her connect with Dmitry, 7, and his brother, Alexander, 9.

Beverly and Fernando Henry of Colleyville said they, too, are finding international adoption easier.

The Henrys, married two years, have no children. They were eagerly awaiting sisters Natalia, 13, and Alyona, 11, although there was some apprehension.

"It's almost like getting married," Beverly Henry said. "You may



know it's the right thing to do, but it still is a leap of faith."

Laura and **Bill Waybourn** would seem to be taking a gigantic leap. They are hosting a trio of brothers: Viacheslav, 15, Evgeny, 13, and Sergey, 11.

Two years ago, the Gladney program led the Waybourns to adopt Kirill, who now is 16 and prefers to be called "Dan."

Viacheslav was best friends with Dan in Russia, so when he and his brothers became available for adoption, the Waybourns leapt at the opportunity.

Laura Waybourn said they consider it a ministry.

"We are ready to love them unconditionally," said **Bill Waybourn**, who is the police chief in Dalworthington Gardens.

Arienne Harvey, director of international adoptions at Gladney, said the center facilitates about 400 adoptions per year, of which half are international.

This is the third year the Bright Futures Camp has hosted Russian orphans. The first two camps resulted in 25 adoptions. The orphans are scheduled to leave for Russia Aug. 9.

Paul Bourgeois, (817) 390-7796

bourgeois@star-telegram.com

-PHOTO-

1. Photo: Star-Telegram/JILL JOHNSON

Linda Landy, right, shows her camera to Alexander, 9, Thursday at the Gladney adoption center.

Load-Date: August 2, 2004

End of Document

[Volunteers help police clear warrant backlog](#)

Fort Worth Star Telegram (Texas)

April 4, 2004, Sunday, ARLINGTON EDITION

Copyright 2004 Star-Telegram Newspaper, Inc.



Section: ADVANCE METRO;

Length: 531 words

Byline: SUSAN SCHROCK; Star-Telegram Staff Writer

Highlight: POLICE: The Dalworthington Gardens Department of Public Safety uses volunteers to track down people with outstanding warrants.

Body

DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS--With about 4,700 outstanding warrants totaling \$1 million and only one officer dedicated to tracking down offenders, Dalworthington Gardens has adopted an innovative way to find scofflaws.

The four-member Citizen Fugitive Team uses free and paid online public records databases to search for addresses and phone numbers that can lead officers to people with delinquent citations.

Three years ago, the city's Department of Public Safety designated an officer to begin clearing its outstanding warrants, some dating to 1991. Cpl. Dennis Gotcher spends hours searching through phone books and public records to correct information listed on citations.

"People do lie. They give someone else's name or switch up their name or the numbers of their address," said Laura Waybourn, wife of

Police Chief **Bill Waybourn**. Although not on the team, she has helped Gotcher search records.

"If we take a little bit of effort, we can figure it out," she said.

Turning to volunteers is nothing new to the DPS, which has 19 paid and about 40 unpaid staff members, Chief Waybourn said. But few in the Metroplex use civilians to track warrants.

Team members have been attending training since March 25 to learn how to look up people's criminal histories and to cross-reference information gathered through databases such as

publicrecords.com, the National Crime Information Center and the Tarrant Appraisal District.

Volunteers with the Citizen Fugitive Team have been given background checks and will not assist officers in making arrests. Members are Bob Koch, a 67-year-old retiree; Karen Bentley, a 50-year-old oil company engineering technician; John King, a 44-year-old General Motors production worker; and Gene Humphries, a 54-year-old retired truck mechanic.

Koch said this gives a concerned resident a chance to help catch those who break the law and try to shirk their responsibilities. He gained experience locating people through the Internet while searching for classmates he went to high school with 50 years ago.

"I have an analytical mind. I enjoy hunting things down," he said. "I'm ready to get going."

Court Administrator Aleta Duran said police and court staff don't have the time to do the extensive research it may take to locate people with outstanding warrants. Having the volunteers will save the city money and give officers more time to make arrests.

"If we're not doing our best to make them pay their tickets, we're telling them the law doesn't matter," Duran said.

Susan Schrock, (817) 548-5475 sschrock@star-telegram.com

-PHOTO-

1. Photo: STAR-TELEGRAM/LAURIE L. WARD

Dalworthington Gardens Police Chief **Bill Waybourn**, foreground, addresses Citizen Fugitive Team members, from left, Bob Koch, Karen Bentley, John King and Gene Humphries. Laura Waybourn, the chief's wife, is at far right.

2. Photo: STAR-TELEGRAM/LAURIE L. WARD

Bob Koch, Karen Bentley, John King and Gene Humphries have been attending training since March 25 to learn how to look up people's criminal histories and to cross-reference information gathered through databases.

Load-Date: April 6, 2004

End of Document



Arlington Area Briefs

Fort Worth Star Telegram (Texas)

February 29, 2004, Sunday, FINAL EDITION

Copyright 2004 Star-Telegram Newspaper, Inc.



Section: METRO;

Length: 510 words

Byline: Staff Reports

Body

DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS

Man arrested, suspected in rash of burglaries

Police arrested a man Friday who is a suspect in at least 19 commercial and home burglaries in Arlington, Pantego and Dalworthington Gardens, authorities said.

Larry Gorrell, 24, was being held in the Dalworthington Gardens Jail on Saturday on seven counts of suspicion of burglary. His bail was set at \$110,000.

Dalworthington Gardens police were patrolling the 2100 block of Roosevelt Drive early Friday when a man was seen attempting to enter a business, Police Chief **Bill Waybourn** said. After arresting the man, officers determined that an office supply store two blocks away had also been burglarized, Waybourn said.

"This is the highest crime wave we've had in at least 15 years, and we're really excited to have made the capture and put a stop to it," he said.

Waybourn said businesses and homes have been burglarized for computer equipment since at least early December. Police recovered several pieces of equipment and are trying to find out where the stolen equipment might have been sold.



"We think that he was moving it pretty quickly," he said.

Waybourn said he expects the Arlington and Pantego police departments to file burglary cases against Gorrell.

Gorrell was released from prison in 2003 after serving seven years for home burglary in Arlington, according to public records. He has been arrested numerous times in Tarrant County on burglary and theft charges, public records show.

PANTEGO

Town offers monthlong warrant amnesty period

People with Class C misdemeanor warrants in Pantego are being offered discounted fees and no jail time if they pay their tickets during a monthlong warrant amnesty period.

The town's first amnesty period will be Monday to March 31. Violators will be offered \$50 off each Pantego warrant when they pay in person at the Pantego Municipal Court, 2600 Miller Lane. Court hours are 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays through Fridays. Fines can be paid with cash, checks, money orders and most major credit cards, except American Express.

Those who haven't paid by March 31 will be targets of a warrant roundup.

For more information, call (817) 548-5889 or (817) 274-3869.

Fire Department to use federal grant for upgrades

The Pantego Fire Department has received a \$22,000 federal grant to upgrade and buy more air packs for firefighters.

The funds from the U.S. Fire Administration's Fire Act Grant also will be used to buy rescue equipment that can supplement the air supply of a trapped or injured firefighter, Fire Chief Tom Griffith said.

Griffith said the department will buy three air packs and upgrade the existing seven to fire suppression standards.

The grant will also pay for microphones that attach inside the air masks, allowing firefighters to be heard more clearly by other firefighters in an emergency situation.

Griffith said the grant is the first Pantego has received from



the agency program.

Compiled from staff reports

Load-Date: March 1, 2004

End of Document

[Chaplain is there for police in times of trauma Volunteer shares his services with several local departments](#)

The Dallas Morning News
January 4, 2004, Sunday, SECOND EDITION

Copyright 2004 The Dallas Morning News

DallasNews.com

Section: NORTHEAST TARRANT;

Length: 775 words

Byline: PAT GILLESPIE

Dateline: GRAND PRAIRIE

Body

Wesley McDuffie knew he loved law enforcement. But what he didn't know was how his love for the law would affect his life and countless others in the process. After he failed to get on the Arlington police force 20 years ago, some of Mr. McDuffie's law enforcement buddies suggested he become a police chaplain because of his counseling skills. He took their advice, and he's been helping police officers cope with the stress and trauma related to their jobs ever since. "Police chaplains are a different breed than corporate chaplains or hospital chaplains," said Mr. McDuffie, 43. "You're more dedicated to the police officer than the public. They go through some things, and they need people to talk with." Today, Mr. McDuffie is a volunteer chaplain for the Dalworthington Gardens Department of Public Safety, the Texas Department of Public Safety and the Arlington Police Department. He's also vice president of the International Conference of Police Chaplains. When he's not volunteering for local law enforcement agencies, Mr. McDuffie works full time as a mechanic at the UPS Air Cargo Facility at Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport. And he's the pastor of a small church in Kaufman. Mr. McDuffie figures it's all part of God's plan. "My plate will get as full as I want it," he said. "This is where I'm meant to be until he moves me." Service at Ground Zero Mr. McDuffie's biggest challenge as a police chaplain came after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks in New York.

Grand Prairie BureauHe traveled to New York City in October and then again in November 2001 to work with the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey in counseling officers and workers at Ground Zero. Dalworthington Gardens paid for the New York trips. "The dollar amount didn't cross my mind. I just had to trust in the Lord," Mr. McDuffie said. "I knew he'd take care of me and he did." Dalworthington Gardens



Police Chief **Bill Waybourn** said his staff was looking for a way to contribute to the recovery efforts, and they couldn't think of a better way than to send Mr. McDuffie. "I thought, 'Yeah, send Wes,'" Chief Waybourn said. "He's a man of great character, and he's a man who has the tenacity to get things done." Mr. McDuffie said he was surprised with the authority he was handed after being at Ground Zero only a short time. After the second day, he was placed in charge of five teams of chaplains, as well as a command post. "We needed someone to uplift us," said retired Port Authority police Officer Elliot Houston. "He was at the forefront." Mr. Houston said Mr. McDuffie stepped in and took charge when many people were too overwhelmed by the tragedy to do so. The Port Authority lost 84 people in the attacks. "He made us feel better," said Mr. Houston, who lives on Long Island. "He understood how we felt. That stood out more than everything. We were devastated by the loss and he understood." Forging friendships Mr. McDuffie said he was available for "whoever needed to talk." He said he was impressed with the friendships he made with some officers and workers that still stand two years later. Known by many as "Texas Wes," he was one of 12 chaplains invited back for the first anniversary, and several officers have traveled here to visit him. "We're always in contact. It's quite a feeling," he said. "I didn't expect it would be as close as it was." Mr. McDuffie moved to the Dallas area when he was 22. He enrolled in the Southern Bible Institute in Dallas in order to become more prepared to counsel people, and he worked several jobs before joining UPS in 1984. He quickly became an assistant pastor at Mount Olive Baptist Church in Arlington, serving as a youth group leader. But in 1994, the pastor of Mount Arie Baptist Church in Kaufman had a heart attack. A mutual friend asked Mr. McDuffie if he would help fill in, and nine years later, he's still the pastor of the 60-member church. His willingness to try new things is what struck Arlington Police Department Chaplain Harold Elliott, who mentored Mr. McDuffie and helped get him involved in the International Conference of Police Chaplains. He said he saw something special in Mr. McDuffie's approach to giving people advice. "I know how difficult it is to get started in something like this," he said. "Wesley is a very outgoing individual. I could see a lot of potential in him." Mr. McDuffie was elected vice president of the organization in July and will serve a two-year term. Meanwhile, he said, he wants to pursue a more permanent chaplain position. "My dream one day is to do it full time," he said. "That's where my heart is." E-mail pgillespie@dallasnews.com or call 817-695-0327.

Graphic

PHOTO(S): (BRAD LOPER/Staff Photographer) Chaplain Wesley McDuffie helped out at Ground Zero.

Load-Date: January 5, 2004

End of Document

**[Chaplain is there for police;
Volunteer shares his services with several local departments](#)**

The Dallas Morning News

January 4, 2004, Sunday, SECOND EDITION

Copyright 2004 The Dallas Morning News



Section: GRAND PRAIRIE;

Length: 775 words

Byline: PAT GILLESPIE

Body

Wesley McDuffie knew he loved law enforcement. But what he didn't know was how his love for the law would affect his life and countless others in the process. After he failed to get on the Arlington police force 20 years ago, some of Mr. McDuffie's law enforcement buddies suggested he become a police chaplain because of his counseling skills. He took their advice, and he's been helping police officers cope with the stress and trauma related to their jobs ever since. "Police chaplains are a different breed than corporate chaplains or hospital chaplains," said Mr. McDuffie, 43. "You're more dedicated to the police officer than the public. They go through some things, and they need people to talk with." Today, Mr. McDuffie is a volunteer chaplain for the Dalworthington Gardens Department of Public Safety, the Texas Department of Public Safety and the Arlington Police Department. He's also vice president of the International Conference of Police Chaplains. When he's not volunteering for local law enforcement agencies, Mr. McDuffie works full time as a mechanic at the UPS Air Cargo Facility at Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport. And he's the pastor of a small church in Kaufman. Mr. McDuffie figures it's all part of God's plan. "My plate will get as full as I want it," he said. "This is where I'm meant to be until he moves me." Service at Ground Zero Mr. McDuffie's biggest challenge as a police chaplain came after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks in New York.

Staff WriterHe traveled to New York City in October and then again in November 2001 to work with the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey in counseling officers and workers at Ground Zero. Dalworthington Gardens paid for the New York trips. "The dollar amount didn't cross my mind. I just had to trust in the Lord," Mr. McDuffie said. "I knew he'd take care of me and he did." Dalworthington Gardens Police Chief **Bill Waybourn** said his staff was looking for a way to contribute to the recovery efforts, and they couldn't think of a better way than to send Mr. McDuffie. "I thought, 'Yeah, send Wes,'" Chief Waybourn said. "He's a man of great character, and he's a man who has the tenacity to get things done." Mr. McDuffie said he was surprised with the authority he was handed after being at Ground Zero only a short time. After the second day, he was placed in charge of five teams of chaplains, as well as a command post. "We needed someone to uplift us," said retired Port Authority police Officer Elliot Houston. "He was at the forefront." Mr. Houston said Mr. McDuffie stepped in and took charge when many people were too overwhelmed by the tragedy to do so. The Port Authority lost 84 people in the attacks. "He made us feel better," said Mr. Houston, who lives on Long Island. "He understood how we felt. That stood out more than everything. We were devastated by the loss and he understood." Forging friendships Mr. McDuffie said he was available for "whoever needed to talk." He said he was impressed with the friendships he made with some officers and workers that still stand two years later. Known by many as "Texas Wes," he was one of 12 chaplains invited back for the first anniversary, and several officers have traveled here to visit him. "We're always in contact. It's quite a feeling," he said. "I didn't expect it would be as close as it was." Mr. McDuffie moved to the Dallas area when he was 22. He enrolled in the Southern Bible Institute in Dallas in order to become more prepared to counsel people, and he worked several jobs before joining UPS in 1984. He quickly became an assistant pastor at Mount Olive Baptist Church in Arlington, serving as a youth group leader. But in 1994, the pastor of Mount Arie Baptist Church in Kaufman had a heart attack. A mutual friend asked Mr. McDuffie if he would help fill in,



and nine years later, he's still the pastor of the 60-member church. His willingness to try new things is what struck Arlington Police Department Chaplain Harold Elliott, who mentored Mr. McDuffie and helped get him involved in the International Conference of Police Chaplains. He said he saw something special in Mr. McDuffie's approach to giving people advice. "I know how difficult it is to get started in something like this," he said. "Wesley is a very outgoing individual. I could see a lot of potential in him." Mr. McDuffie was elected vice president of the organization in July and will serve a two-year term. Meanwhile, he said, he wants to pursue a more permanent chaplain position. "My dream one day is to do it full time," he said. "That's where my heart is." E-mail pgillespie@dallasnews.com or call 817-695-0327.

Graphic

PHOTO(S): (BRAD LOPER/Staff Photographer) Chaplain Wesley McDuffie holds the hard hat he wore when volunteering in fall 2001 at Ground Zero in New York.

Load-Date: January 5, 2004

End of Document

[Volunteer chaplain there for police officers in times of trauma](#)

The Dallas Morning News

January 4, 2004, Sunday, SECOND EDITION

Copyright 2004 The Dallas Morning News

DallasNews.com

Section: RICHARDSON;

Length: 774 words

Byline: PAT GILLESPIE

Dateline: GRAND PRAIRIE

Body

Wesley McDuffie knew he loved law enforcement. But what he didn't know was how his love for the law would affect his life and countless others in the process. After he failed to get on the Arlington police force 20 years ago, some of Mr. McDuffie's law enforcement buddies suggested he become a police chaplain because of his counseling skills. He took their advice, and he's been helping police officers cope with the stress and trauma related to their jobs ever since. "Police chaplains are a different breed than corporate chaplains or hospital chaplains," said Mr. McDuffie, 43. "You're more dedicated to the police officer than



the public. They go through some things, and they need people to talk with." Today, Mr. McDuffie is a volunteer chaplain for the Dalworthington Gardens Department of Public Safety, the Texas Department of Public Safety and the Arlington Police Department. He's also vice president of the International Conference of Police Chaplains. When he's not volunteering for local law enforcement agencies, Mr. McDuffie works full time as a mechanic at the UPS Air Cargo Facility at Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport. And he's the pastor of a small church in Kaufman. Mr. McDuffie figures it's all part of God's plan. "My plate will get as full as I want it," he said. "This is where I'm meant to be until he moves me." Service after 9-11 Mr. McDuffie's biggest challenge as a police chaplain came after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks in New York.

Grand Prairie Bureau He traveled to New York City in October and then again in November 2001 to work with the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey in counseling officers and workers at Ground Zero. Dalworthington Gardens paid for the New York trips. "The dollar amount didn't cross my mind. I just had to trust in the Lord," Mr. McDuffie said. "I knew he'd take care of me and he did." Dalworthington Gardens Police Chief **Bill Waybourn** said his staff was looking for a way to contribute to the recovery efforts, and they couldn't think of a better way than to send Mr. McDuffie. "I thought, 'Yeah, send Wes,'" Chief Waybourn said. "He's a man of great character, and he's a man who has the tenacity to get things done." Mr. McDuffie said he was surprised with the authority he was handed after being at Ground Zero only a short time. After the second day, he was placed in charge of five teams of chaplains, as well as a command post. "We needed someone to uplift us," said retired Port Authority police Officer Elliot Houston. "He was at the forefront." Mr. Houston said Mr. McDuffie stepped in and took charge when many people were too overwhelmed by the tragedy to do so. The Port Authority lost 84 people in the attacks. "He made us feel better," said Mr. Houston, who lives on Long Island. "He understood how we felt. That stood out more than everything. We were devastated by the loss and he understood." Forging friendships Mr. McDuffie said he was available for "whoever needed to talk." He said he was impressed with the friendships he made with some officers and workers that still stand two years later. Known by many as "Texas Wes," he was one of 12 chaplains invited back for the first anniversary, and several officers have traveled here to visit him. "We're always in contact. It's quite a feeling," he said. "I didn't expect it would be as close as it was." Mr. McDuffie moved to the Dallas area when he was 22. He enrolled in the Southern Bible Institute in Dallas in order to become more prepared to counsel people, and he worked several jobs before joining UPS in 1984. He quickly became an assistant pastor at Mount Olive Baptist Church in Arlington, serving as a youth group leader. But in 1994, the pastor of Mount Arie Baptist Church in Kaufman had a heart attack. A mutual friend asked Mr. McDuffie if he would help fill in, and nine years later, he's still the pastor of the 60-member church. His willingness to try new things is what struck Arlington Police Department Chaplain Harold Elliott, who mentored Mr. McDuffie and helped get him involved in the International Conference of Police Chaplains. He said he saw something special in Mr. McDuffie's approach to giving people advice. "I know how difficult it is to get started in something like this," he said. "Wesley is a very outgoing individual. I could see a lot of potential in him." Mr. McDuffie was elected vice president of the organization in July and will serve a two-year term. Meanwhile, he said, he wants to pursue a more permanent chaplain position. "My dream one day is to do it full time," he said. "That's where my heart is." E-mail pgillespie@dallasnews.com or call 817-695-0327.

Graphic

PHOTO(S): (BRAD LOPER/Staff Photographer) Chaplain Wesley McDuffie helped out at Ground Zero in 2001.



Load-Date: January 5, 2004

End of Document

[Pauline Deats, 80, volunteer for police](#)

Fort Worth Star Telegram (Texas)

September 4, 2003, Thursday, ARLINGTON EDITION

Copyright 2003 Star-Telegram Newspaper, Inc.

Star-Telegram

Found on DFW.com

Section: METRO;

Length: 541 words

Byline: SUSAN SCHROCK; Star-Telegram Staff Writer

Highlight: DEATS: Before becoming a volunteer at area police departments, Deats was one of the first female U.S. Customs inspectors and fought for gender equality, relatives and friends say.

Body

ARLINGTON--Pauline Deats, a longtime volunteer for the Arlington and Dalworthington Gardens police departments, died of cancer Sunday. She was 80.

Ms. Deats, a retired U.S. Customs inspector, volunteered at the Arlington Police Department between 1990 and 2001, becoming a friend to many officers and jailers and a valuable resource at the station. Those who worked with her said Ms. Deats was best known for her nurturing nature, exemplary work ethic and endless supply of tasty treats.

"She became a confidant, a mentor to many people around here," said Assistant Chief Tommy Ingram, who worked with Deats for seven years. "There was a lot that was never even counted that she did. She didn't do it for the recognition -- she did it because she loved being active."

She was awarded Arlington's Bob Milner Award for volunteering



1,828 hours between 1999-2000. Her son, Arlington police officer Tom Deats, counted up more than 9,000 hours that his mother volunteered with the city.

"She just liked being of service to the guys," he said. "That gave her a great sense of pride and accomplishment."

For three years, Ms. Deats volunteered weekend nights at the city jail, where she often assisted jailers with more than administrative tasks. For many, she was like a mother.

"[She] pushed me to go to school. I would call her and she would tell me 'You have to go,' " said jailer Israel Mouton, who was working on his college degree. "[She] gave me my first Spanish book. She said, 'If you are going to learn it, you are going to learn it right.' I'll never forget her."

During the past year and a half, Ms. Deats had volunteered a couple of nights a week at the Dalworthington Gardens Public Safety Department, where employees there experienced firsthand her passion to serve others.

"When we got caught up in the rush of life, she had a unique ability to slow us down a bit and remind us what is important,"

Police Chief **Bill Waybourn** said. "It was really a gift."

Before becoming a volunteer, Ms. Deats was one of the first female U.S. Customs inspectors, her son said. She worked most of her 37-year career in Laredo at the Texas-Mexico border and five years in Freeport, Bahamas. Ms. Deats fought for gender equality throughout her career, which she started in 1951, only four years after the first female customs inspector was hired.

"It's hard to fathom some of the things she put up with and battled to gain acceptance with the male inspectors," Ingram said, remembering the stories that Ms. Deats would tell. "She was quite a pioneer, and it probably took someone with her particular personality and strong will to break that barrier for the good of many people to follow."

Services are scheduled for 10 a.m. Saturday at St. Maria Goretti Catholic Church, 1200 S. Davis Drive, Arlington. Rosary will be at 9:30 a.m. at St. Maria Goretti Catholic Church.

Ms. Deats is survived by sons Tom of Arlington, John of



Stanford, Conn., and Stephen of Waco; sister Mina Kelfer of San Antonio; six grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Susan Schrock, (817) 548-5475 sschrock@star-telegram.com

-PHOTO-

1. head shot:

(Pauline) DEATS

Load-Date: September 4, 2003

End of Document

FUGITIVE CHASERS:
City's five-member team aims to clear backlog of warrants

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

March 16, 2003, Sunday, ARLINGTON EDITION

Copyright 2003 Star-Telegram Newspaper, Inc.

Section: ADVANCE METRO;

Length: 508 words

Byline: SUSAN SCHROCK; Star-Telegram Staff Writer

Body

DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS--Many people stop to admire officer Dennis Gotcher's red, white and blue Camaro, but others dread seeing the sports car pull up in front of their home or place of employment.

Gotcher is Dalworthington Gardens' full-time warrant officer, the most visible member of the city's new Fugitive Team. City officials hope the team's refurbished Camaro, gained from a drug seizure, serves as a moving billboard warning people to pay their outstanding warrants instead of being sent to jail.

"It's a little bit nontraditional, but it serves as a reminder,"

Police Chief **Bill Waybourn** said. "People see it drive by and go, 'Oops, I got that ticket in my glove box. I better go take care of that.' "



The city created a five-member team in September to clear a backlog of 3,000 warrants worth about \$641,000. Before then, Waybourn said, the department left it to chance for people to pay their tickets because officers had little time to serve arrest warrants.

Now Gotcher and four city court employees spend hours researching addresses and phone numbers, trying to locate fugitives across the Metroplex.

The clerks mail letters giving people a last-minute reprieve of 10 days to encourage them to pay the fines. If the fines are not paid, Gotcher grabs a list of addresses and buckles up in the Camaro.

"We're a small city, but it is a large problem," court administrator Aleta Duran said. "You're talking a lot of money that the city is out."

In its first six months, the team has cleared about 550 city warrants and about the same number for other law enforcement agencies.

But some days are better than others.

Wednesday afternoon, Gotcher drove for the second time to the west Arlington home of a teen-ager wanted for traffic tickets. A woman who answered the door said she hadn't seen the youth in a while, but she took Gotcher's business card and promised to give it to the teen.

Gotcher had no better luck seeking violators at a Mansfield home or at an apartment complex near the University of Texas at Arlington. But he'll try again, because until the fines are paid, the warrants won't go away, he said.

"All I want to do is write 'clear' on the warrant. Then I feel like I've done my job," he said.

3,000 active warrants totaled about \$641,000 when the Fugitive Team was created.

550 city warrants have been cleared during the program's first six months.

Warrant Information



To learn whether you are wanted on a Dalworthington Gardens warrant, call the city's court clerk at (817) 274-7368, Ext. 104.

SOURCE: city of Dalworthington Gardens

Susan Schrock, (817) 548-5475 sschrock@star-telegram.com

-PHOTO-

1. Photo: STAR-TELEGRAM/PAUL MOSELEY

Dennis Gotcher, warrants officer for Dalworthington Gardens, and his bright blue 1992 Camaro create a visible presence.

2. Photo: STAR-TELEGRAM/PAUL MOSELEY

Dennis Gotcher and four Dalworthington Gardens city court employees try to locate fugitives across the Metroplex.

Load-Date: March 17, 2003

End of Document

[Fire, police losing staff to call-up](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

February 4, 2003, Tuesday, ARLINGTON EDITION

Copyright 2003 Star-Telegram Newspaper, Inc.

Section: METRO;

Length: 585 words

Byline: MARK AGEE; Star-Telegram Staff Writer

Highlight: WAR: Area police and fire departments are losing personnel as military reservists are called up, but services will not be affected, officials say.

Body

Being a firefighter and an Army reservist are a lot alike, Mansfield Fire Chief Alex Rodriguez says.

"They don't call us very often, but when they call us they really need us," said Rodriguez, who has one year left in the U.S. Army retired reserves. Until 1999, he was a battle captain for an armored cavalry unit stationed at Fort Hood.



That call to duty has come for more than 75,000 firefighters and unknown thousands of police officers across the country, leaving police and fire departments around the nation scrambling to cover their cities until the reservists come home. Federal law requires employers to keep the same job or a similar job available when reservists return from temporary duty.

Area agencies are prepared, although their leaders expect to pay a bit of overtime to protect their communities.

Grand Prairie police, already facing a staffing shortage with 10 patrol and three traffic positions vacant, have five officers shipping out from the 197-officer department.

"It hurts us somewhat because we have minimum staffing in some departments already," police spokesman Detective John Brimmer said. Officers will work overtime until a stepped up recruiting effort pays off, he said.

No Fort Worth firefighters have been called to duty, but 16 military reservists with the Police Department have been activated, including the department's chief civilian helicopter pilot. Another four are on alert and one other on standby, said Lt. Jesse Hernandez, police spokesman.

"That's not a terrible amount, but it still has an impact," Hernandez said.

Four Arlington police officers have been called up, including the sergeant in charge of traffic enforcement, spokesman Sgt. Will Johnson said.

"Their presence will be missed, but they have other obligations," Johnson said. The department had to shuffle a few officers, but the deployments to date have not greatly impacted the department of 570, he said. Another dozen or so officers are in the reserves, he said.

Mansfield and Kennedale police departments and the Pantego Fire Department have no reservists. But other fire departments are contributing to the call-up.

The Arlington Fire Department has three firefighters in the reserves, spokesman Lt. Randy Ingram said. With 285 firefighters, the department is large enough to absorb a temporary loss, but if



the firefighters were expected to be gone for a year or more, administrators might begin hiring, he said.

Dalworthington Gardens police have nine full-time officers and 30 certified peace officers who volunteer for the department, the public safety department's administrator said. One volunteer officer who is a reservist has been gone for more than a year,

Chief **Bill Waybourn** said. The department has four reservists yet to be called, he said.

The Grand Prairie Fire Department has five firefighters in the reserves, but none has been called, Chief Clif Nelson said.

"I'm braced to hear from them," Nelson said.

The Mansfield Fire Department has two firefighters besides the chief in the reserves, but neither has been called up, Rodriguez said. If they were, the department would have to pay a little overtime to meet staffing minimums, he said.

"We'd miss them, but we'd be fine," Rodriguez said. "It's part of our duty in both jobs -- to go when we're called."

Staff Writer Deanna Boyd Contributed to This Report.

Mark Agee, (817) 548-5421 rmagee@star-telegram.com

Load-Date: February 4, 2003

End of Document

**[Officials step up truancy pressure;
Boot camp, community service methods showing some promise](#)**

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

November 24, 2002, Sunday, ARLINGTON EDITION

Copyright 2002 Star-Telegram Newspaper, Inc.

Section: ADVANCE METRO;

Length: 864 words

Byline: MARK AGEE; Star-Telegram Staff Writer

Body



ARLINGTON--The courts have routinely offered alternatives to the hefty fine for truancy, but now the punishments are getting tougher in an effort to reach the small percentage of Arlington school district students who miss too many classes.

School officials, county judges and local police all are getting involved.

"We are starting to crack down, and I am seeing a difference," said David Woodruff, a district attendance officer.

Truancy is three unexcused absences in four weeks or 10 in six months. It is a Class C misdemeanor punishable by a fine of up to \$500 plus court costs.

The latest alternatives to the fine involve boot camp and hard labor community service. Police also are entering arrest warrants into a regional database to make it easier to catch truants.

"We don't want to lose any kids," said Jerry McCullough, deputy school superintendent. "The school district can't do it alone. The courts can't do it alone. The police can't do it alone. We've all got to do it together."

Justices of the peace Roy Kurban in Precinct 7 and Linda Davis in Precinct 2 began meeting regularly with school officials and attendance officers in September to discuss new ways to fight the problem. "For the first time you can see a concerted effort between all of these different groups trying to tackle the same problem," said Kurban, whose precinct includes south Arlington, Mansfield and Kennedale.

The district has about a 95 percent attendance rate, said Woodruff, who oversees truancy at Arlington High School and some elementary and junior highs. Most of the other 5 percent are excused absences, he said.

"But that small percentage that's not there can cause you some big problems," Woodruff said. "There's not much to do if you're not in school except get in trouble."

The district has five attendance officers who make home visits in an attempt to keep students in school, Woodruff said.



Offending youths are routinely offered alternative punishments in lieu of a fine, said Davis, whose precinct includes all of north Arlington. Alternative programs try to change truants' negative outlook on education, she said.

"I look at their faces and some of them are already lost," Davis said. "It's the beginning of bigger problems in their life."

Carolyn Pope, 16, a Lamar High School sophomore who appeared in Davis' court for truancy, skipped three straight weeks of school and it was her second offense.

She chose community service and told the judge she is now determined to finish school because she realizes it is important.

"I don't want my GED," Pope said. "I want my diploma."

Under a recent agreement, Davis can now send truants to a Grand Prairie boot camp for teens and to the Dalworthington Gardens Police Department for manual labor community service projects.

Arlington truants will attend the Grand Prairie Youth Services Boot Camp, a private facility run by Army Reserve Sgt. Stanley Smith, who was a military drill instructor.

At the camp, teens run, do push-ups and crawl through the mud and learn leadership skills, Smith said.

"We're teaching them discipline and to stay focused and finish what they start," he said. "If they can make it through this, they can make it in the classroom, and they can make it in life."

Truants sent to the boot camp pay \$225 for four weekends of training. If they do not graduate they continue in the program until Smith is satisfied, he said. They must graduate to meet the court's requirements.

"I don't think they're bad kids," Smith said. "I think every kid has something hid within them. We just have to bring it out."

Davis also previously sent truants to a nonprofit agency for community service. Now they go to the Dalworthington Gardens police.

"They really do work there, and the officers talk to them a lot," Davis said. "They interact with them and find out what's going on with them."



Woodruff said the police will be more successful because they are firm with the truants.

"If they get an attitude, they'll be scrubbing the biggest jail cell with the smallest toothbrush," he said.

Dalworthington Gardens police are also entering warrants for Arlington truants into a regional database so if the students are stopped by police for any reason, the truancy warrant will appear.

"Now we've got a much bigger dragnet out there," Woodruff said of the database.

Dalworthington Gardens Police Chief **Bill Waybourn** volunteered the department.

"We recognize that truancy is a big problem and we want to do what we can do," Waybourn said. "Everybody is getting involved. We want to make a better society."

Mark Agee, (817) 548-5530 rmagee@star-telegram.com

-PHOTO-

1. Photo: STAR-TELEGRAM/STEWART F. HOUSE

Jason Larson, a staff sergeant with the Grand Prairie Youth Services Boot Camp, shouts instructions to youths. In January, some Arlington truants will be attending the camp.

2. Photo: STAR-TELEGRAM/STEWART F. HOUSE

Youths attending the Grand Prairie boot camp head outside in single file for a physically demanding portion of their detention sentence.

Load-Date: November 25, 2002

End of Document

[Cookout helps local law, rescue units get familiar](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

October 19, 2002, Saturday, ARLINGTON EDITION

Copyright 2002 Star-Telegram Newspaper, Inc.

Section: METRO;

Length: 422 words



Byline: SUSAN SCHROCK; Star-Telegram Staff Writer

Highlight: POLICE: A fellowship barbecue allows police officers and emergency crews from surrounding cities to meet and exchange ideas.

Body

DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS--Area officers broke bread and built relationships during a 24-hour fellowship barbecue Thursday night and Friday aimed at improving communication across city borders.

Dalworthington Gardens officers, who hosted the barbecue at their station, invited police and emergency crews from Arlington, Pantego, Kennedale and Mansfield to drop by during dinner breaks to get to know colleagues they may see only at crime scenes or on medical calls.

Dalworthington Gardens Police Chief **Bill Waybourn** said the get-together was prompted by a conversation with Arlington Police Chief Theron Bowman and Pantego Police Chief Jon Coulter on encouraging better communication among the departments.

Because the cities are so close geographically, officers are frequently asked to assist with emergency calls, such as pursuits, outside their borders, Waybourn said.

"In this post-9-11 environment, we need each other desperately. We all know we are going to help each other, we just don't know one another," Waybourn said. "There's something ceremonious about breaking bread with each other."

Dalworthington Gardens Sgt. Mike Taylor, a police officer, paramedic and firefighter, said the barbecue gave him a chance to learn other officers' areas of expertise. Those contacts may serve as resources to call on during future investigations, he said.

"A lot of times you fellowship with officers in other cities as a result of something bad that's happened," Taylor said. "This gives you a chance to meet with someone personally rather than as a professional in a critical situation."

Sylvester Brown, a rookie police officer for Arlington, joined the west station in February. He stopped by the Dalworthington



Gardens station during his lunch break Friday to build contacts and meet the officers he sees while patrolling or out on calls.

"It's all business on the streets, but here it's a relaxed environment," Brown said. "It seems like a family reunion. I hope they do it again."

Susan Schrock, (817) 548-5475 sschrock@star-telegram.com

-PHOTO-

1. Photo: STAR-TELEGRAM/TOM PENNINGTON

Dalworthington Gardens Police Chief **Bill Waybourn** prepares a plate at the 24-hour barbecue at the Dalworthington Gardens Public Safety Center on Friday.

2. Photo: SPECIAL TO THE STAR-TELEGRAM/BOBBY ORNELAS
Dalworthington Gardens Deputy Police Chief T.L. "Snoopy" Campbell, right, greets Arlington Police Detective Robert Green during a 24-hour barbecue Friday.

Load-Date: October 21, 2002

End of Document

**[Finding God amid the rubble;
Chaplain travels to ground zero, counsels rescue workers;
Two NY trips change pastor - the lives of those he helped](#)**

The Dallas Morning News
April 5, 2002, Friday, SECOND EDITION

Copyright 2002 The Dallas Morning News

DallasNews.com

Section: ARLINGTON;

Length: 697 words

Byline: JASON TRAHAN

Body



Wesley McDuffie was one of thousands of volunteers who traveled to New York City after Sept. 11.

And some of the lives the 41-year-old man touched there are forever changed.

Mr. McDuffie, who lives in Grand Prairie, is the volunteer police chaplain for the Dalworthington Gardens Department of Public Safety as well as for the Texas Department of Public Safety.

Dalworthington Gardens sent Mr. McDuffie to New York in October and December to counsel rescue workers and perform last rites for victims pulled from the rubble. Mr. McDuffie also received financial help from a neighbor who heard he was going.

Staff Writer

"I wanted to go. I felt it was part of my duty," said Mr. McDuffie, who serves as pastor at Mount Arie Baptist Church in Kaufman in addition to working as a mechanic for United Parcel Service.

"When I first saw it, it was devastating," he said. "I saw how the Lord was working through the people whose lives were saved. It gave me a deeper appreciation for life."

During his two weeklong tours in New York, Mr. McDuffie witnessed the recovery of 13 mangled bodies from a single stairwell. He counseled troubled rescue workers at St. Paul's Chapel, the now-famous church located about a block from the World Trade Center site that survived the disaster with only a coating of dust. He remembers talking to a couple who ran from both collapsing towers and who later returned to the site to remember those who didn't make it.

"It's like a family," Mr. McDuffie said. "One overwhelming thing was when you hear all of the firefighters' and cops' families saying that if they had it to do it again, they would want their family member to go back in there."

Mr. McDuffie is one of a handful of police chaplains whom the New York-New Jersey Port Authority Transit Police have on a short list to return for the one-year anniversary of the terrorist attacks.

"He really hit it off with the guys," said Bob Rice, a Port Authority officer who heads the New Jersey Critical Incident Stress Management team that counseled officers and workers at the World Trade Center site.

"It was an honor to have had the chance to meet him and now be able to call him a friend," said Mr. Rice, who keeps in regular contact with Mr. McDuffie. "We may be calling the select few back in September."

Before meeting the Grand Prairie chaplain, Mr. Rice, an 18-year police veteran, said he had no interest in religion.

"I hadn't been to church since I was a kid," said Mr. Rice, 40. "Along with the help of Wes and the other chaplains, I not only accepted God into my life, but I am now working my way towards becoming a chaplain myself."

Dalworthington Gardens police Chief **Bill Waybourn** said sending Mr. McDuffie to New York was a way for the department to pay tribute to the heroes there.

"He had an impact on lives," Chief Waybourn said. "I praise the heroes that went up there to move stone to recover the people who died. But this guy moved hearts."

Mr. McDuffie began preaching at Mount Olive Baptist Church in Arlington in 1985, then became pastor at Mount Arie in Kaufman in 1994. That same year, he became volunteer chaplain for Dalworthington Gardens after he and Chief Waybourn struck up a friendship at an elementary school where the chaplain was



volunteering. Mr. McDuffie first began working as a volunteer chaplain with the Texas DPS about 16 years ago at the urging of law enforcement friends.

Back at home, Mr. McDuffie counsels officers and delivers death notifications to family members of those killed by crime and accident.

Mr. McDuffie said he found God growing up in Texarkana. In his youth, he was head of a biker gang that began doing charity work.

"There were no ministers in my family," Mr. McDuffie said. "I didn't grow up going to church. One day it just hit me."

In December, the Dalworthington Gardens police department presented the chaplain with the Gardens Cross award for his service in New York.

"This is the first time we have ever given this out," Chief Waybourn said. "It's for service above and beyond, requiring great sacrifice, and it's well deserved here."

E-mail jtrahan@dallasnews.com or call 817-695-0351.

Graphic

PHOTO(S): (CHRIS HAMILTON/Special Contributor) Wesley McDuffie, pastor of Mournt Arie Baptist Church in Kaufman, delivers an Easter sermon. In New York, Mr. McDuffie inspired a previously nonreligious Port Authority officer to try to become a chaplain himself.

Load-Date: April 6, 2002

End of Document

[Pantego residents learn how to protect homes](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

April 3, 2002, Wednesday, ARLINGTON EDITION

Copyright 2002 Star-Telegram Newspaper, Inc.

Section: METRO; ARLINGTON & REGION;

Length: 299 words

Byline: MONIQUE SIMPSON; Star-Telegram Staff Writer

Highlight: MEETING: Residents learn how often police patrol neighborhoods and ways to help reduce the number of speeding drivers.



Body

PANTEGO - Jean McCown has been worried since her neighbor's house was burglarized three weeks ago - in daylight.

But Tuesday night, McCown, 77, was able to get helpful information at the town meeting sponsored by the Pantego Police Department and the Pantego Crime Watch board.

"I'm interested in learning everything I can to safeguard my house," she said.

About 40 residents attended the event at the Odis Pharr Community Center. Pantego police officers, firefighters and dispatchers were present. Arlington Police Chief Theron Bowman, Dalworthington

Gardens Police Chief **Bill Waybourn** and Tarrant County Sheriff Dee Anderson also attended the meeting, and each received a key to the city of Pantego.

Residents asked officers questions ranging from how often police patrol neighborhoods to ways residents can help reduce the number of speeding drivers.

Anderson said these types of community events strengthen the relationship between city and county law enforcement officials, and in the past the two groups were not working together closely.

"It's so important that we as a law enforcement unit are unified," he said. "After many years of not acting that way, we are finally getting together."

Al Green, chairman of the Crime Watch board, said the town meeting provided a great opportunity for residents and officers to meet.

"I think everyone should be concerned about the well-being of our community," he said. "What good is it to have a home without safety?"

Green also saw the event as a way to recruit members for the Crime Watch board. Of the 15 positions, Green said, 10 are filled.

But the number might increase to 11 soon.

"I think I'll join it," McCown said.



Monique Simpson, (817) 548-5420

mnsimpson@star-telegram.com

Load-Date: April 26, 2002

End of Document

Arlington Area Briefs

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

April 1, 2002, Monday, ARLINGTON EDITION

Copyright 2002 Star-Telegram Newspaper, Inc.

Section: METRO; ARLINGTON & REGION;

Length: 333 words

Byline: Star-Telegram

Body

MANSFIELD

Panel to consider rezoning historic site

The Planning and Zoning Commission tonight will consider rezoning a historic home site to help preserve it for uses that many officials believe is more fitting for the 87-year-old structure.

The meeting is at 6:30 p.m. today at City Hall, 1305 E. Broad St.

The City Council requested the rezoning after the Mansfield Historical Society voiced concerns that the house, which served as the senior citizen center until last year, might be bulldozed or converted to an undesirable use when the city tries to sell it again.

The city called off its sale last fall when it received only one bid, for less than half the \$150,000 it wanted.

The city has received inquiries from groups suggesting that the house, at 404 E. Broad St., be used for executive suites, specialty shops, a bed and breakfast or an art studio. The city staff members recommend changing the residential zoning to office park instead of commercial because the house and more recent buildings exceed the



size limits for commercial.

Office zoning would eliminate the bed-and-breakfast idea, officials said.

PANTEGO

Police, Crime Watch to host town meeting

The Pantego Police Department and the Pantego Crime Watch board will host a town meeting Tuesday at 7 p.m.

The meeting will be held at the Pantego Lions Club, Odis Pharr Community Center, 3535 Marathon St. in Pantego.

Pantego Police Chief Jon Coulter said he wants to use the event to help strengthen the relationship between police and the community.

"This will be a good opportunity to recruit more Crime Watch members and give our citizens a chance to meet our police officers," Coulter said.

Arlington Police Chief Theron Bowman, Tarrant County Sheriff Dee

Anderson and Dalworthington Gardens Police Chief **Bill Waybourn** are among those expected to attend.

Pantego, a town of 2,700 residents, has 11 police officers, Coulter said.

Compiled from staff reports

Load-Date: April 26, 2002

End of Document

[Officers to begin residential visits](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

February 18, 2002, Monday, ARLINGTON EDITION

Copyright 2002 Star-Telegram Newspaper, Inc.

Section: METRO; ARLINGTON & REGION;

Length: 469 words

Byline: TANYA EISERER; Star-Telegram Staff Writer



Highlight: SAFETY: Dalworthington Gardens modeled its program after one in Highland Village, a Denton County community.

Body

DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS - In two weeks, police in this small suburb will begin making house calls.

"We want to introduce ourselves and give an idea of the services that we provide," Deputy Chief T.L. Campbell said. "We want to acquaint our citizens with what all we do."

The public safety officer visitation program begins Thursday, but it will probably take about two years for officers to visit all of Dalworthington Gardens' estimated 650 homes, Campbell said. The average visit will last seven to 10 minutes. Officers hope to visit 20 homes a month.

"People get lax in their security," Police Chief **Bill Waybourn** said.

The program is modeled after one in Highland Village, a city of 12,000 in Denton County north of Flower Mound. The program began 10 months ago after a resident caught a burglar.

Each month, two-person teams of a police officer and a department volunteer visit the homes in a particular neighborhood in Highland Village. So far, officers there have visited about 300 of the city's 3,400 homes, he said.

"We went door-to-door that first time, putting out suspect information and giving out crime prevention information," said Highland Village Police Chief Ed O'Bara. "It was so successful that we decided to do it on a monthly basis."

The program helps police be proactive rather than reactive, O'Bara said.

"I think officers interacting with citizens in something other than an enforcement role is a positive thing," he said.

In Dalworthington Gardens, officers will offer residents gun safety locks and batteries for smoke and burglar alarms. They'll ask residents to complete a survey on police services and area crime.



Officers also will hand out information about department services, such as alarm monitoring, personal property engraving, home crime-prevention analyses, pet registration and fire safety inspections.

The department monitors residential alarms for free. About 200 homes are enrolled in the program. For those homes, officers will check whether the 911 system is properly routing calls and recording correct address information.

"It gives us a much faster response time to an emergency," Campbell said.

Police visits

Dalworthington Gardens public safety officers will begin visiting residents' homes Thursday. Officers will:

- * Offer residents batteries for smoke and burglar detectors and gun safety locks.
- * Ask residents to complete a survey on police services and area crime.
- * Hand out information about department services, such as alarm monitoring, personal property engraving and home crime-prevention analyses.

For more information, call (817) 275-1234.

SOURCE: Dalworthington Gardens Public Safety Department

Tanya Eiserer, (817) 548-5475

teiserer@star-telegram.com

Load-Date: February 18, 2002

End of Document

[Police in small northern Texas suburb making house calls](#)

The Associated Press State & Local Wire

February 18, 2002, Monday, BC cycle

Copyright 2002 Associated Press All Rights Reserved

Section: State and Regional



Length: 214 words

Dateline: DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS, Texas

Body

Police in this Fort Worth suburb will soon start making house calls.

It will probably take about two years for officers to visit all of estimated 650 homes.

"We want to introduce ourselves and give an idea of the services that we provide," Deputy Chief T.L. Campbell said.

The program is modeled after one in Highland Village, a city of 12,000 in Denton County. The program began 10 months ago after a resident caught a burglar.

So far, officers have visited about 300 of the city's 3,400 homes.

"We went door-to-door that first time, putting out suspect information and giving out crime prevention information," said Highland Village Police Chief Ed O'Bara. "It was so successful that we decided to do it on a monthly basis."

The program helps police be proactive rather than reactive, O'Bara said.

In Dalworthington Gardens, officers will offer residents gun safety locks and batteries for smoke and burglar alarms. They'll ask residents to complete a survey on police services and area crime.

"People get lax in their security," Police Chief **Bill Waybourn** said.

Officers also will hand out information about police services. The department, which monitors residential alarms for free, also will check systems of the 200 homes enrolled in the program.

Load-Date: February 19, 2002

End of Document

[Board denies murder suspect's parole request](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

January 3, 2002, Thursday, ARLINGTON EDITION

Copyright 2002 Star-Telegram Newspaper, Inc.

Section: METRO; ARLINGTON & REGION;

Length: 296 words

Byline: ANTHONY SPANGLER; Star-Telegram Staff Writer



Body

ARLINGTON - A state parole board has refused to free a man who police and prosecutors believe is a suspect in the 1995 deaths of a Dalworthington Gardens couple.

Dale Edward Skates, 53, is serving a life sentence for an unrelated burglary and was denied his first chance at parole last month.

He was arrested in 1995 while driving a 1990 Buick Century that belonged to the couple. They were found dead days earlier inside their Dalworthington Gardens home.

Ron Welch, 49, of Arlington found his parents' bodies Oct. 14, 1995. Welch, police and prosecutors wrote letters to the Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles pleading to deny Skates' release.

"It was good news," said Welch, who learned about the parole board's decision just before Christmas. "I don't like to say I'm happy about someone suffering. But he doesn't deserve to be out."

Albert "Al" Welch, 65, was a retired Bell Helicopter industrial engineer. His wife, Nancy, 60, was a retired Arlington city librarian.

Authorities could not charge Skates with the couple's deaths because they lacked physical evidence and testimony from two other suspects linked to the crimes, prosecutors and police said.

Skates' attorney, Sam Bonifield, said the Welch case should not have been considered in Skates' parole. Skates will next be eligible for parole Feb. 1, 2005.

But Dalworthington Gardens Police Chief **Bill Waybourn** said the evidence in the Welch case should have been part of the parole board's decision.

"I think the board made the best decision in the interest of the citizens of Texas," he said. "This predator will be locked up for another three years. We can refight this again in three years."

Anthony Spangler, (817) 548-5412

aspangler@star-telegram.com



Load-Date: January 3, 2002

End of Document

[Man says officer made unjust arrest](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

December 19, 2001, Wednesday, ARLINGTON EDITION

Copyright 2001 Star-Telegram Newspaper, Inc.

Section: METRO; ARLINGTON & REGION;

Length: 393 words

Byline: TANYA EISERER; Star-Telegram Staff Writer

Highlight: LAW ENFORCEMENT: An Arlington man said he was accused of having a knife, but that police later told him they were mistaken.

Body

A man filed a complaint Tuesday alleging that he was unjustly arrested and slapped by a Dalworthington Gardens police officer last week.

Pedro Limon Tarin, speaking through a translator, said he was arrested Friday and released about five hours later. A sergeant has been assigned to conduct an internal investigation, Capt. Jerry Venum said.

"I was nervous; I was scared," said Tarin, a construction worker who moved to Arlington about a month ago from Durango, Mexico.

Venum said he learned of the accusation Monday morning when Police Chief **Bill Waybourn** asked him to investigate it.

Tarin and two officials from the North Texas chapter of the League of United Latin American Citizens met with Venum on Tuesday.

Andrea Elliott, a civil rights chairwoman for the Arlington chapter of LULAC, said, "The captain was pretty open. He didn't excuse anything."

According to Tarin, a motorcycle officer stopped him about 4:30



p.m. Friday on West Arkansas Lane between Bowen and Fielder roads.

Tarin said the officer told him that he was being stopped because his vehicle registration was expired.

Tarin said an officer in a squad car then took him to the police station. He said his friends were told to walk home.

The officer who had taken him to the jail later took him from the cell and into another room, Tarin said.

"He was telling me that a knife that he had in his hand was mine," Tarin said. "Every time, I would tell him it wasn't mine, he would hit me in the face."

He said the officer struck him twice in the face, and then returned him to the cell. Later, he was taken from his cell and told that he could leave, Tarin said.

"They told me my brother was on his way and to forgive the police because the officer was confused and the knife belonged to another officer," Tarin said. Tarin said a police officer accompanied him to retrieve his GMC Jimmy from an impound lot. He said he was not charged for the towing.

His brother's girlfriend then took him to Arlington Memorial Hospital, Tarin said. "My whole cheek was hurting, and I could not chew," he said.

Tarin suffered an injury to his jaw and was given a prescription for pain medication, according to a hospital report. He was told to rest his jaw and to stay on a diet of soft foods that require no chewing.

Load-Date: December 19, 2001

End of Document

REGION BRIEFS

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

August 24, 2001, Friday, ARLINGTON EDITION

Copyright 2001 Star-Telegram Newspaper, Inc.

Section: METRO; ARLINGTON & REGION;



Length: 938 words

Byline: Staff Reports

Body

MANSFIELD

Suggestions welcomed on school colors, mascot

A new middle school needs a mascot and school colors, and officials are asking the public for ideas.

Brooks Wester Middle School, funded in the \$80 million bond program of 1999, will open next year in a remodeled version of what currently is the Mansfield High School South Campus. A new high school also is opening next year.

Suggestions can be mailed to the attention of "Wester Mascot" at T.A. Howard Middle School, 7501 Calender Road, Arlington, TX 76001-7750. Suggestions will be accepted through Oct. 5, according to the district's public information office, which can be reached at (817) 473-5376.

ARLINGTON

Neighborhood Academy registration continues

Applications are being accepted through 5 p.m. Aug. 31 for the third annual Arlington Neighborhood Academy, a free neighborhood leadership seminar that meets Wednesdays beginning Sept. 19. It will conclude with a City Council presentation of certificates to participants on Nov. 13.

The sessions are from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the City Council briefing room at City Hall, 101 W. Abram St. The first session will feature Tarrant County Judge Tom Vandergriff, who will present an overview of Arlington's history. Other sessions will focus on building neighborhood associations, developing neighborhood plans, resolving conflicts and planning special events, among other topics.

Space is limited. To obtain an application, contact the city's Neighborhood Services Department at (817) 459-5864 or register

online by accessing the city's Web site at www.ci.arlington.tx.us.

DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS



Civilians can receive public safety instruction

Police Chief **Bill Waybourn** has scheduled a seven-week program to teach residents about the city's Department of Public Safety beginning Sept. 18.

The course, called the Civilian DPS Academy, is open to community residents and others from neighboring cities. Participants will ride with patrol officers and hear talks on several public safety issues.

Classes will be from 6 to 10 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on alternate Saturdays. Graduation is scheduled for Nov. 8 for participants who attend at least 90 percent of the classes.

To enroll, pick up an information packet at the city's DPS Communications Center, 2600 Roosevelt Drive. Candidates will be notified by telephone. For more information, call Lt. Bob Fisher at (817) 275-1234.

EULESS

Former Eckerd worker accused of stealing pills

A former Eckerd Drugs employee has been charged with stealing almost \$18,000 worth of pain medication from a store and selling it to an acquaintance, authorities said.

A company investigation revealed that 13,526 pills of hydrocodone, Vicodin, Lortab and alprazolam were taken between May 2000 and early August, police said.

Donald Ray McMinn, 34, of Euless was charged Monday with possession of a dangerous drug and theft of \$1,500 to \$20,000, authorities said. He was free Thursday after posting bail, authorities said. The amount was unavailable.

Euless police said they arrested McMinn on Aug. 17 at Eckerd Drugs in the 100 block of South Ector Drive.

Company officials could not be reached Thursday to comment. Police said McMinn gave them a statement, saying that he would take bottles of pills off shelves and put them in his pockets.

"It turned out that on those days that the pills turned up missing, he was the only one working," Euless police Sgt. Ron



Williamson said.

McMinn told investigators that he sold the pills to an acquaintance, Williamson said.

At the time of his arrest, police confiscated several pills from a jacket that McMinn was wearing, authorities said.

BIRDVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Trustees vote to keep same property tax rate

Birdville school district will maintain its tax rate for the fiscal year that will begin Sept. 1.

Trustees voted unanimously Thursday to set the tax rate at \$1.56 per \$100 of assessed property value.

The tax rate will help fund a \$127.6 million budget, a 9.7 percent increase from the \$116.3 million budget for fiscal 2000-01.

Although the tax rate is the same, homeowners can expect to pay more taxes because the average house value increased in the district.

Taxes for the owner of an average-priced house with no exemptions will be \$1,373, compared with \$1,263 a year ago. The average value of a house is \$88,026 this year, compared with \$80,989 last year.

D/FW AIRPORT

Jet's tire damaged on right landing gear

Emergency crews were placed on alert Thursday as an American Airlines flight with 81 passengers and four crew members touched down with a damaged tire on its right landing gear.

Flight 1003, a Fokker 100 from Birmingham, Ala., landed safely about 8 p.m. on Runway 13L, and the tire was changed on the taxiway, Dallas/Fort Worth Airport officials said.

"D/FW fire and rescue responded immediately upon the alert announcement," airport spokeswoman Tina Sharp said. "Luckily, assistance wasn't needed, and the runway remained fully operational."

The tire was inflated but had tread separations, an American Airlines spokeswoman said.

The National Transportation Safety Board has recommended that the



Federal Aviation Administration inspect the landing gear on all Fokker 100s for cracks or other defects.

American said it has inspected its 74 Fokker 100s.

In May, the right wheels snapped off an American Airlines Fokker 100 as it landed at D/FW Airport. No one was injured.

Load-Date: August 27, 2001

End of Document

GETTING FIRED UP;
Officers cross-train to form public safety department

The Dallas Morning News
June 1, 2001, Friday, THIRD EDITION

Copyright 2001 The Dallas Morning News

Section: ROCKWALL-ROWLETT;

Length: 1032 words

Byline: Jeff Parish

Dateline: HEATH

Body

Heath police Sgt. Johnny Solis is waiting eagerly for his first fire.

Sgt. Solis recently received his basic fire certification, the first step in the city's effort to form a department of public safety. Members would have at least basic certification as police officers, firefighters and emergency medical technicians.

"The first one on an emergency call is going to be a police officer," said Lt. Robert De Los Santos, who is overseeing the transition. "Why not have that officer be able to help out rather than just standing there not knowing what to do?"

Staff Writer

Police Chief Dennis Watson brought up the idea of an all-purpose force about three years ago. The city of less than 5,000 is never expected to exceed about 20,000 residents, so a traditional separation of police and fire departments is not feasible, he said.

The city took its first step last September when it hired Lt. De Los Santos to oversee the transition.

Volunteers to stay



The change will not mean the end of Heath's volunteer fire department, which Chief Watson said will remain an important component of the city's public safety system.

"We'll probably have only three or four officers on duty at one time," he said. "That's not enough to fight a fire. We'll continue to rely on them heavily."

Danny Wilkins, chief of the Heath Volunteer Fire Department, said he supports the idea of well-rounded officers but warned that the city needs to be careful not to overlook volunteers. That hasn't been a problem, he said, but friction can occur in fire departments that use both volunteer and paid staffers.

"The volunteers have saved the community a tremendous amount of tax dollars because of the service we have rendered to the community," he said. "I have a great respect for a volunteer that's willing to go out and risk his life for others. A career firefighter is getting paid to risk his life, but a volunteer firefighter - that's his dedication to the community."

First in his class

Sgt. Solis became the city's first cross-trained officer when graduated May 8 from a 13-week fire academy at Collin County Community College with basic fire certification. He learned firefighting techniques, how to operate equipment, how to pull victims from a wrecked vehicle and even some things about arson investigation.

Sgt. Solis will become Heath's first full-fledged public safety officer when he goes through emergency medical technician training this summer along with Officers Terry Kneeler and Douglas Walker.

Sgt. Solis said he didn't enjoy the fire academy at first because he was in "police mode" for several weeks. By the time it was over, though, he didn't want to leave.

"I'd like to go back just to do it all over again," Sgt. Solis said. "At the police academy, they pretty much spoon-fed material to you. The fire academy didn't. You had to really study. I basically didn't have a life for three months."

Darrell L. Fant, Highland Park's director of public safety, said officers' resistance to cross-training is common and presents one of the greatest challenges in forming a new department.

The Highland Park department, formed in 1977, is one of the oldest public safety forces in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. Mr. Fant said the department lost nearly 20 employees during the transition.

"I don't think it's appropriate for cities to go into it with the idea of saving money right off the bat," he said. "The key is to have personnel willing to go through the changes."

Heath's Chief Watson said his officers who don't want to cross-train will not be forced into it. They will help in patrols and when extra enforcement is needed, such as during parades or other civic events.

Keeping officers certified can also be a challenge. The average police officer needs about 40 hours of continuing education a year, but a public safety officer needs about 220 hours a year to keep current in all three fields.

Cost benefits

Still, a public safety department can be cost-effective in the long run, said **Bill Waybourn**, chief of public safety in the Tarrant County city of Dalworthington Gardens - so long as officers are paid enough to keep them from leaving.



"It takes a year to train a guy, just to get him through the academies and through EMS school, and once that happens you'd better be ready to pay him, because turnover can kill you," Chief Waybourn said. "It's a constant battle for most agencies our size."

Chief Watson said Heath already has a system in place to bolster the pay of officers who receive extra training - \$ 5,000 a year for fire training and a monthly stipend for officers who receive medical training.

Mr. Fant said the transition to a public safety department is easier for developing communities such as Heath, which have a relatively small city staff and can add officers as the city grows.

'Depth and diversity'

"The community, I think, seems to appreciate that a public safety employee can literally respond to anything he's faced with," Mr. Fant said. "Having the depth and diversity in training and expertise and the ability to adapt, particularly in small jurisdictions, just seems to make a lot of sense."

The Heath fire chief said change can be hard for a community but he thinks the public safety officers will be a benefit to the fire department. Public safety departments seem to work best in small communities, he said.

"We can't stay a volunteer department," Chief Wilkins said. "There has to be change, and when the community changes, we have to change as well."

Even when the transition is behind him, Lt. De Los Santos says, he sees an opportunity for "molding the city on the public safety side" by possibly becoming the city's director of public safety.

Chief Watson, who currently serves as both police chief and city administrator, said that at some point those duties will have to be separated and that he may become a full-time city administrator.

"Years ago, I always wanted to stay a police officer," he said. "But the council has been very good to me. I'll serve wherever they need me."

Staff writer Jeff Parish can be reached at 972-771-5191, ext. 103, and at jparish@dallasnews.com.

Graphic

PHOTO(S): (SUMMAR SMITH-ZAK/Staff Photographer) Lt. Robert De Los Santos is overseeing the Heath Police Department's transition into an all-purpose force certified as police officers, firefighters and emergency medical technicians.

Load-Date: June 2, 2001

End of Document

[Conference speakers praise contributions of police chaplains](#)

The Dallas Morning News



February 27, 2001, Tuesday

Copyright 2001 The Dallas Morning News

Section: ARLINGTON MORNING NEWS; NEWS;

Length: 643 words

Byline: Ben Tinsley

Body

The spiritual role of a police chaplain is equal in importance to that of an officer during emergency situations, Arlington's police chief told a group of clergymen Monday.

"You are God's person on the scene," Chief Theron Bowman said to a crowd of more than 200 police chaplains. "That is an awesome responsibility."

Chief Bowman made the comments during a keynote address he delivered Monday at the regional meeting of the International Conference of Police Chaplains.
Staff Writer of the Arlington Morning News

The chief's address kicked off the group's three-day conference at La Quinta Inn, 825 N. Watson Road. The conference continues through Wednesday.

The conference drew chaplains from Oklahoma, Arkansas, Texas and Louisiana. The group will discuss topics ranging from "Chaplain Burnout" to "Domestic Violence Within the Police Department" to "Police Funerals."

Tarrant County Judge Tom Vandergriff, Arlington Mayor Elzie Odom, Tarrant County Sheriff Dee Anderson, Dalworthington Gardens Police Chief **Bill Waybourn** and Fort Worth Police Chief Ralph Mendoza also attended the gathering.

Wesley McDuffie, Dalworthington Gardens police chaplain, said Chief Bowman's address was motivating and positive.

"It was something we all needed, especially coming from a chief who understands what goes on in the field," he said.

Mr. McDuffie said it sometimes is hard for chaplains to deal with the pressures of their jobs.

"We had a double suicide recently, and that was hard. You lose yourself for a minute because of the trauma," he said. "But no one knows it and you just have to pray to the Lord, pick yourself up and keep going."

Chief Bowman, the son of a Baptist minister and a deacon at Greater Mount Tabor Missionary Baptist Church in Fort Worth, appeared to know very well the on-the-job difficulties that chaplains said they face.

"My hat is off to you," the chief told the group. "I know it isn't easy to do what you do. . . . What you do, the service you perform, cannot be done by the average citizen."



Chief Bowman outlined what he said were virtues of good chaplains: They must be capable, talented and responsible, he said. Police chaplains also must have wisdom, durability, flexibility, adaptability and a willingness to work hard to earn credibility and trust.

"You are all things to all men, and I submit that you are your brother's keeper," the chief said. "The stable chaplain is the same yesterday, today and tomorrow regardless. . . . It's all about being there when you are needed."

Marvin Effa, a police chaplain from Plano, said the chief's comments were "awesome."

"I think the comments about the concept of durability were right on the mark. I have been working for Plano over 10 years, and every one of his points rings true."

During brief comments to the group, Judge Vandergriff praised the chaplains for their work.

"You render a valuable service for our law enforcement personnel," the judge said. "You make a tremendous difference in the lives of so many men and women."

Sheriff Anderson said: "It is such a comfort to me as a law enforcement person that there are people we can lean on in times of trouble."

Sheriff Anderson was spokesman for the Arlington Police Department before being elected to his current post in November. He praised his former colleague, Arlington Police Department Chaplain Harold Elliott, for his contributions to the spiritual well-being of others.

"I thought in Arlington we were the only ones with a salty chaplain like Harold Elliott," Sheriff Anderson said. "Sometimes it takes that in this job."

Mr. Odom said the conference's turnout impressed him.

"Never have I see this many chaplains," the mayor said, eliciting warm laughter from the audience. "I didn't know we had this many chaplains in the world."

Ben Tinsley can be reached at btinsley@dallasnews.com or 817-436-4155.

Load-Date: February 28, 2001

End of Document

**[INSIDE THE GREAT ESCAPE; RANDY HALPRIN AND GEORGE RIVAS
DISCUSS TEXAS SEVEN'S ESCAPE FROM JAIL AND TIME
FOLLOWING ESCAPE](#)**

ABC NEWS PRIMETIME THURSDAY (10:00 PM ET)

February 1, 2001, Thursday

Copyright 2001 American Broadcasting Companies, Inc.

Section: Interview



Length: 2977 words

Body

INSIDE THE GREAT ESCAPE

DIANE SAWYER, co-host:

Good evening. We're glad to have you with us and we lead tonight with a story right out of the headlines.

CHARLES GIBSON, co-host:

It's a story that everyone followed. And tonight, you'll see something that you won't see anywhere else, a fascinating inside account of the escape of the Texas Seven. For the first time, ringleader George Rivas and his second in command, Randy Halprin, tell how they broke out of prison, went on a crime rampage which included the brutal murder of a police officer and eluded capture for 41 days. Senior correspondent Chris Wallace with new details from INSIDE THE GREAT ESCAPE.

CHRIS WALLACE reporting:

(VO) Randy Halprin comes into a room in the Teller County jail still limping from a gunshot wound he suffered during the murder of a policeman. But as Halprin describes his six weeks as one of the most wanted men in America, he makes it sound like an innocent idea gone bad.

Mr. RANDY HALPRIN: The whole deal with the Texas Seven and it becoming notorious and infamous and--and going down in the books as these seven--seven guys, that wasn't my picture of us, you know? All I wanted was just--just another chance at life.

WALLACE: (VO) This week, Halprin and the leader of the gang, George Rivas, took us inside the Texas Seven, providing new information beginning with the breakout. Halprin says the seven men had been plotting their escape from the Connally Unit for six months and had found holes in security. He says a truck was always left unattended, just outside the maintenance shop where six of them worked. And the back of the prison, he says, was also vulnerable.

Mr. HALPRIN: We had monitored the activity on the--the back gate. And noticed that they were letting trucks come in and out, in and out without ever once stopping to--to look for an ID or anything.

WALLACE: Mr. Halprin, you're talking about a maximum security prison. You make it sound like a drive-thru.

Mr. HALPRIN: It was--it was after spending a year there. It was--it was really a joke.

WALLACE: A joke?

Mr. HALPRIN: It was a joke.

WALLACE: (VO) Last night the leader of the gang, George Rivas, phoned us from jail. He has been called the most dangerous man in Texas, but there's no longer much bravado.

Mr. GEORGE RIVAS: Just a man with no hope and being desperate and using everything within my mental capabilities to be free.



WALLACE: (VO) Halprin says Rivas was the mastermind, always two or three steps ahead of the action.

(OC) Were you, in fact, the mastermind behind the breakout?

Mr. RIVAS: I don't seek no title or nothing. It was just seven friends who wanted to get out. And I had the plan for it.

WALLACE: (VO) Halprin says it was Rivas who put together the Texas Seven. That he went to church with Joe Garcia and Larry Harper, that he approached Michael Rodriguez, Donald Newbury and Patrick Murphy because their work assignments gave them information about prison operations Rivas could use. Halprin, the youngest at 23, was a friend. December 13th, the day of the breakout, and the operation goes as planned. The Texas Seven overpowering 11 employees and three inmates as they return from lunch. Halprin says he is just a lookout who helps tie up one maintenance worker.

(OC) Never roughed up anybody?

Mr. HALPRIN: No, sir.

WALLACE: Never hit somebody with one of those steel rods?

Mr. HALPRIN: No, sir.

WALLACE: Only thing you did was tie up one guy.

Mr. HALPRIN: One guy.

Mr. ALEJANDRO MARROQUIN: Kicking me, punching me like if it was, you know, having another fun day in a park.

WALLACE: (VO) Prison guard Alejandro Marroquin, his face still swollen weeks later, says there was plenty of violence as he was taken hostage. And he says Randy Halprin was in the middle of it.

Mr. MARROQUIN: He might have said that he didn't do anything, but I saw him slam a supervisor's head to the ground, almost breaking his nose.

WALLACE: (VO) Halprin also denies he left behind a defiant note that said, quote, "You haven't heard the last of us yet." Instead, he says his letter called for inmates to stand up for their rights.

Mr. LARRY TODD: The people, the viewing people and the people that read newspapers have got the intellect to know what kind of slimeballs these people really are.

WALLACE: (VO) Larry Todd, a spokesman for the Texas prison system, doesn't have much use for these inmates who he says are now trying either minimize their role or show remorse. He notes that Halprin was serving 30 years for brutally beating a baby. And Rivas, 18 life sentences for armed robbery and kidnapping.

Mr. TODD: Look at who these people are, consider the source. They're convicts who are not successful and they're not going to be successful when they return to the courtroom.

WALLACE: (VO) But they are successful at breaking out of prison. During the escape, Halprin is hiding in the back of the truck as it clears the rear gate.

(OC) This was almost, at least it seems to us, a military operation.



Mr. HALPRIN: That--that was George's idea. He wanted to be almost like out of a movie because I used to even call it Hollywood. And he use to go, 'Well, you'll see Hollywood.'

WALLACE: (VO) What they see next in a Wal-Mart parking lot two miles away is even better. A surveillance camera from an ATM machine captures the scene. The white prison truck driving through the lot. They stop by this Suburban, a getaway car that has been left for them. Rivas says another escapee, he won't say who, arranged for it in letters from prison, using a code.

Mr. RIVAS: It was something dealing with a birthday gift.

WALLACE: The birthday gift would be there.

Mr. RIVAS: Mm-hmm.

WALLACE: Which meant that the truck would be there in that shopping center.

Mr. RIVAS: Yes, sir.

WALLACE: (VO) That first day, the inmates say they drive from prison to a cheap motel in San Antonio. Two days later authorities say two of them, including Rivas, rob a Radio Shack in Pearland, stealing \$ 1700 in cash and equipment including 12 police scanners. Then they move on to Houston, where law enforcement now believes they rob an auto parts store stealing another thousand dollars.

(OC) Mr. Halprin, two questions that I think everyone has asked. One, why didn't you go to Mexico?

Mr. HALPRIN: No one had any intentions of going to Mexico. That--we knew that that would probably be a heavily checked border, that if, especially if an escapee had gotten out, that would be one of the first places they checked. So we just left it alone.

WALLACE: (VO) We asked Rivas the other question, why the Texas Seven never split up.

Mr. RIVAS: No money, no food, no clothing, so we stuck together until we--I personally made sure that all of us were taken care of, at least. Everyone had a set of clothes, a little bit of money and the main thing was ID.

WALLACE: Now, the way to take care of everyone was to do some more robberies, correct?

Mr. RIVAS: Yes, sir.

WALLACE: (VO) The fugitives are now in Houston. But Halprin says he can't enjoy his freedom, even after 4 1/2 years in prison.

(OC) Did you go meet women?

Mr. HALPRIN: No, sir.

WALLACE: After years in prison.

Mr. HALPRIN: Yes, sir.

WALLACE: Why not?

Mr. HALPRIN: That was the last thing on my mind.



WALLACE: What was on your mind?

Mr. HALPRIN: To obtain an ID and start my own life.

WALLACE: Did you go to the movies?

Mr. HALPRIN: We did go to a movie theater one time in Houston.

WALLACE: So see what?

Mr. HALPRIN: "The Cell."

WALLACE: You break out of prison and you want to see a movie called "The Cell"?

Mr. HALPRIN: Yes, sir.

WALLACE: (VO) By the way, "The Cell" is a thriller with Jennifer Lopez playing a scientist able to get inside the mind of a serial killer. Much has been made of Rivas' long career as a criminal, but Halprin is an unlikely member of the Texas Seven. He grew up in this middle class suburb of Dallas, got involved with drugs and credit card fraud but not with violence. **Bill Waybourn**, the town's chief of public safety, says as a teenager Halprin began to fantasize about being an outlaw.

Mr. **BILL WAYBOURN**: Him and his girlfriend playing the role of Bonnie and Clyde and--and, you know, going across the country, you know, robbing and pillaging and that type of thing. He wanted to be famous, he wanted to be important, he wanted to be remembered.

WALLACE: (VO) In '96, Halprin beat his girlfriend's baby and ended up with 30 years. But he told us those long sentences aren't fair because people change in prison.

Mr. HALPRIN: If they've shown that they deserve a second chance, then I believe they should be given a second chance.

WALLACE: (VO) That may have been his thinking as the Texas Seven were on their way to Dallas. What lay ahead was not a second chance, but another robbery and a brutal murder.

GIBSON: When we come back, life on the run and how the Texas Seven stayed ahead of the law.

Announcer: Honor among thieves. Looking out for each other, transforming themselves as they head north.

WALLACE: Your faces were plastered all over America. Anybody ever say to you, 'Hey, you look familiar?'

Mr. HALPRIN: Not once.

Announcer: When PRIMETIME continues.

(Commercial break)

SAWYER: We return now to our exclusive account from the inside of the Texas Seven and their life on the run. By now, they need more supplies. So George Rivas gets down to work, meticulously planning another heist, but, as senior correspondent Chris Wallace tells us, something is about to go terribly, tragically wrong.

WALLACE: (VO) Christmas Eve and the Texas Seven are about to pull off their biggest score yet. Robbing this Oshman's Sporting Goods store in Irving, Texas. Randy Halprin says their aim is simple, almost benign.



Mr. HALPRIN: One of the--the main--main goals was to get some clothing and tennis shoes in the sports goods store and also whatever money they had there. Now, it's not like we went out of our ways to--to just create problems.

WALLACE: (VO) But Wes Ferris, the manager on duty that night describes a terrifying scene. He says he's closing the store when George Rivas puts a gun to his chest, warning him not to resist.

Mr. WES FERRIS: And he said, 'Don't try it. Don't try it, Wes. If you do, I'll have to kill you. And if I kill you, I'll have to kill everybody. I'm not leaving any witnesses.'

WALLACE: (VO) The Texas Seven steal almost \$ 100,000 in cash and 44 guns and rifles. They herd employees into a back room where they tie them up and rob them.

(OC) Bottom line, Mr. Ferris, did you have any doubts that if any of you decided that you were going to resist these guys...

Mr. FERRIS: There was no doubt in my mind that if somebody tried something, if somebody would have just flinched out of nervousness a little bit and turned around, made a sudden movement, that we would all have been killed right then and there.

WALLACE: (VO) And the Texas Seven are just about to kill. Irving police officer Aubrey Hawkins, responding to a report of a robbery, drives to the back door alone. Halprin says he starts running for the getaway car, while some of the others start shooting.

Mr. HALPRIN: It was just a mess after that.

WALLACE: What do you mean a mess?

Mr. HALPRIN: You know, there's just, you know, a lot of shots being fired. I got shot in the foot. I believe George Rivas was shot.

WALLACE: Did you ever shoot Officer Hawkins?

Mr. HALPRIN: No, sir, I did not.

WALLACE: (VO) Rivas and Halprin are hit, apparently by other escapees, because Officer Hawkins never fires a shot. Rivas says he approaches the policeman, his gun blazing.

Mr. RIVAS: The first two shots I fired were warning shots. It was into his vest. I was trying to scream at him to get him to raise his hands. He wouldn't. I got shot and I know I fired three rounds into the vehicle. I'm not going to lie and say I didn't know what I was doing, but I did see white. I just saw, like, white flashes in my face.

WALLACE: (VO) Halprin says it doesn't end there for Officer Hawkins.

Mr. HALPRIN: I did see Michael Rodriguez pull him out of his car. He only later told me what he had did.

WALLACE: And what did he say he had done?

Mr. HALPRIN: He said that he had shot him in the head two times.

WALLACE: This poor officer was shot 11 times, 6 times in the head, run over. It doesn't get much more cold blooded than that, does it?



Mr. HALPRIN: It--it's very cold blooded, yes, sir.

WALLACE: After the brutal murder of Aubrey Hawkins, everything changed for the Texas Seven. Randy Halprin told us that the men knew the search for them would now become even more intense. Before they had embarrassed law enforcement officers, now they had killed one.

(VO) The fugitives decide they better leave Texas fast, treating their gunshot wounds themselves with supplies from a drugstore. Driving north they hit a bad snowstorm near Amarillo. They decide to head for Pueblo, Colorado, eventually ending up in Woodland Park. Along the way, they abandon one of their getaway cars, making what seems an unlikely choice.

Mr. HALPRIN: One was given to a church, the small blue Honda was donated to a church.

WALLACE: (VO) Meanwhile, the manhunt for the Texas Seven is national news, with reported sightings from Texas to New York City.

PETER JENNINGS reporting:

(From file footage) Good evening, we're going to begin tonight with the Texas Seven.

Unidentified Reporter #1: It looks like one of the seven escapees from the Kennedy unit in south Texas has been spotted near here.

WALLACE: (VO) Halprin says the gang laughs at their notoriety.

Mr. HALPRIN: People saying that they saw us checking out banks and--and checking out certain stores and this and that. We were never there.

WALLACE: Your faces were plastered all over America.

Mr. HALPRIN: Yes, sir.

WALLACE: Anybody ever say to you, 'Hey, you look familiar'?

Mr. HALPRIN: Not once.

WALLACE: (VO) It's not surprising. This is the picture police distributed of Halprin. But when he's arrested he has longer hair and a goatee. Rivas also looks different. His hair is died blond. The Texas Seven settle in this RV park for what would be their last three weeks at large, passing themselves off as a group of traveling Christians. But a split develops. Some want to continue their crime spree, while Rivas says he applies for a job as a butcher in Denver. Halprin has his own ideas.

Mr. HALPRIN: I had planned to actually take a Greyhound to Seattle. That's where I planned on going myself.

WALLACE: What were you going to do when you got there?

Mr. HALPRIN: Start my own life. Get a minimum wage job and work--work my way up from there.

WALLACE: (VO) But the drama of the Texas Seven is about to end. The owners of the RV camp see the gang's pictures on TV and tip off authorities. On January 22nd, at this gas station, a 12-man SWAT team surprises Rivas and two others sitting in their car.



Mr. RIVAS: They completely surround us. I was going to stomp on the accelerator, and I just gave a second thought like someone else is going to get hurt here on the road.

WALLACE: But it hadn't stopped you at Oshman's.

Mr. RIVAS: It stopped me afterwards, sir. It changed everything. But there was this one police officer standing in front of the truck with a AR 15 pointed at my chest.

WALLACE: (VO) Holed up in their trailer, Halprin and Larry Harper hear about the arrest on their police scanner. When Halprin looks outside, he sees they're surrounded and decides to give up. Harper would kill himself.

(OC) You stepped out, you surrendered and it was over. What did you feel?

Mr. HALPRIN: I--I--I kind of felt betrayed, I guess you could say, by God at the time.

WALLACE: Betrayed by God?

Mr. HALPRIN: Yes. I know, it sounds awkward. But I had felt that--in my heart I actually believed that I was being given a second chance.

Mr. WAYBOURN: Randy's a good liar, he's a good con man.

WALLACE: (VO) Chief **Bill Waybourn** doesn't buy Halprin's talk about wanting a second chance so he could go straight.

Mr. WAYBOURN: I don't put any regard on that at all. I think that he wanted out of jail is what I think he wanted.

WALLACE: (VO) Today Rivas was sent back to Texas and the others will likely follow soon. All could face the death penalty for their role in the Hawkins' murder.

(OC) Do you expect to be executed for what you did?

Mr. RIVAS: I absolutely deserve it, sir. Yes, sir.

WALLACE: Why do you say you deserve it?

Mr. RIVAS: A life for a life, sir.

WALLACE: Are you afraid to die?

Mr. RIVAS: Honestly, sir, there is a fear, of course. But I would rather die a young man than to die an old man in prison.

WALLACE: You realize in--almost certainly you will be sent back to Texas and you could be executed.

Mr. HALPRIN: Yes, sir.

WALLACE: Are you ready for that?

Mr. HALPRIN: I'm trying to prepare myself for that. It's just something I think about every day and, you know, struggle with every day.



WALLACE: Are you afraid to die?

Mr. HALPRIN: I'm afraid. I'm not going to lie. Very afraid to die. Dying on--on--on someone else's terms and not on my own, you know.

WALLACE: I'm sure the family of Officer Hawkins is watching tonight and they're going to say, 'You know what? Aubrey didn't die on his terms.'

Mr. HALPRIN: That's--they--and they have every right to--to--to feel that way. They really do.

Mr. STEVENS: As for Randy Halprin's charge that fellow Texas Seven member Michael Rodriguez shot Officer Hawkins, we tried to reach Rodriguez's attorney, he did not return our calls. We'll be back.

Announcer: A husband's unimaginable act of revenge against the wife who left him.

SYLVIA CHASE reporting:

How could a father do that?

Announcer: And why didn't anyone stop him? When PRIMETIME returns.

(Commercial break)

Announcer: One wild night in Las Vegas. Couples stampeding across the desert, desperate to get married by midnight. Why the rush? A story of love and war. But first...

Unidentified Reporter #2: Did you do this, sir?

Announcer: A husband, a wife and a diabolical revenge, when PRIMETIME THURSDAY continues after this from our ABC stations.

(Commercial break)

Load-Date: February 2, 2001

End of Document

**[Fugitives' story unfolding;
Suspected leader admitted killing officer, police say;
Van found; whereabouts of pair 'anybody's guess'](#)**

The Dallas Morning News

January 24, 2001, Wednesday, FIRST EDITION

Copyright 2001 The Dallas Morning News

Section: NEWS;

Length: 1443 words

Byline: Scott Parks, Jennifer Emily



Dateline: DIVIDE, Colo.

Body

DIVIDE, Colo. - Texas and federal officials maneuvered Tuesday to bring four captured fugitives - including at least one who police say is an admitted cop-killer - back to Texas swiftly to stand trial on murder charges.

Armed robber George Rivas, believed to be the leader of the group and the architect of the Christmas Eve robbery that ended the life of Irving police Officer Aubrey Hawkins, has admitted his role in the officer's death, authorities said.

"Statements have been made to that effect, yes," said Irving police spokesman David Tull, declining to say whether any of the other escapees fired shots in the robbery of an Oshman's Super Sports USA in Irving.

Two other escapees continued to elude capture after abandoning their van, which had been described exhaustively in the national news media, near a motel on an interstate highway in Colorado Springs.

Staff Writers

The seventh fugitive killed himself Monday rather than surrender. Authorities revealed Tuesday that he left a suicide note addressed to his father. They did not describe its contents.

In Colorado, Teller County Sheriff Frank Fehn confirmed that the captives have given information about their escape and subsequent crimes.

"I hear they have cooperated. I can't say all of them have, but there have been admissions of guilt to the murder and the robbery at Oshman's," he said.

Authorities also confirmed something police had deduced: that two of the accused killers were wounded in the robbery. Investigators found their blood inside a getaway car the robbers were using.

Mr. Rivas suffered gunshot wounds in the stomach and thigh, Officer Tull said Tuesday. Randy Halprin is recovering from a gunshot wound to the foot. The officer gave no information about the severity of the wounds.

Mr. Rivas, Mr. Halprin, Joseph Garcia and Michael Rodriguez were advised of their rights Tuesday in a hearing conducted via closed-circuit television. They were at the Teller County Jail in the town of Divide; the judge was in Cripple Creek.

Teller County Judge Jackson Peters ordered the four held without bail and scheduled individual appearances for them on Thursday and Friday. The four, whose court-appointed lawyer was with them, were advised that they could fight extradition back to Texas and present testimony and witnesses during a hearing. Judge Peters also told the defendants that they could waive their right to fight extradition.

Assistant District Attorney David Gilbert said extradition charges, which require a warrant from the governor, would be filed in the next two days.

"I'm just ready to go back to Texas," said Mr. Rodriguez, 38, a convicted murderer.

During the hearing, the four could be seen on the TV monitor. Mr. Rivas, with newly dyed blond hair, was bowing his head. He buried his head in his hands several times and was handed a tissue by someone off-camera.



The four convicts are housed in a single "pod" within the jail but are in separate cells with empty cells between them. They are not allowed visitors and are let out of their cells only to shower, with several guards in attendance.

Federal charges of fleeing across state lines and violating firearms laws will be dropped, authorities said. The four captives will face state capital murder charges in Texas. They will be tried in Dallas County, unless they seek and win a change of venue. Prosecutors have said they will seek the death penalty if the four are convicted.

Delays possible

Authorities said how quickly the fugitives are returned to Texas will depend partly on whether they fight extradition.

"If the defendants waive the extradition process, it can happen quickly," said Tom Strickland, a federal prosecutor in Denver.

Federal agents have recovered 23 of the 44 weapons stolen from Oshman's and 14 of the 16 weapons stolen from the Connally Unit in South Texas during the fugitives' Dec. 13 breakout, said Tom Crowley, a special agent with the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms.

Not among those guns, he said, was Officer Hawkins' duty weapon, which someone took from his body.

The weapons were found in the motor home where the escapees had been living in Woodland Park, Colo., and in two vehicles they had been using, he said. No guns were found in the van abandoned by the two remaining fugitives, Donald Keith Newbury and Patrick Henry Murphy Jr.

In the van police did find photos of the escapees with disguises they have adopted while on the lam. Searchers also found a receipt from a Motel 6 near where the van was discovered.

The maroon Econoline van was parked behind the Hungry Farmer restaurant. Wilma David, the restaurant's baker for 20 years, noticed it when she arrived for work just before 6 a.m.

Ms. David and a few other employees peered in the windows of the van and saw the keys inside and white window blinds on the floor. They also spotted duffel bags, a map, a CD player, half-empty 7-Eleven coffee cups and Just For Men-brand hair dye.

"What sold it for me was the hair color," said David Martinez, a cook at the Hungry Farmer. At least two of the four escapees captured Monday had dyed their hair, authorities said.

The restaurant's manager called police around 8 a.m.

Police did not see Mr. Murphy or Mr. Newbury.

Even so, the discovery of the van "has helped us focus our efforts," said Mark Mershon, the special agent who heads the Colorado FBI.

'Anybody's guess'

However, said Lt. Skip Arms of the Colorado Springs Police Department, "The downside is, we're not sure what they're in now or where they are. At this point it's anybody's guess."



As dozens of officers followed scores of leads, others meticulously searched the motor home where the fugitives had lived since Jan. 1.

The Teller County coroner, Deb Smith, said the quarters must have been cramped, containing only two twin beds and a sofa.

"I would have thought it was too small unless they were sleeping in shifts," she said.

Mr. Harper, the fugitive who killed himself, was found near the back of the motor home, in a hallway by the bathroom, she said. She said he had two gunshot wounds to the chest. Both bullets pierced his heart. One lodged in his spine.

The note he left was sitting on top of an open Bible with a pen, a pair of glasses and a prayer book, she said. It was addressed to his father and other family members.

Police began rounding up the suspects Monday morning, after receiving a tip Sunday night that they were staying in the Coachlight Motel and R.V. Park. Three escapees - Mr. Rivas, Mr. Garcia and Mr. Rodriguez - were arrested after they drove into the town of Woodland Park.

Mr. Halprin stepped outside the trailer and was caught by officers who had slipped into the park in Sheriff Fehn's personal RV. But Mr. Harper chose death rather than capture.

Mr. Murphy and Mr. Newbury were not around. The captured fugitives said they had left sometime earlier, perhaps Sunday afternoon or evening, because they disagreed with a plan to seek work in the area rather than keep on running.

The escapees' trail

Mac Stringfellow, chairman of the Texas Board of Criminal Justice, said the seven escapees apparently roamed "all over" Texas before heading for Colorado. He said authorities were investigating crimes that the fugitives may have committed in that time.

At least two of those crimes are in Colorado. One is the armed robbery of a McDonald's in Colorado Springs. The other, which took place in a county adjoining the fugitives' Woodland Park hideout, is a triple homicide.

The bodies of Carl Dutcher, 60, and his wife, JoAnna, 58, were found in their mobile home near Guffey, Colo., on Jan. 3. The body of their grandson, 15-year-old Anthony Dutcher, was discovered in a lean-to where he'd been camping about 200 feet behind the home.

"We are going to be wanting to talk to them," Park County Sheriff Fred Wegener said of the Texas captives. "We have no motive for the crime. ... These guys certainly are capable of such a heinous act."

Meanwhile, the fugitives continued to strike fear into one Texas family. Dalworthington Gardens Police Chief **Bill Waybourn** said Tuesday that Mr. Halprin's parents remain in hiding, even though he has been captured.

The parents, who live in Dalworthington Gardens, went into hiding shortly after the escape and remain leery with two convicts on the loose.

"I don't suspect they'll come home for a while," the chief said.



Staff writers Holly Becka, Tony Hartzel, Victoria Loe Hicks, Diane Jennings, David McLemore, Colleen McCain Nelson, Bruce Nichols and Ed Timms and The Associated Press contributed to this report.

Graphic

PHOTO(S): 1. (ANDY SCOTT/Staff Photographer) A SWAT team member and an FBI agent investigate the van found abandoned behind a restaurant in Colorado Springs, Colo. 2. (MICHAEL MULVEY/Staff Photographer) An old barbed-wire fence surrounds the Teller County Jail in Divide, Colo., where the four captured inmates are being held. 3. Joseph C. Garcia. 4. Randy Ethan halprin. 5. George Rivas. 6. Michael Anthony Rodriguez. MAP(S): (Staff Graphic) ESCAPEE EVENTS. CHART(S): THE FOUR IN CUSTODY: WHAT'S NEXT.

Load-Date: January 25, 2001

End of Document

[Fugitives' capture relieves residents; Halprin, 3 others await extradition to Texas](#)

The Dallas Morning News

January 23, 2001, Tuesday

Copyright 2001 The Dallas Morning News

Section: ARLINGTON MORNING NEWS; NEWS;

Length: 1179 words

Byline: Patrick Wascovich, Lori Price

Dateline: DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS

Body

DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS - **Bill Waybourn**, hand held aloft, stopped his answer in mid-sentence late Monday afternoon.

A television perched to the left of his desk was filtering in another vital bit of information on the situation in Colorado, and the Dalworthington Gardens police chief wasn't going to miss it.

The news was grim. One of the so-called Connally Seven had killed himself while holed up in a Woodland Park, Colo., motor home park 50 miles southwest of Denver.

Staff Writers of the Arlington Morning News



But the report also confirmed that 23-year-old Randy Halprin, who grew up in the close-knit Dalworthington Gardens community, was among the four convicts captured alive by police.

Chief Waybourn's jaw muscles, steely tense during the flash telecast, finally relaxed. He turned back and answered the query.

"My reaction is that of extreme relief, both personally and professionally," he said. "I'm tickled to death that no one in law enforcement was hurt. So far, so good."

Mr. Halprin is the adoptive son of Dan and Pat Halprin, and Chief Waybourn has been a family friend for 13 years. The Halprins, who adopted four children, left the area with their two junior-high age children soon after the escape from the Connally Unit near Kenedy, Texas.

The family remains out of touch with neighbors, except for a few close friends, including the chief.

"Their world has been turned upside down," Chief Waybourn said. "I talked to Dan this morning and his computer business allows him to operate from anywhere. I don't think they're going to come back very quickly."

Randy Halprin and the three other men who were captured will be extradited to Texas. They will face trial, probably in Dallas County, for the Christmas Eve slaying of Irving police Officer Aubrey Hawkins during the robbery of an Oshman's sporting goods store, officials said.

Officer Hawkins' mother said the capture of the four escapees made them "real to me."

"Before they were captured, they were just a bunch of ugly faces on television. . . . But if they're caught, that means they're real," Jayne Hawkins said.

A fifth escapee, Larry Harper, committed suicide while the FBI negotiated for his surrender.

Two escapees, rapist Patrick Murphy Jr. and armed robber Donald Newbury, remained at large late Monday. Police said they left the gang's Rocky Mountain hideout sometime before authorities began staking it out at about 2 a.m. Monday.

The FBI and sheriff's officers began watching the fugitives' trailer after receiving a tip Sunday evening from the manager of the Coachlight, a motel and mobile home park, said Teller County Sheriff Frank Fehn.

The manager phoned police after seeing the fugitives' photos on the television program America's Most Wanted.

Chief Waybourn said the situation had been tense in Dalworthington Gardens since the convicts' Dec. 13 escape. It was heightened after Officer Hawkins was gunned down.

Law enforcement agencies across the country went on alert during the manhunt, and there had been persistent rumors of Mr. Halprin returning to Dalworthington Gardens.

"Our officers had to prepare for immediate action," Chief Waybourn said. "I always thought it would come down to who saw who first. It would have been seven against one if they got the jump on an officer.

"The thought had to be, 'I'm going to survive this because I'm going to be outgunned from the start.' "

In Arlington, parents at Gunn Junior High School - where the Halprins' two youngest children were enrolled - said they were relieved that Randy Halprin had been arrested.



Security at Gunn had been increased for weeks.

Vanessa Bingham, whose 13-year-old son, Christopher, attends Gunn, said she is glad Mr. Halprin has been caught.

"You know, the whole time you're wondering why can't they find them," she said Monday while waiting to pick up her son after school.

Christopher, and his sisters Allison, 8, and Courtney, 10, slept on their mother's bedroom floor for a few nights after learning about Mr. Halprin's local connection.

"My sister was freaked out," Allison said.

Karla Smith, whose son D.J. is a seventh-grader at Gunn, said she wasn't worried. "I felt safer because I knew about the extra security," she said.

Vicki Stanley never even knew her 12-year-old son, Jason, might have been in danger.

"I didn't even know about [Mr. Halprin's] two siblings or the increased security," she said. "I noticed it and wondered why there were so many cops here. I asked my son and he said he didn't know why."

Still, Ms. Stanley said she's glad officials took precautions until Mr. Halprin was back in custody.

"It's good to know that they were trying to make the school safer for my son and the other kids," she said.

Many Dalworthington Gardens residents also were relieved by Monday's news.

"They were definitely desperate men," said Melvin Schneider, 66. "Their escape had to be part of a long-range deal."

Mr. Schneider has lived in Dalworthington Gardens for 33 years. His house is within 200 yards of the Halprins' current home.

"I can't say we were overly concerned about it all the time, but the one we were most concerned about has been captured," he said.

Bill and Jeanine Love, who lived near the street where Randy Halprin grew up, retired to the East Texas community of Grand Saline in 1995. They were back in town doing yardwork Monday and lamented the town's loss of innocence.

"We didn't lock the shed, let alone your front door. Didn't need to," said Mr. Love, who lived in Dalworthington Gardens for 45 years.

"Most of the older ones have moved away," Mrs. Love said. "It makes you think. You don't want to live next door to anyone who is a criminal."

Chief Waybourn said security measures had put his force at "110 percent" alert for more than 40 days since the prison escape. The Dalworthington Gardens police force includes 10 full-time officers and about 20 volunteers.

Police worked additional hours, received special weapons training, and randomly patrolled the neighborhoods where Mr. Halprin grew up and where the family now lives.



Penny Felton, an American Airlines flight attendant who lives one block south of the Halprins' current home, said she hadn't noticed more police patrols in the area.

The \$ 500,000 reward may have helped crack the case, Ms. Felton said.

"I always thought they had a tight plan," she said of the seven, whose crimes included murder, rape and armed robbery.

"They were very careful. I was never particularly worried about them coming here, but I'm not surprised they were still together. If they separated, there would be more of a chance for a slip-up somewhere."

The chief said Randy Halprin used all of his character attributes for evil. His adoptive family couldn't rescue him from an early life of neglect, abuse and criminal activity.

"I've known Randy for 13 years," he said. "He is bright, intelligent and he has the ability to manipulate the situation to his best interest. And Randy's interest always was his own."

The Dallas Morning News contributed to this report.

Graphic

PHOTO(S): 1. (Arlington Morning News: Brad Loper) Dalworthington Gardens Police Chief **Bill Waybourn** learned from television reports that Randy Halprin, who grew up in the city, had been captured alive in Colorado. "My reaction is that of extreme relief, both personally and professionally," he said. 2. Randy Halprin.

Load-Date: February 2, 2001

End of Document

COPS NAB 4 OF TEXAS 7; ANOTHER KILLS HIMSELF

Chicago Tribune

January 23, 2001 Tuesday, CHICAGO SPORTS FINAL EDITION

Copyright 2001 Chicago Tribune Company

Section: NEWS; ZONE: N; Pg. 1

Length: 982 words

Byline: By Judith Graham, Tribune Staff Writer. Tribune news services contributed to this report

Dateline: DENVER

Body



After a nationwide manhunt lasting almost six weeks, four notorious Texas prison escapees were captured Monday by police in a mountain town at the base of Pike's Peak, and a fifth killed himself rather than be taken captive.

Two other escaped convicts described as "highly dangerous" were still at large. Police said they were believed to be well-armed and driving a brown or maroon 1975 converted Ford van with temporary tags.

"This story is by no means over," said Mark Mershan, the FBI's lead agent in Colorado.

The seven escapees had been living in a small trailer park in Woodland Park when they were reportedly identified by a viewer of Saturday night's television broadcast of "America's Most Wanted."

The Dec. 13 prison break by the seven convicts has provoked a flurry of recriminations and investigations into Texas prison management.

After the escape, the fugitives apparently stayed together and are suspected in two armed robberies, including a Dec. 24 heist at a sporting goods store in Irving, Texas, where Police Officer Aubrey Hawkins was killed.

The group nature of the daring escape was unusual, as most escaped convicts act alone. Their apparent decision to stay together in hiding is striking. How they pulled it off is a mystery, though authorities are beginning to piece together the escapees' activities through interviews with the four captives.

The tip that appears to have uncovered their whereabouts was received Sunday afternoon from a resident of the Coachlight trailer park in Woodland Park, just off U.S. Highway 24, not far from Colorado Springs and the Air Force Academy. FBI agents, U.S. marshals and local police began a stakeout at the wooded trailer park early Sunday evening.

Around 10 a.m. Monday, authorities took George Rivas, 30, Michael Rodriguez, 38, and Joseph Garcia, 29, into custody after following them by car to a convenience store, according to Kevin Dougherty of the Teller County Sheriff's office. Rivas, previously described as charismatic and dangerous, was believed to be the ringleader.

The three escapees put up no resistance, and no shots were fired, Dougherty said.

Soon after, a fourth convict, Randy Halprin, 23, walked out of the recreational vehicle where the group had been living and surrendered, Dougherty said.

At around 12:45 p.m., a gunshot was heard from inside the vehicle. When police entered two hours later, they found Larry Harper, 37, dead with a gunshot wound to his chest, according to FBI agent Philip Altpeter. Harper, a convicted rapist, reportedly had wanted to talk to his father but committed suicide before authorities could make arrangements.

The two convicts still at large, Donald Newbury, 38, and Patrick Murphy Jr., 39, may have remained in Woodland Park as late as 2 a.m. Monday, Altpeter said.

"Everyone is shocked, amazed that they would come in this direction," said Sandy Pogue, classifieds manager at the Ute Pass Courier, a weekly newspaper in the town. "And I guess we're all kind of scared."

Schools in Colorado Springs and nearby Manitou Springs were locked down Monday, and several Woodland Park businesses were closed as panic engulfed the town of about 7,500 residents.



John Pacheco, superintendent of Woodland Park Public Schools, said it was unnerving to think about the fugitives staying in the town. "It's kind of scary that they would've been here kind of undetected all that time," he told The New York Times. "Why here of all places?"

Residents of the Woodland RV Park next door said the Coachlight attracts itinerant workers, and that seven strangers wouldn't necessarily arouse suspicion.

"You could blend in pretty easy up there," Woodland resident Rick Zelinka said.

As news stations broadcast information about the capture and the reinvigorated manhunt, tips poured in to law-enforcement offices. Police in Texas and Colorado were on a state of high alert.

A state trooper who was present at the convenience store when three of the fugitives were caught said Rivas admitted to the Christmas Eve slaying of Hawkins and expressed remorse.

Rivas "stated that he had a change of heart, change of life and he wanted this to end," State Patrol Trooper Eric Zachareas told The Associated Press.

Rivas and another inmate had dyed their hair in an apparent attempt to avoid scrutiny, Zachareas said. He also said some of the fugitives may have been at a Colorado Springs bar late Saturday.

At the Coachlight trailer park, which includes a hotel, one woman told a Dallas television station that she received a call from police sometime after 4 a.m. Monday warning her, "Stay in your house. Do not come out. We want you to be safe."

The woman said the group of men had been living in the area for about three weeks, and that she had joked with them on Sunday as they worked on a Toyota sport-utility vehicle, urging them to get out more and meet her friends.

Local police said they could not yet confirm the eyewitness account.

The December escape from Connally state prison in Kenedy, 50 miles south of San Antonio, has raised questions in Texas. The group hoodwinked guards, then overpowered them and drove away in a prison vehicle with 14 pistols, a rifle, a shotgun and 200 rounds of ammunition. A few days later, they committed the first of two armed robberies. The second robbery, on Christmas Eve in Irving, resulted in the policeman's death.

A state review blamed the escape on prison workers; a warden has since been demoted and other employees were disciplined.

The AP reported that the parents of Halprin, the youngest fugitive, were grateful when they learned of his capture, said **Bill Waybourn**, a family friend and chief of police in the Ft. Worth suburb where Halprin grew up.

"They're obviously so relieved that no other police officers or innocent people were hurt, and extremely relieved that this thing looks like it's going to wind down fairly peaceful--answered prayers, to be exact," he said.

Graphic



PHOTOS 8 GRAPHICPHOTO: Colorado Trooper Eric Zachareas briefs the media after Monday's capture. He said one captive admitted to killing a police officer. AP photo by Ed Andreiski.

PHOTO: (Joseph) Garcia, captured.

PHOTO: (George) Rivas, captured.

PHOTO: (Randy) Halprin, surrendered.

PHOTO: (Larry) Harper, dead.

PHOTO: (Michael) Rodriguez, captured.

PHOTO: (Donald) Newbury, at large.

PHOTO: (Patrick) Murphy, at large.

GRAPHIC: Hunt ends for 5 of 7 escapees from Texas prison

Trail of Texas escapees

Source: Associated Press, news reports.

Chicago Tribune.

- See microfilm for complete graphic.

Load-Date: January 23, 2001

End of Document

**[Four prison escapees captured in Colorado;
1 FUGITIVE KILLS HIMSELF; SEARCH CONTINUES FOR 2 OTHERS
Relatives relieved most of 7 in custody](#)**

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

January 23, 2001, Tuesday, FINAL EDITION

Copyright 2001 Star-Telegram Newspaper, Inc.

Section: NEWS;

Length: 1346 words

Byline: Mitch Mitchell;Mike Lee; Star-Telegram Staff Writers

Body

Family members of slain Irving police officer Aubrey Hawkins said they are relieved that fugitives suspected of killing Hawkins were



captured without the deaths of other police officers.

But they said they will not feel safe until the last two escapees are captured - or dead.

"I just hope - oh, my God, I hope - no one else gets hurt," said Lori Hawkins, the officer's widow. "But I won't rest until they are all caught and put back behind bars.

"I thought it would end the same way it started, in a shootout. I'm glad it didn't. I want to know that they've got these guys, that they're dead or alive."

Others were surprised that the fugitives who were captured surrendered without firing any gunshots at officers.

"It's a little different when the firepower is on our side," Irving Police Chief Lowell Cannaday said. "They were quite courageous when they had the advantage, but not quite as courageous when the odds were against them."

Aubrey Hawkins, 29, of Watauga was killed during a Christmas Eve robbery at Oshman's Super Sports USA in Irving. He was shot 11 times, six in the head.

The seven fugitives accused of killing him escaped Dec. 13 from the Connally Unit near Kenedy.

By Jan. 1, the escapees were in Woodland Park, Colo., authorities said Monday. A telephone tip to the TV show America's Most Wanted led police to the fugitives.

Four were arrested Monday in Woodland Park, and another killed himself during a standoff with police, authorities said. The two others - Patrick Murphy and Donald Newbury - remained at large late Monday.

Cannaday said that morale improved Monday at the Irving Police Department, where officers gathered around TV sets to watch breaking news of the arrests.

"But we're still concerned about the other two" still at large, Cannaday said. "They've already demonstrated their willingness to kill a police officer, so we urge everyone to take another look at those pictures and stay on the lookout for these men."

He added: "Aubrey was a good friend and a good police officer.



None of this will bring him back, but we want everyone to know we appreciate their efforts in helping to track down five of the seven escapees."

Lori Hawkins, who learned of the arrests from detectives on Monday afternoon, said she believed that the two escapees still at large will be caught soon.

"They can't run forever. They can't hide forever. And if they think their friends aren't going to rat them out, they're crazy," she said.

When they are captured, Hawkins said, she will make sure justice is served.

"I will be there every step of the way, and I won't stop," she said. "I will make sure that they see me every time they step into the courtroom. I want them to look into my eyes and see what they've done to my life. The sad part is, they probably don't care."

She and other relatives praised law enforcement officials for their relentless efforts to find the escapees. But they laid responsibility for the escape - and Aubrey Hawkins' death - at the feet of state and prison officials.

"I can breathe a sigh of relief because it's almost over," Lori Hawkins said. "I agree with what Jayne [Hawkins, her mother-in-law] said: I just hope the prison can hold them this time."

Hawkins' father, Curtis Hawkins, said that the men were able to escape because of a lax prison system.

"It became apparent to me that anyone with an average IQ who observed what was going on around them could have gotten out," Curtis Hawkins said. "They were only able to get out because of the laxness and predictability of what was going on around them."

"I certainly hope that TDCJ [Texas Department of Criminal Justice] has learned from this. The fault lies all the way up to the state Legislature, which is unwilling to fund the prison system adequately."

Aubrey Hawkins' son, 9-year-old Andrew Hawkins, was with his mother, Dixie Buchanan, on Monday, and was holding up well, she said.



"We're happy and relieved that more than half are captured, and I just pray that the others are captured," Buchanan said. "I hope that that is sooner rather than later."

Relatives of one of the fugitives also were relieved by his capture, friends said.

Daniel and Patricia Halprin, the adoptive parents of 23-year-old escapee Randy Halprin, plan to remain in seclusion until media attention surrounding the case wanes, said Chief **Bill Waybourn** of the Dalworthington Gardens Department of Public Safety.

"They were very elated that this thing, at least in regards to Randy, ended without him hurting anybody else," said Waybourn, a longtime family friend who talked to the Halprins by telephone Monday.

"When Officer Hawkins was killed, they were just in horrible anguish," Waybourn said. "Every time I've talked to them the conversation always circles back to the grief and sympathy they have for this 9-year-old boy ... who no longer has a father."

The Halprins and their two adopted pre-teen sons fled their Dalworthington Gardens home a few days after the convicts escaped. Waybourn said they left the state to protect their two younger children.

He said authorities were concerned that the convicts might try to kidnap Halprin's younger siblings. "We thought they might try to extort money," Waybourn said.

Waybourn said that the Halprins disowned Randy Halprin after he beat and kicked his girlfriend's 16-month-old son to make him stop crying in 1996. Halprin pleaded guilty to causing serious bodily injury to a child and was sentenced to 30 years in prison.

Terry Schmidt, one of the Connally Unit employees taken hostage during last month's prison break, said he was surprised that the four fugitives gave up without a struggle.

"I thought they would go down fighting," he said.

Correctional officer Randy Albert, who was also taken hostage at the Connally Unit, said he was happy that no members of the public had been hurt during the fugitives' arrests.



Texas Gov. Rick Perry praised the officers who "put their lives on the line day in and day out, and we owe them a debt of gratitude for their service and commitment to bringing these fugitives to justice.

"I hope that the remaining fugitives will be recaptured quickly and without further loss of life. Texas officials will continue to work around the clock to see that justice is done and the public is protected from these dangerous criminals," he said.

But the fugitives' capture did not dampen the outcry for changes in the prison system.

Brian Olsen, executive director of the state, county and municipal employees union in Texas that represents prison guards, called for a moratorium on prison building in Texas.

"This is a public safety issue. This isn't just a pay issue," Olsen said. "What if it happens again? We need to say 'no' to building new prisons until we solve these problems.

"We hope that those captured will be prosecuted to the full extent of Texas law, and we hope the other two who are still at large are captured soon."

State Sen. Ken Armbrister, D-Victoria, chairman of the Senate Criminal Justice Committee, said that the committee will continue its inquiry into the prison break.

"There are still a lot of issues that need to be looked at by the committee," Armbrister said. "Not that we need to be micromanaging the prison system, but we need to review the procedures, the training of the guards and a whole host of issues."

Sen. Mike Moncrief, D-Fort Worth, a member of the criminal justice committee, said he is most concerned about the prison system's classification system.

"I still have grave questions about the classification of these violent criminals and why they were able to have as much freedom of movement that they apparently had."

Staff writers Tanya Eiserer, Bill Hanna, Bill Hornaday, John Kirsch, Bob Mahlburg and John Moritz contributed to this report.

PHOTO(S): Head shot of Aubrey Hawkins; Stewart F. House;Kelley



Chinn

Load-Date: January 24, 2001

End of Document

**[In Irving, guarded optimism and a sense of relief;
'We just hope they catch the rest,' store manager says](#)**

The Dallas Morning News

January 23, 2001, Tuesday, THIRD EDITION

Copyright 2001 The Dallas Morning News

Section: NEWS;

Length: 678 words

Byline: Roy Appleton

Dateline: IRVING

Body

IRVING - Behind the Oshman's store, a candle burned Monday for slain Irving police Officer Aubrey Hawkins. Inside, television reports told of the arrest of four men accused in his slaying.

At Irving police headquarters, the capture of the Texas prison escapees brought relief.

"Is there such a thing as cautiously elated?" said Police Chief Lowell Cannaday, walking to a meeting with his commanders Monday afternoon.

Staff Writer

Gathered near a television, the officers were monitoring the arrests of suspects in the death of Irving police Officer Aubrey Hawkins.

"Everybody's just excited," Chief Cannaday said. "But they want to know that those are the people. ... We want to make sure before we celebrate."

Shoppers at the Oshman's Super Sports USA, where Officer Hawkins was gunned down during a Christmas Eve robbery, were greeted with the news that some of the escapees had been apprehended.

A television inside the front door blared the latest, as did the cavernous store's communications system. While customers went about their business, employees spoke carefully.

"Everybody's really excited that they've caught some of them," said Sheila Smith, manager of the store at Belt Line Road and State Highway 183. "We just hope they catch the rest."

Darren Ojeda, an assistant store manager on duty the night of the slaying, was more cautious. "Right now we're just not talking," he said, "until we know everything's under control."



But Pam Coronado said in a phone interview that the news was comforting.

"It's relief to a certain extent. They escaped from prison once," said Mrs. Coronado, whose 17-year-old son, Tony, was among the Oshman's employees held hostage. "They can escape again, and two of them are still out there."

Mrs. Coronado said the experience has unsettled the family, particularly her son, who was at school for baseball and other activities Monday night.

'Just trying to go on'

"I'm just trying to go on with life," she said.

Oshman's customer Frederic Merrithew didn't mind talking about the situation.

"It's shocking to me that it took this long" to capture the escapees, he said before beginning a search for in-line skates. "I hope they don't send them back to jail. Just send them to death row."

"I think it's great," customer Terry Alvarado said of the arrests. And was she relieved? "I wasn't real concerned, but you live in the area so you never know."

In Dalworthington Gardens, Police Chief **Bill Waybourn** was closely monitoring a TV set as well. He was pleased that 23-year-old Randy Halprin had been captured without violence. Mr. Halprin is the adopted son of a Dalworthington Gardens family that the chief is close to.

"My reaction is that of extreme relief, both personally and professionally," he said. "I'm tickled to death that no one in law enforcement was hurt. So far, so good."

He said he talked to Dan and Pat Halprin, Mr. Halprin's adoptive parents, earlier Monday.

The Halprins and their two children left town after the prison escape.

"Their world has been turned upside down," Chief Waybourn said. "I talked to Dan this morning and his computer business allows him to operate from anywhere. I don't think they're going to come back very quickly."

Memorials

Back behind the Oshman's store in Irving, near where Officer Hawkins was slain, the white candle burned Monday afternoon in front of a wooden cross.

A glass-enclosed newspaper story told of the death. A gathering of artificial plants brought red and green, white and blue to a scene of mostly truck trailers, a trash bin and wooden pallets.

Investigators say they have evidence placing the escapees at the store when the slaying occurred. Weapons stolen from the prison system have been linked to the shooting.

Irving police will manage the murder investigation. And with the arrests, the department's workload will pick up.

"We're confident," Chief Cannaday said.

Staff writer Linda K. Wertheimer and Arlington Morning News staff writers Patrick Wascovich and Lori Price contributed to this report.



Graphic

PHOTO(S): (LAWRENCE JENKINS/Staff Photographer) Irving city employee James Gafford surveys flowers left behind Oshman's Super Sports USA in memory of police Officer Aubrey Hawkins. Mr. Gafford lighted a candle Monday for the shooting victim, who died Christmas Eve.

Load-Date: January 24, 2001

End of Document

[Recap of developments, reaction to four fugitives' captures, inmate suicide](#)

The Associated Press State & Local Wire

January 23, 2001, Tuesday, BC cycle

Copyright 2001 Associated Press All Rights Reserved

Section: State and Regional

Length: 723 words

Byline: By The Associated Press

Body

Highlights of developments and reaction in the capture of four of the seven Texas prison escapees:

WALSH EXUBERANT

"That's five down, two to go," said "America's Most Wanted" host John Walsh, who was changing planes in Dallas on Monday when he learned that four of the seven escapees had been captured in Colorado and another had killed himself.

Authorities are crediting the Fox network show with the captures. Walsh isn't giving up on using his show to help capture the remaining two. He said Saturday's broadcast would feature the arrests and the search for fugitives Patrick Murphy Jr. and Donald Newbury so vigilant Americans could once again serve as backup for authorities hot on the escapees' trail.

"I think these other two guys are going to make some stupid mistake, or, who knows, they may give themselves up or they may try to shoot it out," Walsh said.

NOT SURPRISED



The fact that escaped convict Larry Harper killed himself as he faced capture didn't surprise Karen Gold, a forensic psychiatrist who worked with Harper for about two years in El Paso.

"I am so very, very, very sorry, but I am not at all surprised," Gold said. "When I heard one of them had barricaded himself in and was asking to talk to his father, I knew instantly it was Mr. Harper."

LOOK AT ME

The mother of slain Irving police Officer Aubrey Hawkins wants the captured inmates to face her.

"I want them to see me ... They will look at me and I want to see what they look like when they look at the mother of a child who is gone," she said.

WIDOW'S WORDS

"Farewell to him, that's just what I thought," said Lori Hawkins, the police officer's widow, when she heard that one of the escapees was dead. "He is going to have to answer to higher powers than the state of Texas now, wherever he is at."

NEXT CHAPTER

Texas lawmakers say the capture of four of the seven Texas prison escapees and the death of a fifth isn't the end of the story. They promise to continue to investigate the circumstances involved in the escape of the seven from the Connally Unit near Kenedy on Dec. 13.

"Now we have to get with the prison system situation and make sure it doesn't happen again," said state Sen. Gonzalo Barrientos, D-Austin.

"Sometimes it takes very unfortunate incidents in order to teach us what we need to do differently," said acting Lt. Gov. Bill Ratliff, R-Mount Pleasant. "Obviously, we need to institute some changes in either the procedures or rules or physical facilities and maybe all of the above in order to see if we can keep this from happening again. I think it's unrealistic for us to believe that we could ever build a prison system that nobody could escape from, but we can try."

ANSWERED PRAYERS

The adoptive parents of captured escapee Larry Halprin felt their prayers had been answered, said **Bill Waybourn**, a family friend and chief of police in tiny Dalworthington Gardens.

The Halprins left the state with their younger children after the escape and don't plan to return quickly.

"They're very focused on their younger children," he said. "They want to avoid the limelight."

"They're obviously so relieved that no other police officers or innocent people were hurt, and extremely relieved that this thing looks like it's going to wind down fairly peaceful -answered prayers, to be exact."

NO SIGH OF RELIEF

The continuing search for two of the seven prison escapees doesn't let officers in Irving breath a sigh of relief.

"There's still two out there," said Irving Police Chief Lowell Cannaday. "The hunt continues. And we're looking forward to filing a case with the Dallas County district attorney."



Authorities wanted the prison escapees for the Christmas Eve death of Irving Officer Aubrey Hawkins, who was struck 11 times and run over by a vehicle.

EMOTIONAL ROLLER-COASTER

In the first hour after learning his son's killer had been recaptured, Miguel Luna felt an extreme range of emotions.

"I'm relieved that they didn't hurt anybody else," said Luna, 62. At the same time, Luna said he wanted state officials to fix the holes in prison procedures he believes allowed the dangerous convicts to break out, allegedly kill a police officer in a robbery and then make it to Colorado undetected.

Joseph Garcia, 29, had been sentenced to 50 years in prison after a Bexar County jury found him guilty of murder in the Feb. 3, 1996, stabbing death of Miguel "Mike" Luna Jr.

Load-Date: January 24, 2001

End of Document

[4 of 7 Texas Escapees Are Arrested](#)

Associated Press Online

January 22, 2001; Monday

Copyright 2001 Associated Press All Rights Reserved

Section: Domestic, non-Washington, general news item

Length: 879 words

Byline: NICK WADHAMS

Dateline: WOODLAND PARK, Colo.

Body

Acting on a tip, authorities on Monday captured four of the seven convicts who broke out of a Texas prison nearly six weeks ago and allegedly gunned down a policeman on Christmas Eve.

A fifth inmate killed himself inside a motor home that had been surrounded by authorities in this foothills community about 50 miles southwest of Denver.

The whereabouts of the two other inmates were unknown. Authorities said they may have been in Woodland Park as recently as Sunday and may have left to get more money.

"The story is by no means over," said Mark Mershon, the top FBI official in Colorado. "We have two suspects that are still on the loose."



The heavily armed inmates including murderers, rapists and armed robbers had puzzled and alarmed authorities by remaining together after bluffing their way out of prison Dec. 13. The slaying of the Dallas-area officer 11 days later only increased fears that the inmates might want to go out in a blaze of gunfire.

Among those arrested was George Rivas, 30, the suspected ringleader who was serving a life sentence for robbery and kidnapping. Investigators have portrayed Rivas as fearless and shrewd with a powerful hold over the others, but authorities said he expressed remorse as he admitted to the slaying of the policeman.

"He stated that he had a change of heart, change of life and he wanted this to end," said State Patrol Trooper Eric Zachareas, who was at the convenience store where Rivas and two others were arrested.

Rivas had dyed his hair blonde and another inmate had dyed his hair orange in an apparent attempt to avoid scrutiny, Zachareas said. He also said some of the fugitives may have been at a Colorado Springs bar late Saturday.

"Apparently, they were out partying," he said.

The convicts arrived in the area on Jan. 1, Teller County Sheriff Frank Fehn said. He offered no other details of their activities, nor how they covered the more than 800 miles from the prison in south Texas.

Authorities said a weekend tip prompted by the show "America's Most Wanted" led to the capture. The show had featured the convicts four times since the escape, including the last three Saturday nights.

Undersheriff Kevin Dougherty said authorities were told about the fugitives by the manager of the Coachlight, a combination motel and RV park where the motor home was located. The park, tucked away amid pine trees, was put under surveillance at 2 a.m. Monday, authorities said.

Rivas and two others were arrested not at the RV park but as they pulled up for gasoline at a convenience store near Woodland Park.

The Texas Department of Criminal Justice said Rivas was captured with inmates Michael Rodriguez and Joseph Garcia. Authorities said inmate Larry Harper killed himself inside the motor home sometime after another convict, Randy Halprin, walked outside.

Harper had wanted to speak to his father and authorities arranged for him to do so by cellphone, Fehn said. He was dead from a gunshot wound to the chest by the time the arrangements were made.

Authorities found 15 handguns inside the motor home and another gun in the Jeep, Zachareas said.

Still missing were Patrick Murphy Jr., convicted of rape, and Donald Newbury, imprisoned for armed robbery.

Authorities said two fugitives may be seeking more money. Zachareas said he didn't know whether that meant they planned a robbery, and Fehn said authorities had "no idea" where the pair might be.

"It's very scary," said Kristie Allen, 27, a hairstylist at Hair Studio West in Woodland Park, who listened to news of the captures on a shop radio. "No one wants to go outside."

The seven inmates followed a cunning plan to overpower 13 prison employees during their escape from the maximum-security Connally Unit in Kenedy, southeast of San Antonio. They stole a cache of weapons and drove away unchallenged in a prison pickup.



According to authorities, the inmates robbed an Irving sporting goods store and gunned down Officer Aubrey Hawkins when he showed up. He was shot 11 times and his body was run over by a vehicle. The thieves fled with guns, clothing and \$70,000 in cash and checks.

A \$500,000 reward was offered for information leading to the arrest and conviction of Hawkins' killer. After the convicts were captured, his mother, Jayne Hawkins, said: "I want them to see me ... They will look at me and I want to see what they look like when they look at the mother of a child who is gone."

The escape was the largest from a Texas state prison in modern history. Before last month, Texas had recaptured all but one of the 143 inmates who escaped from its state prisons in the past 10 years.

A scathing state review blamed prison employees for the escape; a warden has since been demoted and other employees disciplined.

The parents of Halprin, the youngest escapee at 23, were grateful when they learned of his capture, said **Bill Waybourn**, a family friend and chief of police in the Houston suburb where Halprin grew up.

"They're obviously so relieved that no other police officers or innocent people were hurt, and extremely relieved that this thing looks like it's going to wind down fairly peaceful answered prayers, to be exact," he said.

On the Net:

Texas Department of Criminal Justice: www.tdcj.state.tx.us

Irving Police Department: www.irvingpd.com

Load-Date: January 22, 2001

End of Document

**[Escapee from area was 'troubled kid';
His outlaw fantasies may fuel gang](#)**

The Dallas Morning News
January 14, 2001, Sunday, THIRD EDITION

Copyright 2001 The Dallas Morning News

Section: NEWS;

Length: 1548 words

Byline: Brooks Egerton

Body



By standard prison measure, Randy Halprin is a zero: an abused child who became a child abuser, the sort of criminal even other criminals typically scorn.

Among the seven inmates who escaped Dec. 13 from the Connally Unit near Kenedy, Texas, he is the baby: not only the youngest, at age 23, but also the one with the shortest sentence and the only one doing time for a crime committed without a knife or gun.

Yet Mr. Halprin increasingly appears to be a central figure in the month-old South Texas prison escape that has embarrassed state officials, stymied law enforcement, made international news and, authorities say, led to the slaying of an Irving police officer.

In recent days, Mr. Halprin has been identified as the one who left this prophetic taunt in his cell: "You haven't heard the last of us yet."

And he was the one who led the climax of the broad-daylight breakout Dec. 13 - first posing as a maintenance supervisor and bluffing his way into the guard tower, then stealing a gun, overpowering a guard, forcing him to surrender a cache of weapons and making him open the outside gate.

Staff Writer

After the escape, Mr. Halprin may well have continued to play a key role, according to some who are following the case. He is the only one with extensive recent ties to the Dallas-Fort Worth area, where the gang is thought to have committed its most heinous offense and where many think it is still hiding.

"I think Randy has some connections here who have assisted them," said **Bill Waybourn**, who is a longtime friend of the Halprin family and chief of police in the tiny Tarrant County suburb, Dalworthington Gardens, where Mr. Halprin grew up.

A state law-enforcement official, speaking on the condition that he not be identified, echoed that assessment. He said police have been unable to find one of Mr. Halprin's friends, a man who also has a criminal record.

Chief Waybourn also sees Mr. Halprin as sharing gang ringleader George Rivas' planning abilities and intelligence.

"This is a person," he said, "who, if not for his impulsive behavior, would have had academic scholarships out of high school."

Instead, he has become one of the most wanted men in America - success, of a sort, for a "a manipulator, a charmer," a kid who "always wanted to be famous," Chief Waybourn said.

The chief said he thinks the escapees "may all be feeding off" Mr. Halprin's persistent outlaw fantasies. In his teens, he repeatedly ran away from a Kentucky boarding school with a girlfriend, talking of roaming the country in the style of Bonnie and Clyde.

"They were like his heroes," said another young woman he courted. "He said one day things would work out so he'd be like Bonnie and Clyde."

She suggested that the escapees are simply lying low for now - just as the notorious gangsters did after a 1934 Texas prison break - and are preparing to die in a final shootout.

Many law officers express similar fears, given that the escapees are heavily armed and, if caught alive, would face death-penalty prosecutions in the Christmas Eve slaying of Officer Aubrey Hawkins.



Even before the patrolman was gunned down and run over outside a robbed business, one of the manhunt targets was talking in fatalistic terms. In a note left at the prison, he lifted this line from a song popularized by another rebel Texan, the late Janis Joplin: "Freedom's just another word for nothing left to lose."

Larry Todd, a spokesman for the state prison system, urged people Friday not to view any of such talk in romantic terms.

"We want to be really careful not to glorify these inmates and not put them into the category of Jesse James or Bonnie and Clyde," he said.

*

Born in McKinney, Randy Halprin spent his first few years in Collin County, where he and his younger brother were physically abused. Both were then adopted into a middle-class home in Dalworthington Gardens, where they played sports, took part in Scouting and grew up close to Chief Waybourn's family.

But the chief - speaking for their parents, whom he described as anguished, terrified and hiding out of state - recalled early signs of trouble.

The new parents "had a difficult time bonding with Randy," he said. "He'd seclude himself in a back room and wouldn't be part of the family."

By early adolescence, the boy was flunking out of school and mapping sites where he thought space aliens would pick him up. Yet he also showed great ability on another front, mastering the lessons for his bar mitzvah at north Arlington's Beth Shalom synagogue.

"Here's this kid reading Hebrew and leading the congregation and doing it well," said Chief Waybourn, who attended the coming-of-age ceremony. "Most of us are in college before we feel comfortable in front of a crowd."

But Mr. Halprin didn't stick with religious studies, said Janet Aaronson, the synagogue's executive director. The rabbi from that time "remembered that he was a bright kid," she said, "but a troubled kid."

Dan Halprin sent his son off to a Baptist boarding school in Kentucky that had a reputation for helping troubled youths, and there he thrived for years.

Then, during his senior year, he got into trouble again - drug use, bad grades, running off - and he left in spring 1996 without graduating.

Once, he tried to get away from school with a girlfriend by "feigning that he had cancer," one of the young woman's relatives said.

Mr. Halprin wanted to stay in Kentucky, so his father helped set him up in an apartment in Lexington. Soon he was telling his parents that he was joining the Air Force. But they discovered that "it was all a bunch of fabrication" and that their son was living in homeless shelters, Chief Waybourn said.

At that point, the parents washed their hands of him, went on summer vacation and told the chief that young Mr. Halprin was not welcome on their property.

The son somehow persuaded a shelter social worker to drive him about 800 miles to Dalworthington Gardens, the chief said. There, outside the house he'd grown up in, a police officer told him he was trespassing and would have to leave.



And before long, an 18-year-old whose biggest offense to date had been credit-card abuse was involved in a much more serious crime.

*

Mr. Halprin moved into an Arlington homeless shelter, where he befriended a divorced teen named Charity Smith. She had a toddler and a new boyfriend, both of whom took to him.

"My child," she recalled, "loved him to death."

Ms. Smith said Mr. Halprin seemed gentle and quickly began baby-sitting, talking of becoming the child's godfather and offering to help raise him even though his relationship with her was platonic.

When Ms. Smith got chicken pox and had to move, he followed the mother and child to the West Fort Worth apartment of a couple they had met in the shelter.

There, while baby-sitting in late July 1996, he broke both the 16-month-old's arms and legs, fractured his skull and beat his face until one eye filled with blood.

"He had been crying the whole week and I had been thinking the whole week, and I was getting really frustrated," Mr. Halprin's signed confession says. "Just everything crashed down, and [the boy] was the closest thing to take my anger out on."

He spent several months in the Tarrant County Jail, with his parents refusing to help him post bail and refusing to visit. When a young woman spurned him during that time, he wrote her an apocalyptic poem.

"Death will rise up on the world because my heart was broken by my one true love," it said.

A court-appointed psychiatrist concluded that Mr. Halprin was competent to stand trial, deeming him not only rational but also "neat, clean and cooperative."

Before long, he pleaded guilty to injury to a child and was sentenced to 30 years in prison.

Child-welfare workers, meanwhile, took custody of Ms. Smith's little boy, saying that she had left him in harm's way. He has since been adopted by another family outside the Dallas area.

"It destroyed my life," Ms. Smith said, summing up the consequences of meeting Mr. Halprin.

Like all the young women interviewed for this article, she has been hiding from him since the prison break and spoke on the condition that her whereabouts be concealed. A Texas Ranger has kept close tabs on her since the breakout.

Mr. Halprin's parents, too, were alerted immediately and fled.

Fear of vengeance

Prison officials and Chief Waybourn said their suspicion was that he would bring the escapees to their home for robbery and vengeance.

The chief said such fear may be well-founded. He said he has received reliable reports that Mr. Halprin was seen driving by his old home twice, days before Officer Hawkins' killing.

And the disowned son, he noted, had written his parents from prison to say, "You can't throw me away."



"These are good and honest people who tried their best, and it just didn't work," Chief Waybourn said. Now they are prepared for their son to die if he must, he said.

"They, more than anyone, want this to end as soon as possible without any innocent people getting hurt," he said. "Whatever it takes to end it, they want it ended."

Staff writers Brenda Rodriguez and Ben Tinsley of the Arlington Morning News contributed to this report.

Graphic

PHOTO(S): 1. Randy Ethan Halprin. 2. Larry James Harper. 3. Joseph C. Garcia. 4. Patrick Henry Murphy Jr. 5. Donald Keith Newbury. 6. George Rivas. 7. Michael Anthony Rodriguez. CHART(S): (Texas Department of Criminal Justice, Irving Police Department) THE ESCAPEES.

Load-Date: January 16, 2001

End of Document

[Crossing guards back in city's plans](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

August 29, 2002, Thursday, ARLINGTON EDITION

Copyright 2002 Star-Telegram Newspaper, Inc.

Section: METRO;

Length: 439 words

Byline: MATT FRAZIER; Star-Telegram Staff Writer

Highlight: SCHOOLS: Dalworthington Gardens officials now plan to pay the \$5,000 needed for school crossing guards.

Body

DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS--Key Elementary School parents were relieved this week when Michael Moran, 15, donned a reflective vest and picked up a hand-held stop sign to guide students to school.

Key Elementary, in Dalworthington Gardens, began its school year without a guard to help more than 100 kindergarten through sixth-grade students cross five-lane Bowen Road.



"We were very concerned," said Greg Adams, who has two children attending Key. "I've seen people running the red light at this intersection."

Dalworthington Gardens City Administrator Sean Pate said the city removed the guard to evaluate the need for helping children cross the road. It now has been decided that children need help, and city officials plan to include the \$5,000 needed to pay crossing guards in the city budget, expected to be approved Sept. 5, he said.

"The city was taking an analytical approach to the whole budget process," Pate said.

Key is part of the Arlington school district, and the students crossing Bowen live in Arlington.

Crossing guards for the Arlington district are funded by cities.

This summer Arlington city officials toyed with the idea of dropping the \$483,255 for guards from their budget but changed their minds and now are paying for 95 guards for schools throughout the city.

Since school started, police officers on a handful of occasions acted as crossing guards for Key, said Dalworthington Gardens

Police Chief **Bill Waybourn**. Waybourn said the guards are needed and that the low-speed school zones at Key need to be expanded.

"I can assure you that our mayor and council are concerned about the safety of our children," Waybourn said.

Waybourn asked his nephew, Michael Moran, to act as guard until a permanent one could be found. Moran, who attended Key, received training before going out Monday.

"It's a really busy intersection," Moran said. "A lot of kids just don't think. They run out across the light."

Key Elementary Principal Debbi Chumchal said guards should remain.

"I'm just glad they saw it as an important enough safety issue to take care of our kids," Chumchal said.

Matt Frazier, (817) 548-5403 mfrazier@star-telegram.com



-PHOTO-

1. Photo: SPECIAL TO THE STAR-TELEGRAM/BOBBY ORNELAS
Michael Moran helps a student cross Bowen Road in Dalworthington Gardens on the way to Key Elementary School. More than 100 students cross the five-lane street.

2. Photo: SPECIAL TO THE STAR-TELEGRAM/BOBBY ORNELAS
Michael Moran, 15, nephew of the police chief, has been serving as crossing guard at Key Elementary School.

3. :

Load-Date: August 29, 2002

End of Document

FOUR OF 7 TEXAS ESCAPEES ARE CAPTURED IN COLORADO; A FIFTH KILLS HIMSELF; TIP GENERATED BY TV SHOW LED TO ARRESTS, POLICE SAY

St. Louis Post-Dispatch (Missouri)

January 23, 2001, Tuesday, THREE STAR EDITION

Copyright 2001 St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Inc.

Section: NEWS, Pg. A1

Length: 665 words

Byline: The Associated Press

Dateline: WOODLAND PARK, COLO. WOODLAND PARK, COLORADO; CAPTURE; FUGITIVES ESCAPED; PRISONERS; JAIL; TEXAS; JAILBREAK; SUICIDE AMERICA'S MOST; WANTED; CRIME SPREE

Body

Authorities on Monday captured four of seven convicts who broke out of a Texas prison nearly six weeks ago and are suspected of gunning down a policeman on Christmas Eve.

A fifth inmate killed himself inside a motor home that had been surrounded by authorities in this town near Pikes Peak, west of Colorado Springs.

Among those arrested was George Rivas, 30, the suspected ringleader who was serving a life sentence for aggravated robbery and kidnapping.



The convicts arrived in the sparsely populated area Jan. 1, Teller County Sheriff Frank Fehn said. He offered no other details of their activities or of how they managed to travel about 800 miles from the prison they broke out of Dec. 13.

Authorities said a weekend tip prompted by the television program "America's Most Wanted" led to the capture. The show had featured the convicts four times since the escape, including the past three Saturday nights.

Undersheriff Kevin Dougherty said authorities were told about the fugitives by the manager of the Coachlight, a combination motel and mobile home park where the motor home was located. The park, nestled amid pine trees, was put under surveillance about 2 a.m. Monday, authorities said.

Rivas and two others were arrested as they pulled up in a Jeep to buy gasoline at a convenience store near Woodland Park, Dougherty said. There were weapons in the Jeep, he said, refusing to be more specific.

The Texas Department of Criminal Justice said Rivas was captured with inmates Michael Rodriguez and Joseph Garcia. Authorities said inmate Larry Harper killed himself inside the motor home sometime after another convict, Randy Halprin, walked outside.

Harper had wanted to speak to his father, and authorities arranged for him to do so by cell phone, Fehn said. He was dead from a gunshot wound to the chest by the time the arrangements were made.

Still missing were rapist Patrick Murphy Jr. and armed robber Donald Newbury.

Mark Mershon, the FBI agent in charge in Colorado, said the pair were believed to be driving an old brown van. He said they are armed and extremely dangerous, and officials throughout Colorado were put on alert.

As a precaution, officials in Colorado Springs and Manitou Springs, both within 20 miles of Woodland Park, locked down several schools.

"It's very scary," said Kristie Allen, 27, a hair stylist at Hair Studio West in Woodland Park, who listened to updates of the captures on a radio at the shop. "No one wants to go outside."

The seven inmates overpowered 13 prison employees during their escape from the maximum-security Connally Unit in Kenedy, southeast of San Antonio. They stole a cache of weapons and drove away unchallenged in a prison pickup.

Authorities said the inmates robbed a sporting goods store in suburban Dallas 11 days later and gunned down Officer Aubrey Hawkins when he showed up. He was shot 11 times, and his body was run over by a vehicle. The thieves fled with guns, clothing and \$ 70,000 in cash and checks.

A \$ 500,000 reward was offered for information leading to the arrest and conviction of Hawkins' killer.

After the arrests Monday, Hawkins' mother, Jayne Hawkins, said: "I want them to see me. . . . They will look at me, and I want to see what they look like when they look at the mother of a child who is gone."

The escape was the largest from a Texas prison in modern history. Before last month, Texas had recaptured all but one of the 143 inmates who escaped from its prisons in the past 10 years.

A scathing state review blamed prison employees for the escape, and a warden has since been demoted and other employees disciplined.



The parents of Halprin were extremely grateful when they heard about the capture, said **Bill Waybourn**, a family friend and chief of police in the Houston suburb where Halprin grew up.

"They're obviously so relieved that no other police officers or innocent people were hurt, and extremely relieved that this thing looks like it's going to wind down fairly peaceful, answered prayers, to be exact," he said.

Load-Date: January 24, 2001

End of Document

Halprin the youngest of the seven escapees

The Associated Press State & Local Wire

January 14, 2001, Sunday, BC cycle

Copyright 2001 Associated Press All Rights Reserved

Section: State and Regional

Length: 528 words

Dateline: DALLAS

Body

Among the seven inmates who escaped Dec. 13 from the Connally Unit near Kenedy, Randy Halprin is not only the youngest, but also the one with the shortest sentence and the only one doing time for a crime committed without a knife or gun.

Yet Halprin, 23, increasingly appears to be a central figure in the month-old South Texas prison escape that appears to have led to the slaying of an Irving police officer, and embarrassed state officials.

In recent days, Halprin has been identified as the one who left this prophetic taunt in his cell: "You haven't heard the last of us yet."

And he took on some major roles in the broad-daylight breakout - first posing as a maintenance supervisor and bluffing his way into the guard tower, then stealing a gun, overpowering a guard, forcing him to surrender a cache of weapons and making him open the outside gate.

Halprin is the only one with extensive recent ties to the Dallas-Fort Worth area, where the gang is thought to have committed murder and where many think it is still hiding.

"I think Randy has some connections here who have assisted them," **Bill Waybourn** said in Sunday's editions of The Dallas Morning News.

Waybourn is a longtime friend of the Halprin family and chief of police in the tiny Tarrant County suburb, Dalworthington Gardens, where Halprin grew up.



Halprin spent his first few years in Collin County, where he and his younger brother were physically abused. Both were then adopted into a middle-class home and played sports, took part in Scouting and grew up close to Waybourn's family.

But the chief - speaking for the Halprins, whom he described as anguished, terrified and hiding out of state - recalled early signs of trouble.

The new parents "had a difficult time bonding with Randy," Waybourn said. "He'd seclude himself in a back room and wouldn't be part of the family."

Halprin eventually was sent to boarding school in Kentucky, where at first did well, then got into trouble. After trying to help their son, his parents washed their hands of him and he moved into a homeless shelter in the Fort Worth suburb of Arlington, Waybourn said.

At the shelter, he befriended a divorced teen named Charity Smith. She had a toddler and a new boyfriend.

"My child," she told the newspaper, "loved him to death."

Ms. Smith said Halprin, then 18, seemed gentle and quickly began baby-sitting, talking of becoming the child's godfather even though his relationship with her was platonic. He followed them from the shelter to a west Fort Worth apartment.

There, while baby-sitting in late July 1996, he broke both the 16-month-old's arms and legs, fractured his skull and beat his face until one eye filled with blood.

"He had been crying the whole week and I had been thinking the whole week, and I was getting really frustrated," Halprin's signed confession says. "Just everything crashed down, and ... 1/8the boy 3/8 was the closest thing to take my anger out on."

He spent several months in the Tarrant County jail, during which time he wrote an apocalyptic poem to another young woman who spurned him.

"Death will rise up on the world because my heart was broken by my one true love," it said, according to the paper.

Load-Date: January 15, 2001

End of Document

[Community Can't Escape Fear of Fugitive](#)

FORWARD

January 12, 2001

Copyright 2001 ProQuest Information and Learning

All Rights Reserved

Ethnic NewsWatch

Copyright 2001 Forward Newspaper, L.L.C. All Rights Reserved

Section: Pg. 6; Vol. CIV; No. 31,323; ISSN: 1051340X



Length: 989 words

Byline: Cattan, Nacha

Dateline: New York, N.Y.

Body

ABSTRACT

Randy Halperin, 23, of Arlington, Texas, was a "slightly troubled kid with a lot of potential," said the rabbi who prepared him for and officiated at his bar mitzvah. Since then, Rabbi Keith Stern had not seen Halperin until last week, when Halperin's photo appeared on the news along with those of six other escaped convicts who have been rampaging through Texas and still remain one step ahead of the law.

Upon hearing of his escape, Halperin's parents, who were on vacation, went into hiding in another state, said Roy Oliver, a spokesman for the Department of Public Safety of Dalworthington Gardens, the Arlington suburb where Halperin grew up. "Their lives might be in jeopardy," he said. Police have beefed up security in Arlington, where the families of several escapees reside.

The chief of the Dalworthington Gardens' police and a longtime friend of the family, **Bill Waybourn**, said Halperin had been abused by his biological parents and had "reality problems" from an early age. "When he was six or seven, he thought people lived in the TV." Chief Waybourn said, "when he was 12 he thought aliens were coming. He took maps and marked their landings on it."

FULL TEXT

Community Can't Escape Fear of Fugitive

By NACHA CATTAN

FORWARD STAFF

Randy Halperin, 23, of Arlington, Texas, was a "slightly troubled kid with a lot of potential," said the rabbi who prepared him for and officiated at his bar mitzvah. Since then, Rabbi Keith Stern had not seen Halperin until last week, when Halperin's photo appeared on the news along with those of six other escaped convicts who have been rampaging through Texas and still remain one step ahead of the law.

On December 13, the seven inmates broke out of the Connally Unit jail near San Antonio. They overwhelmed the guards and civilians in the prison's maintenance shop and used their clothes and IDs to escape. "You haven't heard the last of us yet," one of the escapees warned in a message he left behind.

Raised in Arlington, a city of 300,000 near Fort Worth with some 500 Jewish families and one synagogue, Halperin disassociated himself from the Jewish community soon after his bar mitzvah, according to local Jewish officials. Families with ties to Halperin's adoptive parents, Daniel and Patricia, have expressed concern and embarrassment about his escape, said the executive director of the Beth Shalom synagogue in Arlington, Janet Aaronson.

"People are afraid. They don't want his name attached to them," Ms. Aaronson said. The authorities "keep saying that [the escapees] are armed and dangerous. You never know."



Upon hearing of his escape, Halperin's parents, who were on vacation, went into hiding in another state, said Roy Oliver, a spokesman for the Department of Public Safety of Dalworthington Gardens, the Arlington suburb where Halperin grew up. "Their lives might be in jeopardy," he said. Police have beefed up security in Arlington, where the families of several escapees reside.

Speaking on condition of anonymity, one member of the 200-family congregation, to which Mr. Halperin's parents belonged until last May, said: "My kids are worried that someone is going to hunt me down if I talk about him and use my name. People are getting very nervous and no one wants to deal with this because you're dealing with a crazy mind. Honestly I think people are embarrassed that he was Jewish," the woman added.

Halperin was serving a 30-year prison term for beating his girlfriend's 16-month-old son while the woman and her two other children were playing in another room of their apartment. The baby barely survived, suffering broken arms, broken legs and a fractured skull, according to press reports.

Halperin was adopted at the age of six, Ms. Aaronson said. He was the oldest of three adopted children, said Rabbi Stern, who performed his conversion to Judaism. He went to Key Elementary School in Dalworthington Gardens, after which, "he was bounced around from different schools," because of behavioral problems, Rabbi Stern said.

The chief of the Dalworthington Gardens' police and a longtime friend of the family, **Bill Waybourn**, said Halperin had been abused by his biological parents and had "reality problems" from an early age. "When he was six or seven, he thought people lived in the TV." Chief Waybourn said, "when he was 12 he thought aliens were coming. He took maps and marked their landings on it."

While attending a high school in Kentucky for troubled children, Halperin took a turn for the worse. He lied to his parents about graduating school, lived on the streets and used their money for other purposes, probably to buy drugs, Chief Waybourn said. He tried to return home in 1996, but Halperin's parents asked him to leave. That summer he assaulted his girl friend's baby and his parents disowned him.

"He had a terrific opportunity with a very loving family that wanted him to succeed," Chief Waybourn said. "He made the choice of throwing it away."

Ms. Aaronson of Beth Shalom said, "if he was adopted at six and was bar mitzvahed at 13, it means there was not a whole lot of time for the community to help him."

The escapees, dubbed the "Malevolent Seven" in local media, gunned down a policeman on December 24 in Irving, Texas, while robbing a sporting goods store of ammunition, the authorities said. Besides Halperin, the group includes two murderers, two rapists and two armed robbers; all except Halperin are in their 30s.

The search for the escapees is being broadened to the states surrounding Texas and is being conducted by several agencies, including the FBI, said David Tull, the public information officer for the Irving Police Department. Officer Oliver of Dalworthington Gardens said the "Malevolent Seven" have enough ammunition for "one hell of a standoff."

Because they already have committed a murder and most are serving life sentences, he said, "they have nothing to lose."

Photo (Randy Halperin)



Load-Date: February 18, 2020

End of Document

'NOT MUCH TO LOSE' / TEXANS FEAR DESPERATE FUGITIVES MAY PROMPT A SHOOTOUT

Newsday (New York)

January 8, 2001, Monday, ALL EDITIONS

Copyright 2001 Newsday LLC



Section: NEWS;

Length: 1017 words

Byline: By Sara Kugler. STAFF WRITER

Body

Relatives and neighbors of the seven escaped Texas felons are so terrified, some have gone into hiding until the drama's end, which people who know the escapees fear will be a bloody showdown with police reminiscent of a Hollywood gangster film.

Police believe the men, who broke out of prison three weeks ago, are traveling together in Texas with an arsenal of more than 40 weapons and stolen police scanners. They are suspected of killing a police officer during a Christmas Eve robbery, and they are believed to be in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. State officials announced this weekend that the reward for their arrest and indictment had doubled, to \$ 200,000.

One of the escapees left a note in his cell that said, "You haven't heard the last of us yet."

Fearing the gang would come after them, Randy Halprin's parents-who had adopted him at the age of 6 after his birth parents abused him-fled the state with their two younger sons, according to **Bill Waybourn**, a close family friend. Waybourn said Halprin, 23, dreamed as a teenager of "being a Bonnie and Clyde type."

Halprin was serving a 30-year term for beating his girlfriend's infant son, breaking the child's arms and legs and fracturing his skull, because he wouldn't stop crying.

Waybourn has spoken with Halprin's parents several times since they fled their home near Arlington, Texas, and said they monitor the news daily. "They fear that these guys are going to go out in a blaze of glory," Waybourn said.

Texas Department of Criminal Justice officials said they are following hundreds of leads but none has panned out. Police in Texas and surrounding states are carrying extra firepower in anticipation of encountering the gang.



The men escaped Dec. 13 from the Connally Unit prison, 55 miles southeast of San Antonio. Authorities said Saturday that the convicts stayed behind in a minimum-security maintenance shop during a lunch break. Four of the men, led by one dressed in civilian clothes, gained access to a guard tower by posing as a work crew. They overpowered a guard, took control of the gates and phoned the other three back in the maintenance shop. They stole weapons from the prison armory, which was also controlled from the guard tower, on their way out the back gate to a getaway pickup truck.

Prison officials have refused to say whether they were under guard when they stayed in the maintenance shop during lunch.

Forensic psychiatrist Karen Gold predicts the men have no other way out but to die in a shootout. "They have been amazingly successful so far in operating as a well-oiled machine, and I have a very strong sense of foreboding that there's going to be one heck of a bloodbath before it's all over," said the El Paso-based expert on criminal psychopathology.

Gold evaluated escapee Larry James Harper, 37, for his 1996 trial in which he was convicted and sentenced to 50 years for three counts of sexual assault. She said the severely depressed loner might want to end his life in a confrontation with police.

"I would venture a guess that this thing has spun out of control, that he is just being swept along," Gold said. "I think he is probably very frightened. He probably feels that there's not much to lose."

The seven are wanted on federal weapons violations and unlawful flight charges, in addition to capital murder charges in the gunning down the police officer.

"The whole community is upset and alert," Gold said. "Everyone's afraid, and everyone's looking over their shoulder."

That includes Lisa Werkowitch, who lived across the street from Michael Rodriguez in San Antonio when Rodriguez, 38, was arrested for hiring a hit man to kill his wife. He was serving a life sentence for capital murder.

Werkowitch said the news of the prison break has put her and Rodriguez' other former neighbors on edge.

"I'm very hesitant to talk," said Werkowitch, who used to let Rodriguez and his wife, Theresa, take her four children on outings. She described the couple as typical and happy, devoted to remodeling their house and landscaping their yard.

Werkowitch said she thought she knew Rodriguez. Now she and her husband fear he might return to their neighborhood. "Obviously, I didn't know him very well," she said.

For eight years, Laurie Vasquez was married to George Rivas, 30, the man police believe is the ringleader of the gang. Vasquez said the Rivas she sees on the news now is not the man she knew. She said she is "completely and totally" shocked.

Rivas was serving a life sentence for armed robbery, including one in an El Paso Toys 'R' Us.

Police believe he might be leading the other six escapees because of similarities between Rivas' past robberies and those believed to have been committed by the gang since the escape.

Rivas participated in a 1993 gang robbery of an El Paso sporting goods store, where employees were handcuffed while the men robbed the store of guns and money, using walkie-talkies to communicate.



Police said the method was similar during the Dec. 24 sporting goods store heist in Irving, Texas, in which the assailants killed Officer Aubrey Hawkins.

Richard E. Coons, an Austin-based forensic psychiatrist, testified in a 1994 post-sentencing hearing that Rivas would likely be involved in prison gangs.

"He is a mastermind and a leader," Coons testified. "It is my opinion that George Rivas will continue his criminal career while in the penitentiary."

Coons said last week: "That was my prophecy, and it was vindicated."

The three other escapees believed to be traveling with Rivas, Halprin, Harper and Rodriguez are Patrick Murphy Jr., 39, who was serving 50 years for aggravated assault, Joseph Garcia, 29, who was serving 50 years for murder, and Donald Newbury, 38, who was serving 99 years for armed robbery.

Coons described Rivas as an intelligent, manipulative con artist with no conscience. He envisions a scenario where Rivas tells the other escapees, "Hey guys, nobody's going to take us alive," Coons said.

"... They've gotten away and killed an officer, so they're looking at either life in the penitentiary or death, so they haven't got much to lose."

Load-Date: January 8, 2001

End of Document

**[Escapees share violent history;
7 who have eluded authorities for weeks found bond in prison](#)**

The Dallas Morning News

January 7, 2001, Sunday, THIRD EDITION

Copyright 2001 The Dallas Morning News

Section: NEWS;

Length: 4126 words

Byline: Steve McGonigle

Body

They are from across Texas, career criminals and first-time convicts, former college students and high school dropouts, some raised by loving families and others scarred by dysfunctional upbringings.

The common bond of the group, dubbed the Connally Seven, appears to be the violence that landed them on a maintenance crew at the South Texas prison unit from which they escaped Dec. 13.

George Rivas and Donald Newbury are convicted robbers. Michael Rodriguez and Joseph Garcia are murderers. Larry Harper and Patrick Murphy are rapists. Randy Halprin brutalized an infant.



Staff Writer of The Dallas Morning News

On Christmas Eve, the group allegedly padded their collective criminal records with the capital murder of an Irving police officer while robbing guns and cash from an Oshman's sporting goods store.

Then they vanished. For almost two weeks, the group has eluded one of the most massive manhunts in Texas history, leaving law-enforcement officers scrambling to predict possible moves.

Clint Van Zandt, a former FBI profiler, described the escapees as a group of anti-social personalities who seem to have forged a cultlike identity to make a name for themselves.

"They see themselves as this 21st-century Texas gang of desperadoes," Mr. Van Zandt said.

The Dallas Morning News developed profiles of the seven escapees through court records and interviews with family members, educators, psychologists, attorneys and law-enforcement officers.

George Rivas

Mr. Rivas, described as "the most dangerous man in Texas" by a prosecutor who helped send the 30-year-old El Paso native to prison with 17 life sentences, is the reputed leader of the group.

The portion of his life on the public record shows Mr. Rivas to be a bold, charming, strong-willed man. He has a lifelong fascination with guns, even naming his two Rottweiler dogs Beretta and Ruger.

"Rivas is very strong and dominant with a conceited and arrogant personality," an internal prison report on the escapees stated. "He considers himself a master criminal mind and leader among men."

The product of a teenage marriage, Mr. Rivas was raised by his grandmother in a modest neighborhood on El Paso's east side. He was a good student and a Boy Scout, his grandmother testified in 1993.

"As a child I would see an aggressiveness and mischief in his smile, but he was always a good child even in his grade-school years," Juanita Potter told an El Paso judge during a bond hearing for Mr. Rivas.

Mrs. Potter died in 1994. An uncle, William Potter, declined to answer questions. Mr. Rivas' former wife and her family could not be reached for comment.

Mr. Rivas' senior class picture in the 1988 Ysleta High School yearbook shows a smiling, handsome young man in a tuxedo. There were no references to clubs or other activities, principal Ralph Ornelas said.

The earliest record of criminal problems in Mr. Rivas' life was an armed robbery of a Payless shoe store in 1987. At the time, Mr. Rivas worked at another Payless store as a salesman, a former prosecutor said.

"He would learn the outlay of a place, and those were the places he would hit," said John Williams, now a private attorney in El Paso.

Among the businesses in three states that Mr. Rivas has been investigated for robbing are several branches of an auto-parts chain where he once worked and a grocery store chain that employed his wife.

Mr. Rivas eluded arrest in the Payless robbery for three years, Mr. Williams said. During that time, he committed a second robbery and a home burglary and enrolled in the University of Texas at El Paso.

When he did come to trial for the Payless robbery in July 1992, a jury could not reach a verdict. He celebrated by getting married. Mr. Williams speculated that the collapse of the case emboldened Mr. Rivas.



In September 1992, Mr. Rivas and three accomplices began a spree of armed robberies that lasted until his arrest in May 1993 during a botched holdup of a Toys R Us store in west El Paso.

As in other robberies, Mr. Rivas would enter a store, approach the manager claiming to be a security officer and then herd employees into a locked area, where he would announce the robbery.

Mr. Rivas testified at his trial that he was duped by two friends who led him to believe they were in the toy store on security business. But seven store employees identified Mr. Rivas as the robber giving orders.

The jury sentenced Mr. Rivas to 10 life sentences, which were followed by seven similar sentences after he was convicted on charges of robbing an Oshman's store about six weeks before the toy store holdup.

Dr. Richard Coons, a forensic psychologist who reviewed Mr. Rivas' record, made an eerie prediction about his subject.

"It is my opinion that George Rivas will continue his criminal career while in the penitentiary. It is likely he will be involved in gang activities and will be a leader," Dr. Coons wrote in a 1994 report for prosecutors.

- Steve McGonigle

Larry Harper

The second El Paso resident in the group, Larry Harper, is said to be a born follower. He is the son of a career Army sergeant and spent more than nine years as an officer in the Army Reserves and National Guard.

Mr. Harper is described as an intelligent man who worked as a substitute teacher and spent years as an intermittent student at the University of Texas at El Paso.

The 37-year-old is also, in the words of a psychologist who knows him, "a sick puppy" who beat, raped and sodomized three young women out of apparent frustration over turning 30.

"I think the whole thing is very tragic," said Karen Gold, a psychologist who examined Mr. Harper. "He was very bright, very idealistic. If he had not taken this current course of action, he would have taken a very different path in life."

Born in Danville, Ill., Mr. Harper lived his childhood around the world as his father's military career dictated. His mother was a peasant girl and former prostitute that his father met in a bar in Korea, according to court records.

His father and his younger brother testified at Mr. Harper's 1996 trial that his mother viciously beat her two sons almost daily until Larry was 10. His brother said Larry dealt with the beatings by immersing himself in books.

Mr. Harper's father, Harold, described Larry at his son's trial as "my pride and joy" who had been a good student and had never been in trouble.

"I thought that everything I had wanted him to be, he was going to be," said Harold Harper, who is now retired from the military and teaching in New Caney, Texas.

Ms. Gold said Larry Harper idolized his father, a Green Beret who earned a Silver Star for valor during two tours in Vietnam. He, too, wanted a career in the military, but he also wanted an education, she said.



After completing an associate degree at a military school in Missouri and receiving a second lieutenant's commission in the Army reserves, Mr. Harper went into special forces and attended airborne school at Fort Benning, Ga.

His father testified that Mr. Harper had an opportunity to attend the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. But for reasons not made clear in the public record, Mr. Harper's military career stalled.

By 1994, the year he was arrested, Mr. Harper had transferred into the National Guard and had risen only to the rank of captain. His dream of a military career had all but vanished, Ms. Gold said.

"He was not good at following through," Ms. Gold said.

That trait was also true of Mr. Harper's personal relationships. Shortly before the rapes began in September 1993, Mr. Harper's longtime girlfriend decided the couple needed some time apart, Ms. Gold said.

The split, coupled with Mr. Harper's belief that at age 30 he was a failure in life, sent him "over the edge," the psychologist said.

Driven by a hatred of women he considered "teases," Mr. Harper began stalking women he saw in bars and fast-food restaurants. He would follow the women home, overpower them and force them at knifepoint to have sex.

During two of the rapes, Mr. Harper told the victims that he was abused as a child and had a dysfunctional family. He also bragged that he would not be caught and wiped down the crime scene to remove fingerprints.

He was arrested a week after the final assault when a police officer remembered questioning Mr. Harper about a window-peeping incident at the same apartment complex four months earlier.

Mr. Harper admitted all three sexual assaults, apologized to his victims and said he would accept any punishment that he was assessed. An El Paso jury gave him a 50-year sentence in May 1996.

Ms. Gold said Mr. Harper appeared sincerely ashamed and remorseful. She said she feared how he might react if he and the other escapes were apprehended by law officers.

"He would be the first to step up and allow himself to be shot down," she said.

- Steve McGonigle

Michael Rodriguez

No one was ever quite sure why Michael Anthony Rodriguez hired a hit man to kill his wife in 1992.

Mr. Rodriguez and his wife, Theresa, appeared to be happily married. She sold insurance for USAA, a giant San Antonio-based company. He ran a small cafe. To friends and family, they appeared to be happily married, and money didn't seem to be an issue. They lived in a nice house and drove a Mercedes Benz.

Roy Barrera Sr., a prominent criminal defense attorney, represented Mr. Rodriguez after he was charged with capital murder. He remembered the day he asked his client why he planned his wife's murder.

"He looked at me and said he did it because he considered it a challenge," Mr. Barrera said. "It just left me cold."



Mr. Rodriguez, 38, pleaded guilty to capital murder in 1995 rather than go to trial. He received a life sentence and was facing a minimum of 40 years in prison.

Then he escaped.

"I guess he figured he had nothing to lose besides his life," Mr. Barrera said. "And he already had lost that."

Prosecutors thought Mr. Rodriguez and his younger brother, Mark, plotted Mrs. Rodriguez's murder to collect \$ 400,000 in life insurance. Mark Rodriguez also is serving a life sentence for the murder.

Mrs. Rodriguez was shot to death in her driveway as she and the two brothers returned home from a movie. Rolando Ruiz, who was 22, had been paid \$ 2,000 to commit the killing and make it look like a botched robbery.

Mr. Ruiz and an accomplice did not own a car. Instead, they found two girls who had a car and took them along to the murder scene.

"The Rodriguezes hired two dummies without a car between them who decided to bring along two girls who had no idea what was going on," Mr. Barrera said.

A trail of clues quickly led back to Mr. Ruiz, whose confession implicated the brothers.

Nothing in Michael Rodriguez's background suggested he had murder in him, according to police and family members. He came from hard-working parents who own several businesses. They sent him to Central Catholic High School, an all-boys school that mixes strong doses of military discipline, religion and education.

He had never been arrested until the murder, according to court records.

A former classmate, who asked not to be identified, said Mr. Rodriguez was a self-effacing nice guy in high school - neither a hoodlum nor a nerd.

"There is nothing derogatory I can think of about him," the classmate said.

Just before the murder, Mr. Rodriguez had been taking classes at Southwest Texas State University in San Marcos. He and his wife had told family members they wanted to be teachers.

- Scott Parks

Randy Halprin

Randy Ethan Halprin was abused in his early childhood but found a good home when he was adopted by a Tarrant County family.

The 23-year-old had his troubles as a youth, according to Tarrant County court records.

Mr. Halprin, who grew up with his adoptive family in Dalworthington Gardens, dropped out of school in the 11th grade and worked various fast-food jobs. He used marijuana and LSD and was arrested once for credit card abuse, records show.

Bill Waybourn, the town's chief of public safety, said Randy often fantasized about aliens and thought his family was rich. The family was actually middle-class, the chief said.



He described Randy as a great planner who sometimes seemed to live in a dream world. And, when things got bad, Randy would say, "Hey, maybe I ought to be like Bonnie and Clyde," Chief Waybourn said.

Mr. Halprin and his younger brother were troubled teenagers, said Chief Waybourn, who has known the adoptive parents for more than a decade.

The parents, who have two younger children, left Texas weeks ago when they heard of their oldest son's jailbreak, the chief said.

"I think the parents are concerned and frightened about this," he said.

Mr. Halprin's parents could not be reached for comment.

The McKinney native was serving 30 years in a South Texas prison for brutally beating his girlfriend's infant. An Aug. 29, 1996, Fort Worth Police Department report said that Mr. Halprin broke the infant's arms and legs and fractured his skull because he wouldn't stop crying.

Mr. Halprin met the infant's mother at an Arlington homeless shelter in July 1996, records show.

In a 1997 court-ordered evaluation by Dr. Mary Cannon, Mr. Halprin is described as a slightly depressed, "pleasant, cooperative young man who made good eye contact and was aware of his surroundings."

But Mr. Halprin also had trouble making rational decisions, Dr. Cannon wrote.

"The major problem with Mr. Halprin is that he has, at least on occasion, poor impulse control," she wrote. "Couple this with poor judgment and a tremendous problem arises. I must also point out that it is well-documented that people who have been abused as children become child abusers themselves."

- Rachel Horton, The Arlington Morning News, and Brenda Rodriguez

Donald Newbury

Donald Keith Newbury was such a model parolee that even his parole officer testified on his behalf for leniency at his 1998 trial for holding up an Austin hotel clerk.

But not even the testimony of his parole officer - considered by prosecutors and Mr. Newbury's attorney as unusual - could save him from life in prison.

Mr. Newbury, 38, was on parole for the aggravated robbery of another business when on a July evening about three years ago he walked into a La Quinta Inn along south Interstate 35 in Austin with a sawed-off shotgun and demanded money from a clerk. The clerk was not injured in the incident.

"This was very traumatic for her. In fact, she left La Quinta afterward, and I think she had been an employee there for a while," said a Travis County prosecutor who did not want to be identified for safety reasons. "She was highly, highly affected by what he had done. ... I think that before he left, he told her something like, 'You're lucky.'"

A publicly aired surveillance video of the robbery and a Crime Stoppers tip led to his arrest near Brady about a month after the holdup. Brady is about 130 miles northwest of Austin.

Although Mr. Newbury confessed to the crime, he pleaded not guilty at his four-day trial in Travis County. A jury found him guilty of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon and sentenced him to 99 years in prison.



"I argued that [the jury] had seen some snapshots of very bad decisions he had made in his life but that we had brought evidence in the punishment phase that a bigger picture showed that he had positive qualities, as the parole officer testified," said Kent C. Anschutz, Mr. Newbury's Austin court-appointed attorney. "And, as the kids that he was helping raise [testified] ... [he was] always on them about doing right, not getting into trouble, not ending up like he had."

Mr. Newbury was no stranger to trouble. Before the La Quinta robbery, he had been in Texas prisons in 1981 and 1987 for aggravated robbery of businesses. And authorities suspected him in about a dozen business robberies in the 1980s in the Austin area.

But after he was paroled on the 1987 charge, Mr. Newbury appeared to be making efforts to do "his best," Mr. Anschutz said.

At the time of the La Quinta robbery, he was unemployed and was living with a woman who had several children in the Brady area, where his grandmother lived, authorities said. It is unclear whether the woman was his girlfriend or whether they were married.

"Quite honestly, I found him to be a likable fellow good ol' boy kind of guy. ... Maybe didn't have a lot of breaks coming up," said Mr. Anschutz, who was a Travis County prosecutor for about 10 years before going into private practice.

"All I can tell you is from my knowledge of Donald's history, he never hurt, physically hurt, anyone," he said. "I wouldn't be surprised at anything when you have five to seven armed desperate men, but my honest gut reaction is that I would be very doubtful that he was a shooter in that [Irving] incident."

- Brenda Rodriguez

Joseph Garcia

Joseph Christopher Garcia was headstrong and hell-bent on going to trial for murder rather than making a deal with prosecutors.

Mr. Garcia, now 29, could have accepted a plea agreement for 25 years in prison, according to court records. Instead, he insisted that he had stabbed Miguel Luna to death in self-defense after a night of heavy drinking.

An autopsy determined that Mr. Luna had been stabbed 18 times in the head, chest and back. A jury rejected the self-defense claim and put Mr. Garcia in prison for 50 years.

"You stab someone 18 times and then try to convince a jury it was self-defense and you've got a long way to go," said R. Norvell Graham Jr., Mr. Garcia's defense attorney.

At the time of his arrest for murder, Mr. Garcia was a high school dropout. He had been arrested for theft, marijuana possession and truancy by the time he was 14 but had no felonies on his record.

Mr. Garcia was married but was living with his grandmother in a rundown South San Antonio apartment. He was working in the ground maintenance department at an aviation hangar for less than \$ 800 a month.

On the night of Feb. 3, 1996, he began partying at a bar near San Antonio International Airport. After closing time, he and several others adjourned to a friend's house, where they continued drinking and smoking marijuana, according to trial testimony.



Shortly before 6 a.m., Mr. Garcia was driving Mr. Luna home when they got into an argument. Mr. Garcia said they got lost on the way home and Mr. Luna became angry and started hitting him.

Somehow, Mr. Luna got the car keys and ran off with Mr. Garcia close behind. The chase ended in the courtyard of a nearby apartment complex.

"These were not criminal types," said Mr. Graham. "It's just something that happened one night."

Mr. Luna left behind a wife and two daughters.

After his arrest, Mr. Garcia couldn't scrape together the money to post his \$ 50,000 bond. So, he spent his time in jail preparing for trial and participating in counseling programs and high school classes.

Graciela Olivarri, a jail social worker, reported that he started a 12-step program for drug and alcohol abusers. He also took a baptismal class.

From his jail cell, Mr. Garcia also made clear his unhappiness with Mr. Graham's performance as his court-appointed attorney. He filed meticulous handwritten motions to reduce his bond, get a court-appointed investigator and to get Mr. Graham removed from his case.

"I guess Mr. Graham thought he was going to deal with ignorance and someone and his family who did not know his job and the duties of that job," Mr. Garcia wrote one judge. "Well, I am not stupid and neither is my family."

Mr. Graham, who has been practicing law since 1962, said that the evidence of murder was compelling and that Mr. Garcia should have taken the 25-year deal.

After the trial and the 50-year sentence, Mr. Graham successfully requested to be taken off the case because of "conflicts and disagreements with defendant."

Mr. Garcia had been in prison since November 1996 when he escaped on Dec. 13.

Now Mr. Graham feels like a member of a special group of people scattered across Texas - lawyers, judges, prosecutors and crime victims - who fear that the seven escapees might turn to revenge.

"It's scary," Mr. Graham said. "But I feel like he has no reason to do anything bad to me."

- Scott Parks

Patrick Murphy Jr.

Sixteen years before he became one of the most-wanted fugitives in Texas, Patrick Henry Murphy Jr. didn't even wait for an indictment before pleading guilty to a burglary charge, records show.

Three days later, a high school acquaintance accused Mr. Murphy of breaking into her Dallas apartment, covering her head with a pillowcase and raping her at knifepoint. Although he was masked, she recognized his voice, and he was convicted of the crime.

Of the seven prison escapees suspected of fatally shooting Irving police Officer Aubrey Hawkins during a Christmas Eve robbery, the least is known publicly about Mr. Murphy.

He has been in prison longer than the other six, and he has had the fewest visitors and contacts with the outside world in the months before the Dec. 13 jailbreak, law-enforcement officials said.



Officials say Mr. Murphy's background includes a belief in a Northern European mythological religion called Odinism. Odin is the Scandinavian name of the god of wisdom, poetry, war and agriculture.

According to the book *Religions of the World*, Odin bestowed victory and protected princely heroes, and his power was that of a divine sorcerer and a master of occult terrors. He was also lord of the dead, and death in battle was the ultimate fate of his worshipers, the book says.

In the Connally unit, Mr. Murphy worked in a machine shop with others in the escapee group. Before he went to prison, he possibly worked as an electrician, a steelworker and a laborer.

Mr. Murphy was not a suspected or confirmed member of a prison gang. Some law-enforcement experts say that as a convicted sexual offender, Mr. Murphy could be considered a weak link among the escapees because he might give in to sexual urges.

However, "with these guys, you don't know that's a safe assumption," said Tory J. Caeti, a criminal justice professor at the University of North Texas in Denton. "The fact is, they've bucked every trend. That being said, I think if any of them showed a weakness, I'd doubt they'd let them leave the group [alive]."

The professor said it is unusual that the band of escapees includes two sex offenders and a child abuser: "Usually, there's a pecking order inside [prison], and it surprised me that they'd be part of that group."

In February 1984, police caught the 23-year-old and another man illegally inside a building in Dallas County. So when Mr. Murphy was offered a chance for probation, he took it.

The next month, Mr. Murphy waived his right to an indictment and a trial, testifying against his co-defendant during a brief plea hearing. And then, even though Dallas County authorities considered him a "medium supervision risk," Mr. Murphy received six years' probation and a judge's stern warning that probation officials would be watching him.

Three days later, a young divorced mother was raped at knifepoint by an intruder she identified as Mr. Murphy. She testified that she recognized the masked rapist's voice when he told her, "Keep your eyes shut and be quiet or something might happen."

She said she and her assailant had attended Irving High School, and she identified Mr. Murphy as the rapist who broke into her apartment after investigators arranged a "voice line-up," according to court records.

During the November 1984 trial, two friends of Mr. Murphy's testified that he had stayed at their Irving apartment for a few days before the rape and that they had heard their front door open and shut during the wee hours on the morning of the assault.

One of the men said he and Mr. Murphy had visited the victim's apartment two days before the attack. The other man testified that Mr. Murphy discussed sexual matters with him.

Characterized by prosecutors as a "professional burglar rapist," Mr. Murphy was convicted of aggravated sexual assault by a jury. He asked a judge to set his sentence, and he received a 50-year prison term. His half sister said recently that Mr. Murphy would have been eligible for parole in about a year.

An attorney who helped defend Mr. Murphy said he recalled little about the case, and the prosecutor who tried it is now a state district judge who is prohibited by ethics rules from commenting because of the capital murder allegations against Mr. Murphy.

Mr. Murphy's ex-wife, his 19-year-old son and other family members could not be reached for comment.



- Holly Becka

Graphic

CHART(S): (The Dallas Morning News) THE ESCAPEES. PHOTO(S): 1. Randy Ethan Halprin. 2. Larry James Harper. 3. Joseph C. Garcia. 4. Patrick Henry Murphy Jr. 5. Donald Keith Newbury. 6. George Rivas.

Load-Date: January 9, 2001

End of Document

[Halprin kicked, beat woman's child to stop him from crying](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

January 7, 2001, Sunday, FINAL EDITION

Copyright 2001 Star-Telegram Newspaper, Inc.

Section: METRO;

Length: 544 words

Byline: Mike Lee; Star-Telegram Staff Writer

Body

Randy Ethan Halprin was an abused child who was adopted by an altruistic couple in the Arlington area, a family friend said.

But he caused his new family heartache as a teen-ager, the friend said. Halprin's escape from prison and allegations that he was involved in the killing of a police officer have further devastated his adoptive parents and sent them into hiding.

Randy and his brother, Wesley, were adopted when they were 6 and 4, respectively, said **Bill Waybourn**, a family friend who is police chief in Dalworthington Gardens.

"They came out of CPS [Child Protective Services] cases that were pretty difficult ... out of a pretty abusive home," he said late last week.

The adoptive parents, Daniel and Patricia Halprin, owned an



electronics business and lived in a comfortable house in Dalworthington Gardens near Arlington.

Randy Halprin, now 23, was an intelligent boy, but he began to have problems with reality when he was 12 or 13, Waybourn said.

"One of the most significant ones, he thought aliens were going to be landing, and he took maps, marked landing sites, and so forth like that," he said.

Waybourn, who has known the Halprins about 14 years, said he tried to counsel the boy. Randy Halprin said he wanted to be an Air Force police officer, as Waybourn had been.

But Halprin's behavior deteriorated, and his parents sent him to boarding school in Kentucky. He earned good grades at first but "took a turn south" and was expelled after running away, Waybourn said.

Halprin's adoptive parents tried to help him live on his own by arranging to get him an apartment in Kentucky. But Halprin took the rent money and began "living off the streets and the system," Waybourn said. "Living in homeless shelters, that's how he fed and clothed himself."

Halprin was staying at an Arlington homeless shelter when his life took a turn that would eventually land him in prison. He became acquainted with a woman at the shelter and moved with her and friends into an apartment in west Fort Worth.

In August 1996, he beat and kicked the woman's 16-month-old son to make him stop crying. According to an internal memo from the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, the child suffered broken arms and legs, multiple skull fractures, a black eye and a ruptured eardrum. Halprin pleaded guilty to causing serious bodily injury to a child and was sentenced to 30 years in prison.

Court-appointed psychiatrist Mary Cannon said Halprin showed average intelligence but had "a major problem" with impulse control.

"Couple this with poor judgment, and a tremendous problem arises," she wrote in a report.

The conviction made his adoptive parents wary, Waybourn said.

"He brutalized that baby pretty badly. When that episode



happened, I went, 'Ooh.' I knew he was having some issues, but I didn't think he'd get violent," he said.

Halprin's parents have left Texas along with two other adopted children, Waybourn said. They left partly because they feared that Halprin and the other escapees might try to rob them, Waybourn said.

"I have heard from them since they've been gone. They were just beside themselves about the death of that police officer," Waybourn said.

Load-Date: January 8, 2001

End of Document

ESCAPED CONVICTS SOUGHT IN KILLING

Charlotte Observer (North Carolina)

December 27, 2000 Wednesday TWO AND THREE EDITION

Copyright 2000 The Charlotte Observer All Rights Reserved

Section: MAIN; Pg. 1A

Length: 729 words

Byline: BRUCE NICHOLS, Dallas Morning News * Contributor: The, Associated Press

Dateline: DALLAS

Body

The story conjures up recollections of Clyde Barrow's raid on a Texas prison in 1934 or Fred Gomez Carrasco's siege at a Huntsville prison in 1974.

The men who escaped from a South Texas prison two weeks ago and are suspected in the killing of an Irving police officer during a robbery Christmas Eve have shown an unusual ability to plan and execute their crimes, officials said.

"The combination of planning, the number of them, the discipline and then the follow-up violent crime I think is unprecedented," said John McAuliffe, inspector general for the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

The Barrow gang executed a raid on the Eastham prison unit to free four gang members in 1934. The Carrasco incident, which began as an escape attempt, lasted 11 days and ended in early August 1974 when authorities stormed the prison library.



Both were unusual leaders, and so apparently is George Rivas, 30, who was serving 99 years for aggravated robbery and kidnapping in El Paso, McAuliffe said. He's been identified as the leader of the gang that broke out of the Connally unit in Kenedy on Dec. 13.

"I don't know in his psyche too much of the background but he's affected this group to keep them together, and it's surprised us," McAuliffe said. "It's not typical."

Based on a still-incomplete investigation, it appears that Rivas and the others planned the escape over several months, and they planned to do more than just escape, McAuliffe said. They planned to make a splash.

There are indications they had outside help.

"Three of them left notes," McAuliffe said. "One of them was a little more detailed than the others." One said: "You haven't heard the last of us." He declined to say who the authors were.

It began in the maintenance shop, where six of the inmates were assigned. The shop is near the prison's rear entrance. A seventh inmate, assigned elsewhere, joined them in the shop.

Shortly after lunch on Dec. 13, the seven overwhelmed 11 civilian workers in the shop and three inmates who chose not to join them.

They took the civilians' clothes and rifled their pockets for money, credit cards and identification.

Some of the inmates talked their way past a guard on the ground and stormed a guard tower on the outer perimeter, where they overwhelmed another guard.

That guard tower was selected because it holds an unusually large number of weapons, said prison spokesman Larry Fitzgerald. It also has a large enough gate for vehicles to enter and leave.

The inmates took a pickup truck at the maintenance shop, hiding several inmates and the weapons in back, and drove away.

The truck was found two hours later, in a Wal-Mart parking lot three miles away.

Tips came from all over the country, Fitzgerald said,

But the next time anyone heard from the seven was Christmas Eve. The men are suspected of having shot Officer Aubry Hawkins, 29, during the robbery at a sporting goods store in Irving. Capital murder warrants were issued for all seven.

Texas Department of Criminal Justice officials have confirmed that blood was found in the sport utility vehicle stolen from the sporting goods store. Police theorize Hawkins may have wounded one or more of the suspects or they were injured in the robbery.

Susie Sanchez, whose daughter was slain in a murder-for-hire arranged by one of the escapees in 1992, said police have alerted her family.

"I have four other daughters, and the police have told them to be cautious," said Sanchez, whose daughter, Theresa Rodriguez, was shot in the head in a scheme by her husband to collect \$400,000 in insurance money.

The husband, 38-year-old Michael Rodriguez, pleaded guilty to murder and was serving a life sentence.



Another of the escaped convicts, 29-year-old Joseph Garcia, was serving 50 years for murder. Another is a serial rapist.

Randy Ethan Halprin, 23, of Dalworthington Gardens, was serving 30 years for beating his girlfriend's infant.

Halprin was a troubled teen-ager, said **Bill Waybourn**, Dalworthington Gardens' chief of public safety, who has known Halprin's adoptive parents for over a decade.

The adoptive parents left the state when they heard of their oldest son's escape, the chief said.

Clyde Barrow died a few months after his prison raid. He and his partner, Bonnie Parker, were killed in a shootout with lawmen on a Louisiana back road.

Carrasco died in the final assault ending the siege at Huntsville in early August 1974.

Notes

Graphic not in database; please see microfilm.

Graphic

Photos-7 and Graphic;

1.-7. Photos from the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. Wanted in Murder. Investigators issued murder warrants against seven prison escapees on Monday in the Christmas eve killing of Irving, Texas, police Officer Aubry Hawkins during a robbery: 1. Larry Harper 2. Patrick Murphy Jr. 3. Donald Newbury 4. Randy Halprin 5. George Rivas 6. Joseph Garcia 7. Michael Rodriguez 8. Associated Press graphic

Load-Date: January 31, 2002

End of Document

ESCAPED INMATES WANTED IN KILLING

Charlotte Observer (North Carolina)

December 27, 2000 Wednesday ONE EDITION

Copyright 2000 The Charlotte Observer All Rights Reserved

Section: MAIN; Pg. 1A

Length: 597 words

Byline: MICHELLE KOIDIN, Associated Press * Contributor: The, Dallas Morning News

Dateline: SAN ANTONIO



Body

When seven Texas inmates fled a Kenedy prison with an arsenal of weapons two weeks ago, they left a warning.

"You haven't heard the last of us yet," read the note.

Now the seven are wanted in the murder of a police officer shot to death in a Christmas Eve holdup at a suburban Dallas sporting goods store 300 miles away.

The surprising thing to investigators and experts on crime is that the convicts - who apparently did not know each other before they went to prison - did not split up after the escape.

"They've generated a discipline among themselves and a loyalty that has held up since Dec. 13," said John McAuliffe, inspector general for the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

The escaped convicts had been jailed for murder, rape and robbery and were serving sentences ranging from 30 years to life in prison.

They were believed to be well armed and desperate.

"In light of the fact that Texas executes more prisoners than any other state, we have to recognize how vulnerable we are," said Dennis Longmire, a criminal justice professor at Sam Houston State University in Huntsville. "These men really have nothing to lose."

The convicts broke out of a maximum-security state prison, the Connally unit. Located 60 miles southeast of San Antonio, it is ringed with razor wire.

The convicts, wearing street clothes stripped from prison employees, bluffed their way into a guard tower, saying they needed to do maintenance work.

Then they tied up a guard, took 14 .357-Magnum pistols, a shotgun, rifle and 238 rounds of ammunition and fled in a pickup they ditched a few miles away.

Two days later, some of the escapees may have robbed a Radio Shack in the Houston area. The Radio Shack robbery had similar characteristics to the Christmas Eve robbery. In both cases, suspects bound store employees and stole an employee's vehicle.

The convicts were featured on TV's "America's Most Wanted" three days later, on Dec. 16, but the tips it generated did not pan out.

The next time anyone heard from the seven was Christmas Eve, investigators said. The men are suspected of having shot Officer Aubry Hawkins, 29, during the robbery at a sporting goods store in Irving. Capital murder warrants were issued for all seven.

Texas Department of Criminal Justice officials have confirmed that blood was found in the sport utility vehicle stolen from the sporting goods store. Police theorize Hawkins may have wounded one or more of the suspects or they were injured in the robbery.

The Border Patrol was alerted to look out for the men, though the convicts apparently spent the past two weeks moving north, away from the Mexican border, a three-hour drive from the prison.



Susie Sanchez, whose daughter was slain in a murder-for-hire arranged by one of the men in 1992, said police have alerted her family.

"I have four other daughters, and the police have told them to be cautious," said Sanchez, whose daughter, Theresa Rodriguez, was shot in the head in a scheme by her husband to collect \$400,000 in insurance money.

The husband, 38-year-old Michael Rodriguez, was serving a life sentence for murder.

Another of the escaped convicts, 29-year-old Joseph Garcia, was serving 50 years for murder. Another is a serial rapist. Randy Ethan Halprin, 23, of Dalworthington Gardens, was serving 30 years for brutally beating his girlfriend's infant.

Halprin was a troubled teen-ager, said **Bill Waybourn**, Dalworthington Gardens' chief of public safety, who has known Halprin's adoptive parents for more than a decade.

The adoptive parents left the state when they heard of their oldest son's escape, the chief said.

Notes

Graphic not in database; please see microfilm.

Graphic

1.-7. Photos from the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. Wanted in Murder. Investigators issued murder warrants against seven prison escapees on Monday in the Christmas eve killing of Irving, Texas, police Officer Aubry Hawkins during a robbery: 1. Larry Harper 2. Patrick Murphy Jr. 3. Donald Newbury 4. Randy Halprin 5. George Rivas 6. Joseph Garcia 7. Michael Rodriguez 8. Associated Press graphic

Load-Date: January 31, 2002

End of Document

[**Hunt for fugitives grows as police investigate tips Similar case may yield clues to men sought in slaying**](#)

The Dallas Morning News

December 27, 2000, Wednesday, THIRD EDITION

Copyright 2000 The Dallas Morning News

Section: NEWS;

Length: 1343 words



Byline: Connie Piloto, Linda K. Wertheimer

Body

Authorities surrounded an Arlington hotel Tuesday, thinking they were about to discover some of the escaped convicts suspected in the fatal shooting of an Irving police officer. Hope soon turned to disappointment.

It was a case of mistaken identity and another bad lead as police tried to find the men responsible for breaking into an Oshman's sporting goods store and killing Officer Aubrey Hawkins on Christmas Eve.

Also Tuesday, police in a Houston-area town were investigating the possibility that some of the same escaped convicts robbed a Radio Shack on Dec. 15, two days after they broke out of a South Texas prison. The robbery had similar characteristics to the Irving break-in. In both cases, robbers bound employees and stole one of the employees' vehicles.

Staff Writers of The Dallas Morning News

WFAA-TV (Channel 8) also reported Tuesday night that Texas Department of Criminal Justice officials confirmed that blood was found in the sport utility vehicle stolen from an Oshman's manager on Christmas Eve after the robbery. The blood could mean that Officer Hawkins wounded one of the robbers or that they were injured in the robbery. Irving police have not said whether they have recovered the officer's weapon.

Officer Hawkins, 29, was shot and killed when he went to check out a break-in at the Irving sporting goods store.

Tuesday morning, following a tip, tactical officers evacuated the AmeriSuites Hotel near Six Flags Over Texas. Police questioned three people staying in a room before releasing them.

"We didn't have enough information to say, 'Yes, we've got them,' but it was enough to go in there," said Irving police Officer David Tull. "We can't take a gamble on something like that."

Arlington police received a tip that some of the suspects might be staying at the hotel Tuesday morning and called Irving police.

At the hotel, a clerk identified one of the suspects from a photo lineup, said Arlington police Sgt. James Hawthorne, a department spokesman.

"We were fairly confident these were the individuals we were looking for," he said.

Police from Arlington and Irving secured several floors of the hotel, expecting to begin negotiations. One of the three guests walked out of the room before they could start.

"They told me to put my hands up and drop," said David Mijres, who was visiting from El Paso. "Then, they ran into our room and body-slammed my cousin."

Mr. Mijres said his cousin and a friend from Dallas checked into the hotel on Christmas Day. The two other men declined to give their names.

The men spent Christmas night at an area club and returned to their room with three women who left their room at 7 a.m., Mr. Mijres said.



"I think the three girls told them we were wanted for killing a cop," Mr. Mijres said.

Mr. Mijres, his cousin and friend said they were angry as they stormed out of the hotel.

The men said authorities told them they had been spotted at a nearby club and had spent a lot of money.

"This is unjust," said the Dallas man. "We're Hispanic and we have cash, so they immediately think we're up to something."

Police said they had to act on any tips they receive. The suspects in the police shooting all have records of violence. Two are murderers, and another is a serial rapist. Another brutally beat a 1-year-old for crying. One had robbed the same kind of sporting goods store in 1993.

Police in Pearland, Texas, are investigating a robbery with similarities to the Irving case.

According to a statement from the Pearland Police Department, about 10 p.m. Dec. 15, two white men entered a Radio Shack in Pearland and displayed their guns. The assailants took the employees and customers to the rear of the store and bound their wrists and ankles. The robbers emptied the pockets of the victims, looted the store and left. They then stole one victim's vehicle from the parking lot. None of the store employees or customers were hurt.

Pearland police recovered the vehicle, which belonged to a Radio Shack employee.

At the Irving Oshman's, robbers pulled out guns and herded 23 workers into a corner. The robbers bound and handcuffed the employees. They then stole a white Ford Explorer owned by a store manager.

The Oshman's store where the shooting took place will remain closed until Tuesday, the Houston-based company's chief executive officer said in a prepared statement. The store is at the southwest corner of Belt Line Road and State Highway 183 in Irving.

"We are deeply saddened by the death of Officer Aubrey Hawkins and our hearts go out to his family," CEO Alvin N. Lubetkin said Tuesday.

He said that the store was closed "to give our associates time to get past this difficult situation."

No workers were hurt.

The Irving police will continue to take the lead in the investigation, while other agencies - including the Texas Rangers, the Texas Department of Criminal Justice and the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms - investigate the escape, Officer Tull said.

"We all have a vested interest in this," he said. "We know what these men are capable of, and any law enforcement officer that comes into contact with them is in danger."

Two of the escaped prisoners have ties to the Dallas-Fort Worth area. Randy Ethan Halprin, 23, was adopted by an Arlington family and grew up in Dalworthington Gardens after he was removed from the home of his abusive birth parents, according to Tarrant County court records.

Mr. Halprin was serving 30 years in a South Texas prison for brutally beating his girlfriend's infant before he and six other violent offenders escaped from the Connally unit in Kenedy, Texas, two weeks ago.



Born in McKinney, Mr. Halprin dropped out of school in the 11th grade and worked various fast-food jobs, according to court records. He had used marijuana and LSD and was arrested once for credit card abuse, records show.

Mr. Halprin was a troubled teenager, said **Bill Waybourn**, Dalworthington Gardens' chief of public safety, who has known the adoptive parents for more than a decade.

Mr. Halprin's parents left the state when they heard of their oldest son's escape, the chief said.

"I think the Halprins are concerned and frightened about this," he said.

Paula Creel, a neighbor of the Halprins', said she was surprised to hear about their oldest son's possible involvement with the shooting in Irving.

"They're very quiet people. Very pleasant," she said. "It's tragic. I didn't even know they had another family."

Another of the escapees, Patrick Henry Murphy Jr., was serving 50 years for an aggravated assault in Dallas County, but details were not available Tuesday.

Others being sought are Michael Anthony Rodriguez, who was sentenced to life in prison for capital murder for the murder-for-hire death of his wife in San Antonio so he could collect insurance; and Joseph C. Garcia, who was serving 50 years for murder in Bexar County, prison officials said.

The other three fugitives are George Rivas, who is serving time for aggravated robbery and kidnapping for robbing two stores in El Paso in 1993; Larry James Harper, sentenced to 50 years for aggravated sexual assault of three women in El Paso; and Donald Keith Newbury, sentenced to life in prison for an aggravated robbery in Austin.

Authorities have said they don't know how the suspects made it to the Dallas area after breaking out of the Connally unit in Kenedy, south of San Antonio. The inmates had been planning their jailbreak for six months and took a small arsenal with them, the Texas Department of Criminal Justice said. They left a note saying: "You haven't heard the last of us," said John McAuliffe, the department's inspector general.

A mid-December episode of America's Most Wanted featured a re-enactment of the escape. The show prompted many phone tips, but like Tuesday's tip, none led to useful information, officials said.

Irving police said anyone with information should call 972-721-2518.

Arlington Morning News staff writers Rachel Horton and Ben Tinsley contributed to this report.

Graphic

PHOTO(S): 1. Aubrey Hawkins ... Irving police officer was fatally shot investigating a break-in at a sporting goods store on Christmas Eve. 2. (The Dallas Morning News: Nan Coulter) The Oshman's at Belt Line Road and State Highway 183 in Irving will not open again until Tuesday. The closing is meant "to give our associates time to get past this difficult situation," the company's CEO said. 3. (The Dallas Morning News: Jim Mahoney) Police officers leave the AmeriSuites near Six Flags Over Texas after determining that they were given a false lead. Arlington police received a tip that some of the suspects in Sunday's slaying might be staying at the hotel. Three people were questioned Tuesday before being released.



Load-Date: December 29, 2000

End of Document

Shooting suspect spent teen years in Arlington

The Dallas Morning News
December 27, 2000, Wednesday

Copyright 2000 The Dallas Morning News

Section: ARLINGTON MORNING NEWS; NEWS;

Length: 526 words

Byline: Rachel Horton, Ben Tinsley

Body

An escaped convict suspected of killing a Irving police officer on Christmas Eve once found a safe haven and a new family in Arlington.

Randy Ethan Halprin, 23, is one of seven men targeted in a statewide manhunt in the fatal shooting of the officer.

After he was abused as a child, Mr. Halprin was adopted by an Arlington family and grew up in Dalworthington Gardens, according to Tarrant County court records.
Staff Writers of the Arlington Morning News

Mr. Halprin was serving 30 years in a South Texas prison for brutally beating his girlfriend's infant before he and six other violent offenders escaped from the Connally Unit in Kenedy, Texas, two weeks ago.

A Fort Worth Police Department report dated Aug. 29, 1996, indicates that Mr. Halprin broke the infant's arms and legs and fractured his skull because he wouldn't stop crying.

In a 1997 court-ordered evaluation by Dr. Mary Cannon, Mr. Halprin is described as a slightly depressed, "pleasant, cooperative young man who made good eye contact and was aware of his surroundings."

But Mr. Halprin also had trouble making rational decisions, Dr. Cannon wrote in her report.

"The major problem with Mr. Halprin is that he has, at least on occasion, poor impulse control," she wrote. "Couple this with poor judgment and a tremendous problem arises.

"I must also point out that it is well-documented that people who have been abused as children become child abusers themselves."

Records show that Mr. Halprin met his victim's mother at an Arlington homeless shelter in July 1996.

More than a month later, the woman and two other children were playing in a different room of a Fort Worth residence when Mr. Halprin repeatedly beat the 1-year-old infant, records show.



Born in McKinney, Mr. Halprin dropped out of school in the 11th grade and worked various fast-food jobs, according to court records. He used marijuana and LSD and was arrested once for credit card abuse, records show.

Mr. Halprin and his younger brother were both troubled teenagers, said **Bill Waybourn**, Dalworthington Gardens' chief of public safety, who has known the adoptive parents for more than a decade.

Both children were estranged from their adoptive parents as teenagers. The younger brother, now 20, moves from hotel to hotel, Chief Waybourn said.

The parents, who have two younger adopted children, left the state when they heard of their oldest son's jailbreak, the chief said.

"I think the [parents] are concerned and frightened about this," he said.

Paula Creel, a neighbor of the parents, said she was surprised to hear about their oldest son's possible involvement with the shooting in Irving.

"They're very quiet people. Very pleasant," she said. "It's tragic."

The other escaped convicts suspected in the Christmas Eve shooting of Irving police Officer Aubrey Hawkins include two convicted murderers and a serial rapist.

Police detained three men Tuesday after receiving a tip that some of the suspects could be holed up in the AmeriSuites hotel in the 2300 block of East Road to Six Flags. The men were released after police determined their identities.

Staff Writer Matt Ward contributed to this report.

Graphic

PHOTO(S): Randy Ethan Halprin

Load-Date: January 18, 2001

End of Document

**[Escapes sought in killing;
7 convicts suspected in Irving officer's death](#)**

The Dallas Morning News

December 26, 2000, Tuesday, THIRD EDITION

Copyright 2000 The Dallas Morning News

Section: NEWS;



Length: 1584 words

Byline: Ian McCann, Jeffrey Weiss

Dateline: IRVING

Body

IRVING - Authorities scoured North Texas Monday for signs of seven escaped convicts suspected of killing an Irving police officer on Christmas Eve after robbing a sporting goods store.

The convicts broke out of a South Texas prison two weeks ago, and all are violent, authorities said. Two are murderers, another is a serial rapist, another brutally beat a 1-year-old child for crying. Two have ties to the Dallas area. One had robbed the same kind of sporting goods store in 1993.

Irving police and state prison officials said they didn't know how the men may have made it to the Dallas area after breaking out of the Connally Unit in Kenedy, south of San Antonio.
Staff Writers of The Dallas Morning News

Law enforcement officials across North Texas were put on alert after the shooting, said John McAuliffe, inspector general for the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, which was working with the state Department of Public Safety, FBI, the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms and several local police departments.

The inmates took a small arsenal when they escaped from the Connally Unit, a jailbreak they had planned for at least six months, Mr. McAuliffe said. And they left a note behind.

"The note they left said that basically, 'You haven't heard the last of us,'" Mr. McAuliffe said.

The gang, united only by their time together in prison, is unusual, he said. "They've generated a discipline among themselves and a loyalty that has held up since December 13," Mr. McAuliffe said.

Law enforcement officials are hoping the public will help catch the robbers. If the escapees were responsible, then "unquestionably they had some outside help," Mr. McAuliffe said.

Irving police have asked for anyone with information to call them at 972-721-2518.

The seven escapees are now wanted on capital murder charges in the death of Officer Aubry Hawkins, 29, who was one of the first two officers sent Sunday night to the Oshman's Super Sports USA at the southwest corner of Belt Line Road and State Highway 183 in Irving. He was shot as the robbers fled.

Irving police were not saying Monday whether Officer Hawkins fired his weapon. They said they didn't know what the robbers got away with, although store employees said they took guns. Police did not explain how they identified the escapees as prime suspects quickly enough to show their pictures to witnesses late Sunday.

Law enforcement officials did say that the robbery seemed to have been carefully coordinated.

"This was a well-planned and executed robbery," Irving Police Chief Lowell Cannaday said.

Police offered only sketchy details Monday about what happened:



Sometime around closing at 6 p.m. Sunday, the robbers, dressed in dark clothing, went into the store. They pulled out guns and herded the 23 workers - most of them high school students - into a corner. The robbers then bound and handcuffed them, police said; it wasn't clear where they got the handcuffs.

Around 6:30, someone outside called police. "It was someone at the front of the store who noticed something not right was going on," Chief Cannaday said. "I'm not sure what he or she saw that made it suspicious."

Officer Hawkins and the other officer arrived three minutes later. The robbers shot Officer Hawkins as they left through the back door, Chief Cannaday said. They escaped in a white Ford Explorer owned by a store manager, Wesley Farris of Fort Worth. The vehicle was found about midnight at an undisclosed location in Irving.

No Oshman's workers were hurt, and no customers were in the store at the time, police said. Friends and relatives of employees waited hours as police interviewed the witnesses. Several employees emerged visibly shaken, and some were in tears as they left police headquarters early Monday.

"They're taking it very well," said Jimmy Martin, 39, who knows several of the employees and visited with them after they met with investigators. "For 16-, 17- and 18-year-olds, they're doing well. They don't seem like they're too nervous."

Employees told Mr. Martin that the robbers led one of the store managers around the store during the robbery. Mr. Martin said the employees credited Mr. Farris with doing what he could to keep the robbery peaceful.

"He kept it calm," Mr. Martin said. "He told them to leave the kids alone, leave them alone."

Police said they would not know what the robbers got away with until Oshman's finishes a complete inventory of the store. They said they didn't know whether the robbers took Officer Hawkins' gun.

"There were enough guns scattered out there," said Officer David Tull, an Irving police spokesman.

Officer Hawkins, who had been with the force since October 1999, died of multiple gunshot wounds at Parkland Memorial Hospital. He is the second officer killed in the line of duty in the Irving department's history.

Funeral arrangements for Officer Hawkins had not been announced late Monday, and police said they intend to set up a fund to help his family. The Aubry Hawkins Memorial Fund was to be created Tuesday at the Irving City Employees Federal Credit Union, 1408 W. Pioneer Drive, Irving, TX 75061.

Gov. Rick Perry's office has offered a \$ 7,000 reward for information leading to an arrest and conviction, and Schepp's Dairy has offered another \$ 15,000.

The seven inmates sought in the robbery and murder had been imprisoned for crimes committed in Arlington, El Paso, Austin, San Antonio and Dallas. All they had in common before this month was a shared prison address - a maximum security area of the Connally Unit, which holds more than 2,800 male inmates convicted of a wide spectrum of offenses. They are supervised by almost 450 security officers.

On Dec. 13, authorities say, the inmates took 11 prison workers and three other prisoners hostage in the maintenance shop where they worked. Three of the workers were beaten. After taking clothes from the civilians, the inmates raided a guard tower for weapons and ammunition. Then they surprised two guards



near the back gate and tied them up before leaving in a white pickup truck, which they abandoned not far from the prison.

They escaped with 14 .357-caliber Magnum pistols with 238 rounds of ammunition, a loaded automatic rifle and a loaded shotgun.

"As we said from the beginning, these guys were armed and should be considered to be extremely dangerous," said Larry Fitzgerald, spokesman for the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

The Dec. 16 episode of America's Most Wanted featured a re-enactment of the escape. While the show prompted several phone tips, none led to useful information, officials said.

The escapees each have violent records:

* George Rivas, sentenced to life for aggravated robbery and kidnapping, robbed two El Paso stores in 1993. He and two other men robbed an Oshman's in April. The robbers forced the employees to handcuff themselves and then escaped with money. More than a month later, they robbed a Toys 'R' Us but were caught while trying to escape.

* Michael Anthony Rodriguez, sentenced to life in prison for capital murder, was convicted of paying another man \$ 2,000 to kill his wife so he could collect \$ 150,000 in life insurance. Mr. Rodriguez's wife was shot in the head in July 1992 in San Antonio after she and her husband came home from a movie.

* Randy Ethan Halprin, serving 30 years for injury to a child, beat up a baby. He had met the mother in an Arlington homeless shelter in July 1996 and moved in with the family. A month later, while the mother and two other children were playing in a different room, Mr. Garcia repeatedly beat the infant because, he later said, the child would not stop crying. When the baby was taken to the hospital the next day, doctors discovered broken arms, legs and a fractured skull.

* Larry James Harper, sentenced to 50 years for aggravated sexual assault, raped three women in El Paso over six months in 1993 and 1994. Each time, he surprised the women at their home, tied them up and repeatedly assaulted them.

* Donald Keith Newbury, sentenced to life in prison for aggravated robbery, robbed a woman at an Austin hotel in 1997. He was armed with a sawed-off shotgun.

Detailed information about two other escapees was not immediately available: Patrick Henry Murphy Jr. was serving 50 years for an aggravated assault in Dallas. And Joseph C. Garcia was serving 50 years for a murder in Bexar County.

Dalworthington Gardens police officers are being especially cautious, said **Bill Waybourn**, chief of public safety.

One of the escapees, Mr. Halprin, is a former resident of that city and an acquaintance of Chief Waybourn.

Mr. Halprin was sentenced to 30 years in prison in 1997 for a first-degree child abuse conviction in Fort Worth.

"We are on heightened alert and have extra folks out there keeping very much a vigil watch," Chief Waybourn said. "These are very desperate people. Officers need to be very vigilant. These guys are not going to hesitate. That's why we have to be prepared to act immediately."



The chief said he has known Mr. Halprin's parents for at least 13 years but hasn't seen the escapee since he was a teenager.

Law enforcement officials were united in their hope that someone who knows the escapees would come forward to help.

"They [the convicts] have got some resources and someone has to know about it. They could potentially save more victims," Mr. McAuliffe said.

Matt Ward of the Arlington Morning News contributed to this report.

Graphic

PHOTO(S): 1. A television crew broadcasts from the Oshman's parking lot in Irving, where a makeshift memorial honors slain police Officer Aubry Hawkins, 29. He was shot while responding to a robbery Sunday night at the sporting goods store. (The Dallas Morning News: Mona Reeder); 2. Joseph C. Garcia; 3. Randy Ethan Halprin; 4. LarryJames Harper; 5. Patrick Henry Murphy Jr.; 6. Donald Keith Newbury; 7. George Rivas; 8. Michael Anthony Rodriguez; CHART(S): The suspects (SOURCE: Texas Department of Criminal Justice); MAP(S): 1. Map of Texas showing the site of convicts escape.; 2. A map of Dallas and Irving showing the site where Irving police officer was killed (1-2: The Dallas Morning News)

Load-Date: December 29, 2000

End of Document

[Metro & Texas Digest;](#)
[Arlington Area](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

October 7, 1999, Thursday, ARLINGTON AM EDITION

Copyright 1999 Star-Telegram Newspaper, Inc.

Section: METRO;

Length: 1064 words

Byline: Staff and Wire Reports

Body

Bauder Fashion College demolition begins next week

ARLINGTON - Demolition of Bauder Fashion College near the University of Texas at Arlington is scheduled to begin sometime next week, university officials said yesterday.



The private fashion school, which closed in 1995 after 27 years, was at 508 S. Center St. In 1994, UT-Arlington bought the 59,700-square-foot building and the 2.4 acres of land that it sits on for \$ 1.4 million.

The university plans to convert the property into a parking lot that will add 475 parking spaces for students, said John Hall, associate vice president for finance and operations.

The university had planned to renovate the building for use as a student services building, but the cost was prohibitive. The building was out of compliance with many building codes.

The demolition crew will begin erecting fences around the site Tuesday or Wednesday, Hall said. The crew will use equipment instead of explosives to tear down the 3-story building. As a result, it will take about 45 days to complete the \$ 80,000 project, he said.

Once the building is removed, the university must survey the area and draw plans for the parking lot. The lot should be ready in the spring, Hall said.

Two UTA student groups raising funds for scholarships

ARLINGTON - Two student groups at the University of Texas at Arlington are sponsoring a banquet to raise funds for minority scholarships.

The Zeta Chi Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity and the UT-Arlington chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People are trying to raise \$ 10,000 for minority scholarships by November. So far, the groups have raised \$ 2,000.

The Minority Student Scholarship Fund Banquet is at 6 p.m. Saturday in the Rio Grande Ballroom of E.H. Hereford University Center at UT-Arlington, 301 W. Second St.

Tickets are \$ 35 for the public; \$ 20 for members of the faculty and staff, and students; \$ 10 for students active in student government organizations; or \$ 250 for a table of eight. For tickets or more information, contact Eric Gray or Zeb Strong at (817) 272-2099.

Johnson Creek panel seeks input at meeting tonight

ARLINGTON - The Johnson Creek 2000 committee is scheduled to meet tonight to get public input on the Johnson Creek project, which is



scheduled for a January 15 quarter-cent sales tax election.

The committee may appoint members to subcommittees that would promote the flood-control project and educate the public about its facets, which include a linear park, detention ponds, nature preservation and an upscale creekwalk development in the entertainment district.

The meeting is scheduled for 6 p.m. at City Hall, 101 W. Abram Street and is open to the public.

The project has an estimated base price of \$ 111.5 million.

However, the proposed sales tax increase would also be used to create a perpetual \$ 30 million fund that is expected to yield about \$ 1 million annually for maintenance.

Other economic variables, such as how much revenue the sales tax generates and the inflation rate during the projected 13 years of funding, could bring the total cost to \$ 160 million to \$ 200 million, city officials say.

If the creek initiative passes, the current sales tax rate of 7.75 percent could drop by one-quarter cent if the council decides to implement the Johnson Creek tax after the half-cent sales tax used to fund The Ballpark in Arlington expires in 2001.

Underage drinking suspects get citations from police
DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS - Police issued 14 "minor in possession" citations to suspected underage drinkers at a party at a house this weekend.

Officers arriving at a house in the 3300 block of Roosevelt Drive about 2 a.m. Saturday found between 40 and 59 college-age minors at the party, said Dalworthington Gardens Police Chief **Bill Waybourn**.

One woman was arrested and accused of evading police, and officers were searching for a man, believed to be 21 years old, who ran away with her, Waybourn said. One minor, who was intoxicated, was turned over to the parents.

A parent at the residence, which is on 3 or 4 acres, came out when police arrived, but did not appear to be aware of the party, Waybourn said. No charges against her are expected, he said.

It is believed that no students at Arlington high schools were



among the youths cited, Waybourn said.

However, rumors about the party led the Arlington school district to request more information, officials said.

In such situations, a request is made for "minor in possession" information, school district spokeswoman Charlene Robertson said.

"We have to wait until we find out what is involved," she said.

It might be three weeks before the district receives the information, she said.

"Then we have to sort through the tickets, see which names are our students, then send those names to the schools to see if they are involved in extracurricular activities," Robertson said.

FORT WORTH AREA

Hearing delayed for teen suspected in slaying

FORT WORTH - The adult-certification hearing for a 15-year-old capital murder suspect, scheduled for yesterday, was delayed after the judge said she needs more time to review evidence submitted in a similar hearing for a 14-year-old co-defendant, officials said.

The teens have been detained in the Scott D. Moore Juvenile Justice Center in Fort Worth since their arrests, along with two adults, in connection with the drugging, stabbing and burning of 33-year-old Sheree L. Hopkins of Mansfield in August.

Prosecutors are seeking to have both teens certified to stand trial as adults, Assistant District Attorney Barry Shelton said.

He said the 15-year-old allegedly obtained crack cocaine to ply the woman with and incapacitate her while the 14-year-old obtained the knife that was used to stab Hopkins up to 30 times.

"They all knew she was going to be killed," Shelton said yesterday of the four defendants.

Already charged with capital murder are 17-year-old Henry Lee McDonald and Nathaniel White, 35.

Shelton said that because the case against both juveniles is similar and because District Judge Jean Boyd heard the case against the 14-year-old Friday, she will review the rest of the evidence and testimony in the case and possibly issue rulings on both



certifications next week.

Load-Date: October 8, 1999

End of Document

[Area man fighting city on future of trees](#)

ARLINGTON MORNING NEWS

June 17, 1999, Thursday

Copyright 1999 The Dallas Morning News

Section: NEWS;

Length: 352 words

Byline: Jennifer Gaines

Body

David Mosig is fighting to preserve pieces of his family's history.

On Wednesday, the Dalworthington Gardens resident tied green ribbons around his 150-year-old oak trees to draw attention to his effort to protect them.

A tri-city project involving Arlington, Dalworthington Gardens and Pantego to expand Arkansas Lane and Bowen Road includes plans to destroy nine Post Oak trees on Mr. Mosig's property.

Staff Writer of the Arlington Morning News

But he said the city of Dalworthington Gardens doesn't have the right to destroy them.

"It's private property," Mr. Mosig said. "If they want it, they'll have to negotiate. When you take a ship at high seas, they call it a prize. That's the same thing on land. They just took it over."

However, **Bill Waybourn**, Dalworthington Gardens public safety chief, said the city has two easements on Mr. Mosig's property: one for the right-of-way widening of the road and one to install underground drainage utilities.

After Mr. Mosig refused to give up his property, a section of the land was condemned by the city to accommodate the road expansion.

"That property was condemned so that they could get in [the area]," Mr. Waybourn said. "He refused to appear in court. I know there is a signed court order that gives the city a right to be in those easements."

The court order awarding the city Mr. Mosig's property for the purpose of widening Arkansas Lane was signed Jan. 20. Mr. Waybourn said the value of the land has been considered, and money has been put toward the property. An attorney was hired to represent Mr. Mosig in the suit, but he dismissed the lawyer because he said he did not represent his best interest.



Lance Barton, an Arlington project engineer, said studies show the street-widening will have no profound impact on the environment.

"All trees within limits of the right-of-way and storm drain will be removed," Mr. Barton said. "It's unfortunate, but there's no way to avoid it."

Mr. Waybourn said debate over Mr. Mosig's property has been going on for decades and plans to widen Arkansas Lane were established before he accepted his position 18 years ago.

Graphic

PHOTO(S): (AMN: Tom Fox) David Mosig of Dalworthington Gardens ties green ribbons along his Arkansas Lane property Wednesday in hopes the city won't bulldoze them to widen the street. The Mosing family has lived on the property for the past 66 years.

Load-Date: June 18, 1999

End of Document

[Police say teacher acted legally in incident resulting in injury](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

February 5, 1999, Friday, ARLINGTON AM EDITION

Copyright 1999 Star-Telegram Newspaper, Inc.

Section: METRO;

Length: 269 words

Byline: Robert Tharp, Star-Telegram Writer

Body

DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS - A Key Elementary School teacher acted within the law when she was trying to restrain an 11-year-old student and accidentally broke his arm, Dalworthington Gardens police officials said yesterday.

Dalworthington Gardens Police Chief **Bill Waybourn** said investigators closed the case after determining that the special-education teacher did not use excessive force.

"We reviewed it with the district attorney and we felt like the



force was lawful," Waybourn said. "It appears that the teacher acted as she was trained. "

Arlington school district officials said the child, a sixth-grader in a class for emotionally disturbed children, was misbehaving in class Monday when the incident occurred. His teacher, Diane Gee, tried to escort him to a "time out" area.

The child resisted and Gee and another teacher applied a restraint hold, forcing the 190-pound student face-down on the floor and immobilizing his arms and legs. Gee was trying to restrain his left arm when it broke.

Caseworkers with Child Protective Services are conducting an independent investigation. The results will take at least two weeks to compile, officials said.

Waybourn said the child's relatives told him they believe that the incident should be considered a criminal case, but he said they have accepted the decision.

They could not be reached for comment.

"The family's reaction was that they were not upset," Waybourn said. "They disagree and think there was excessive force, but they were not upset. "

Robert Tharp, (817) 548-5420

tharp@star-telegram.com

Load-Date: February 8, 1999

End of Document

[Backhoe operator breaks oil pipe, showering nearby horses, homes](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

September 1, 1998, Tuesday, FINAL AM EDITION

Copyright 1998 Star-Telegram Newspaper, Inc.

Section: METRO;

Length: 401 words

Byline: Robert Tharp, Star-Telegram Writer



Body

DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS - A pipeline ruptured by a backhoe yesterday sent oil gushing higher than the old oak and pecan trees next to Braddock Stables and then drizzling down on a dozen horses and nearby homes and residents.

Neighbors scrambled in the goopy mess to rescue the horses, which were covered in oil and required emergency treatment.

"It was like a heavy, heavy black smoke," said stable owner Helen Braddock, who stepped out her back door after the pipeline break and felt the oily mist in the air. "We had to run and get the horses out, and by that time, we were just covered. "

For about 40 minutes, oil from a 16-inch Mobil pipeline fell on an area about 100 yards square in the 3300 block of Sunset Lane in Dalworthington Gardens, about a quarter-mile from Veterans Park.

Emergency workers evacuated four households because of strong fumes, and those residents may be kept from their homes for as long as three days, said Dalworthington Gardens Police Chief **Bill Waybourn**.

Officials from state and federal environmental agencies are investigating the break and coordinating the cleanup. Mobil spokesman Larry Grissom said investigators are trying to determine the extent of environmental damage caused by the leak.

The pipeline was breached about 11 a.m. when a worker using a backhoe struck the pipeline as he was dredging a pond. The oil rose 70 feet and was visible several blocks away on Arkansas Lane.

Rooftops, cars and tree limbs glistened in the sun as workers raced to treat the horses.

"It looked like one of those old-fashioned Texas pictures," Waybourn said.

Angela Hughes, a 24-year-old rodeo barrel racer, arrived within minutes and scrambled to wash the oil off her two horses. Using a garden hose, Hughes rinsed the two horses, but initially, the water beaded up and ran off their oil-soaked hides. Hughes was particularly concerned about J.J., a prize chestnut mare who was coughing from the fumes.



"It's amazing to me how far it went and how fast it went," Hughes said.

Martin Ransom, an equine veterinarian, said the horses were in danger of eye damage, respiratory problems and skin rashes.

Workers closed the pipeline, but oil continued to gurgle from the ground for several hours. Workers dug a channel to contain the oil, and a tanker truck was called to pump away the excess.

PHOTO(S): Paul Moseley

Load-Date: September 2, 1998

End of Document

[Fair Meadows offering \\$25,000 cash giveaway on Wednesday](#)

Tulsa World (Oklahoma)

July 08, 1998

Copyright 1998 The Tulsa World

Length: 221 words

Body

Fair Meadows will give its fans 25,000 reasons to attend the track's final Wednesday of live racing in 1998.

Wednesday's 12-race program kicks off the final four days of racing in Tulsa this year, and the card will also include the last major promotion for 1998 at Fair Meadows -- a \$ 25,000 cash giveaway with a \$ 1,000 grand prize.

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Fans will be given mutuel vouchers with a paid admission Wednesday, and those vouchers can be redeemed at mutuel windows for cash prizes of from \$ 2 to \$ 1,000.

Racing continues through Saturday, with first post time each day at 6 p.m.

Wednesday's card is one of the strongest weekday programs of the meeting, with Oklahoma-bred thoroughbreds going 51/2 furlongs in the \$ 16,750 allowance feature.

Bill Waybourn's Raised For More, coming off a sixth in the Tulsa Sprint on June 27, is the probable favorite.

Trained by Rodney Reed, Raised For More ran three solid races at Prairie Meadows to start his 1998 campaign, then ran an even race in the half-mile Sprint in his local debut. The son of Raise a Rascal has earned \$ 54,528 in 25 career starts, and he will have Larry Payne aboard.



Pickup Game, coming off a runner-up finish behind the red-hot sprinter Jamaicanmenervous on June 20, appears to be improving and should also attract a lot of attention Wednesday.

Load-Date: July 10, 1998

End of Document

[Ex-worker at city court accused of embezzling](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

May 21, 1998, Thursday, ARLINGTON AM EDITION

Copyright 1998 Star-Telegram Newspaper, Inc.

Section: ARLINGTON;

Length: 296 words

Byline: Robert Tharp, Star-Telegram Writer

Body

DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS - A former municipal court employee was arrested yesterday, and accused of embezzling \$ 19,000 over a one-year period while working as a court clerk.

Melinda Ann Gooding, 25, was arrested on charges of theft by a public servant and abuse of official capacity.
Dalworthington Gardens

Police Chief **Bill Waybourn** said police focused on Gooding after an investigation into the missing money.

"We're never happy about reporting our own employees or former employees," Waybourn said. "We feel like not only we were violated as it appears but the oaths of office. We're shaken up, and our citizenry was shaken up. We hope to bring this to closure as soon as we can. "

The missing money was detected in an audit last year, and Waybourn said it was likely taken between October 1996 and September 1997. The money was cash revenue from fines and fees from municipal citations.

Waybourn did not explain how police believe the embezzlement occurred.

Gooding's husband, Kevin, said his wife is not responsible for the missing money. He also criticized police for arresting Gooding at her



current job as an accountant, even though he said that she had promised to surrender to police.

Gooding left her court job in September for another job, and police said no losses have been reported since then. The missing \$ 19,000 is roughly 20 percent of the city's \$ 96,000 annual court revenue, city officials said.

"It's a significant amount of the money for the city," Waybourn said.

Theft by a public servant is a third-degree felony that carries punishment of up to 10 years in prison. Abuse of official capacity is a state jail felony that is punishable by up to two years in prison.

PHOTO(S): Brian Lawdermilk

Load-Date: May 22, 1998

End of Document

Families struggling with Dalworthington Gardens suicide of 2 teens

THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

May 22, 1997, Thursday, HOME FINAL EDITION

Copyright 1997 The Dallas Morning News

Section: NEWS; Pg. 37A

Length: 519 words

Byline: Eric Garcia, Arlington Morning News

Dateline: ARLINGTON

Body

ARLINGTON - Walter J. Dean Jr. struggles to understand why his teenage son, Gary, killed himself.

The Dalworthington Gardens man says he tried to do his best as a parent. He was a strict but fair father. He was vigilant of potential dangers. And he made time each day to hug his son.

"As a parent, I thought that I was doing everything right," Mr. Dean wrote in a letter released Wednesday. "Gary had a very strong and loving family base. I never hesitated giving him a hug every day and telling him how very much I loved him . . . I made sure that I knew all the signs to look for: drugs, gangs and even suicide. Most importantly, I supported and encouraged his seeking of knowledge through Jesus Christ.



"I did all this and yet I have lost my son."

But something made the Bailey Junior High School student snap.

On Monday, Gary, 14, and his girlfriend, Angela James, 15, fatally shot themselves at the Deans' home in the 2200 block of Chase Court. Mr. Dean found the pair when he arrived home about 6:42 p.m.

Each teen died of a single gunshot wound to the head, according to a preliminary ruling by the Tarrant County medical examiner's office .

Police said they were still trying to answer the lingering question of why the pair chose death over life.

"From the notes, there was no indication, nothing concrete that you could hold in your hand and say this is the reason," said Chief **Bill Waybourn** of the Dalworthington Gardens Department of Public Safety. "We've heard hundreds of rumors, but nothing we could substantiate."

Ruby Welch, Angela's great-aunt, said that the girl's family was coping with the hardship of making funeral arrangements Wednesday.

"It was pretty hard today," Ms. Welch said. "We had to go and pick out a casket. That was real hard on her parents."

Dalworthington Gardens investigators said they are waiting for the autopsy results and toxicology tests, which could help shed light on whether factors such as drugs or alcohol contributed to the deaths.

Results of those tests could take up to six weeks to complete, a medical examiner's office spokesman said.

Police still are trying to determine how the teenagers obtained the .38-caliber handgun. Mr. Dean did not own a gun, police and family members said.

Notes left by the teenagers were returned to the families, Chief Waybourn said. The notes gave no reason for the suicides, but "were like a last will and testament," said Mike Dean of Allen, one of Gary's uncles.

An audiotape of the students was kept by investigators, but will be returned to family members, Chief Waybourn said.

"The families probably will be seeking for much longer than we will," the chief said.

Funeral services for Angela will be at 3:30 p.m. Friday at Grace Temple Missionary Baptist Church, 1919 S. Collins St. in Arlington, followed by burial at Parkdale Cemetery.

Funeral services for Gary will be at 2 p.m. Saturday at Fielder Road Baptist Church, 2011 S. Fielder Road. Burial will be at Moore Memorial Gardens in Arlington.

Staff writers Nancy Donisi and Tracey-Lynn Clough contributed to this report.

Graphic

PHOTO(S): 1. Angela James. 2. Gary Dean. ; LOCATION NOTE: These photos were not sent to the library for archiving.



Load-Date: June 21, 1997

End of Document

Families struggling with teens' suicides Police trying to determine where youths got gun

THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

May 22, 1997, Thursday, ARLINGTON MORNING NEWS EDITION

Copyright 1997 The Dallas Morning News

Section: NEWS; Pg. 1A

Length: 881 words

Byline: Eric Garcia, Staff Writer of the Arlington Morning News

Body

Walter J. Dean Jr. struggles to understand why his teenage son, Gary, killed himself.

The Dalworthington Gardens man says he tried to do his best as a parent. He was a strict but fair father. He was vigilant of potential dangers. And he made time each day to hug his son.

But something made the Bailey Junior High School student snap.

On Monday, Gary, 14, and his girlfriend, Angela James, 15, fatally shot themselves at the Deans' home in the 2200 block of Chase Court. Mr. Dean found the pair when he arrived home about 6:42 p.m.

"As a parent, I thought that I was doing everything right," Mr. Dean wrote in a letter released Wednesday. "Gary had a very strong and loving family base. I never hesitated giving him a hug every day and telling him how very much I loved him. . . . I made sure that I knew all the signs to look for: drugs, gangs and even suicide. Most importantly, I supported and encouraged his seeking of knowledge through Jesus Christ.

"I did all this and yet I have lost my son."

The double suicide continues to haunt family members as they prepare to bury their son or daughter.

Police, too, said they were still trying to answer the lingering question of why the pair chose death over life.

"From the notes, there was no indication, nothing concrete that you could hold in your hand and say this is the reason," said Chief **Bill Waybourn** of the Dalworthington Gardens Department of Public Safety. "We've heard hundreds of rumors, but nothing we could substantiate."

A preliminary ruling by the Tarrant County medical examiner's office indicates that both teens died of a single gunshot wound to the head.



Meanwhile, counselors continued to help Bailey Junior High students and staff members cope with the deaths, school officials said. Although extra counselors were sent to the campus Wednesday morning, most were able to leave a few hours later because few students needed counseling, a school official said.

"Regular counseling staff was able to meet the needs of those students seeking help," said Charlene Robertson, Arlington school district spokeswoman.

Parents need to be cautious to make sure their children are safe, Gary's family members said.

"We don't want other families to go through this," said David Dean of Plano, Gary's uncle.

Ruby Welch, Angela's great-aunt, said that the girl's family was coping with the hardship of making funeral arrangements Wednesday.

"It was pretty hard today," Ms. Welch said. "We had to go and pick out a casket. That was real hard on her parents."

"My thoughts and prayers are with Angela's family and the friends and classmates that Gary and Angela left behind," Walter Dean wrote. "I pray for them to be strong as individuals and as families, and to turn to God for answers.

"I am praying for our society so that other parents will not have to lose their children as I have lost Gary."

Police in Dalworthington Gardens and Arlington said Wednesday they had no reports of suicides or attempted suicides that may be prompted by the deaths.

Crisis counselors reported that they had received fewer calls on Wednesday than Tuesday, when news of the suicides was announced.

"Yesterday was quite busy, but we've haven't had as many calls today," said Leslie Horton, a crisis counselor for Family Services Crisis Intervention in Fort Worth.

Dalworthington Gardens investigators said they are waiting for the autopsy results and toxicology tests, which could help shed light on whether factors such as drugs or alcohol contributed to the deaths.

Results of those tests could take up to six weeks to complete, a medical examiner's office spokesman said.

Police still are trying to determine how the teenagers obtained the .38-caliber handgun. Mr. Dean did not own a gun, police and family members said.

Notes left by the teenagers were returned to the families, Chief Waybourn said. The notes gave no reason for the suicides, but "were like a last will and testament," said Mike Dean of Allen, one of Gary's uncles.

An audiotape of the students was kept by investigators, but will be returned to family members, Chief Waybourn said.

"The families probably will be seeking for much longer than we will," the chief said.

Funeral services for Angela will be at 3:30 p.m. Friday at Grace Temple Missionary Baptist Church, 1919 S. Collins St. in Arlington, followed by burial at Parkdale Cemetery.

Funeral services for Gary will be at 2 p.m. Saturday at Fielder Road Baptist Church, 2011 S. Fielder Road. Burial will be at Moore Memorial Gardens in Arlington.



Gary's family members said they were trying to cope with the boy's death. "We're feeling anger, frustration and sadness - every emotion you can feel," David Dean said.

The boy's father was doing well, but "is still a little in shock," Mike Dean said.

David Dean said it was hard to tell his 4-year-old daughter about Gary's suicide.

"I just said, We won't be seeing Gary anymore,' " he said Wednesday. " He's gone to see Jesus' "

Gary, who planned to work at an antique store in Forney this summer, will be remembered as "a smart, loving young man," David Dean said. "He was very caring. . . . That's how we'll remember him."

Staff Writers Nancy Donisi and Tracey-Lynn Clough contributed to this report.

Graphic

PHOTO(S): 1. Dean. 2. James. CHART(S): (AMN) HOW TO HELP. ; PHOTO LOCATION NOTE: These photos were not sent to the library for archiving.

Load-Date: June 21, 1997

End of Document

[Counselors offer help to youths who went to school with victims](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

May 21, 1997, Wednesday, ARLINGTON AM EDITION

Copyright 1997 Star-Telegram Newspaper, Inc.

Section: NEWS;

Length: 590 words

Byline: JESSAMY BROWN, Star-Telegram Writer

Body

ARLINGTON - Shredded paper littered tables of the Bailey Junior High School library yesterday, the manifestation of the hurt, anger and frustration being expressed by students distraught by the apparent suicide of two classmates.

The paper shredding exercise seemed to help relieve tension for some students, who came in "droves" to the library to meet with 36



school counselors from across the school district, officials said.

Counselors worked with students in classrooms and in groups in the library, providing a listening ear and helping students express feelings. After classes, counselors met with members of the faculty, said Charlene Robertson, Arlington schools spokeswoman.

"Young teen-agers are extremely sensitive to any kind of hurt or disappointment," said Patricia Melton, executive director of guidance and counseling. "They're between a child and an adult and have difficulty identifying their emotions. They are very angry, extremely hurt and just keep asking 'Why? ', and of course there is no answer. " The bodies of Gary Dean, 14, of Dalworthington Gardens and Angela James, 15, of Arlington, were found in Dean's home Monday evening.

Chief **Bill Waybourn** said the deaths remain under investigation. Both teen-agers apparently died of self-inflicted gunshot wounds to their mouths, a preliminary report from the Tarrant County Medical Examiner's Office shows.

Although many students were aware of the deaths when they arrived at school, the principal made a brief announcement and dedicated the daily moment of silence to the dead pair, Robertson said. A letter was sent home to parents, which included these tips for families dealing with grief:

"Allow for ventilation. Set time aside for your child to share feelings about the deaths.

"Affirm all expressions. It is normal for teen-agers to cry or be angry when coping with a friend's death. "

During the day, a steady stream of parents came to the school at 2411 Winewood St., to pick up their children, many walking arm in arm to their cars. Students were not allowed to go home alone, officials said.

"Teen-agers have a lot of hormones pumping through their bodies that can cause them to be illogical and irrational. But it's not like they don't have it up here," counselor Nancy Innis said, pointing to her temple. "We first wanted to help students to calm down to where they can look at things more rationally, more logically. The children were angry, they were traumatized by this. They are hurt, very hurt that their friends would do something like this. And angry that they couldn't stop it. "



Many students sat with fists clenched, Innis said, sobbing as counselors handed out tissues and sheets of paper to air their feelings.

"It was shredded instantly. Shredding paper, wadding it up, throwing it. Being able to do something physical can help," Innis said, a Webb Elementary School counselor who brought her pet therapy dog, a Boston terrier named Deanna Troi, to help comfort students.

"Suicide is anger turned inward. It's important they learn to express their feelings and not keep them inside. "

Counselors will be available on campus all week. Classes are to go on as normal today, a review day before final exams scheduled for Thursday and Friday, officials said.

Robertson said officials are paying attention to what students are saying.

"We are very careful not to do anything to glamorize or romanticize suicide. We're very very cognizant that copycat activity could take place," Robertson said.

PHOTO(S): Head shots of James;Dean

Load-Date: August 20, 1997

End of Document

[Deaths of junior-high pair may be linked to romance troubles](#)

The Houston Chronicle

May 21, 1997, Wednesday, 3 STAR Edition

Copyright 1997 The Houston Chronicle Publishing Company

Section: a; Pg. 25

Length: 664 words

Byline: JIM SCHUTZE, Houston Chronicle Dallas Bureau; Staff

Dateline: DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS

Body

DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS - A junior-high boy and girl whose



deaths are being treated by police as a double suicide were struggling through a painful romantic breakup just before they died, friends said Tuesday.

The boy had been in frequent trouble at school, according to school officials. The girl had not. The girl's parents were opposed to the romance, friends said.

The boy's father pushed open a bedroom door Monday evening and found his son, Gary Don Dean, 14, and the boy's girlfriend, Angela James, 15, dead of single gunshot wounds to the head.

They had been dating for about four months, and both attended Joe Bailey Junior High School in Arlington.

Walter Dean, who had not been at home during the day, told police that he had heard a compact disc player inside his son's room, set to repeat a recording of Jim Morrison and the Doors.

Their deaths came just as the girl had promised her parents she would break up with Gary Dean, according to a friend of Angela James' family.

"She had told her mother she would never be seeing Gary again," Inez Welch said. "And that was the last her mother saw of her alive. "

Police did not release or discuss notes found at the scene.

Chief **Bill Waybourn** said evidence in the room indicated both wounds were self-inflicted, but he said a final ruling won't be made until autopsy results are completed.

Dalworthington Gardens is a community of 2,000 on 2 1/2 square miles of land, entirely surrounded by suburban Arlington about 15 miles east of Fort Worth. Well-tended ranch-house neighborhoods built in the 1980s are mixed with blue-collar apartment areas and even a few farm fields that have somehow escaped development.

Outside the modest two-story duplex where the deaths occurred, friends of the teens were still coming to the door Tuesday to stuff sympathy cards into the mailbox.

"They always talked about each other," said Chris Arrambidez,



14. ""If they weren't with each other, they were talking to each other on the phone or talking about each other.

""She always looked real happy, but he had this look like he could go off the deep end and do something like this. I can't believe it. It's like it's a dream. "

Like most of the friends of the dead teens, Arrambidez wears his hair in a severe cut - shaved off on the sides, with a long orange mane down the middle.

None of the parents could be reached for comment Tuesday.

A few miles north, at the apartment building where Angela James had lived with her mother and stepfather, a woman was comforting sobbing teens who came to her door. She said she was not a member of the girl's family but knew them. She declined to give her name.

""Angela had a lot of problems," she said. ""But she was a sweet girl. She was trying to break up with Gary so she could go with this other boy who lives here in the building. The other boy told her yesterday she had to make a choice. They argued on the way to school. That's the last anybody saw of her alive. "

Inez Welch, the Jameses' friend, confirmed the couple had told people they were in the process of breaking up. She said James had tried unsuccessfully to persuade Dean to give up a flirtation with white supremacist beliefs ""and go to church instead. "

""She was walking to school with the other boy, and she told him she was going to go by herself and go get something to eat," Welch said. ""Then when she got to school, Gary showed up and took her off campus. "

Police said the two skipped school the rest of the day, apparently spending the day together at Dean's house, where they were alone.

Waybourn said he doubted any reason for the deaths would emerge other than their romantic difficulties.

""It's just two kids who got really tangled up the wrong way with life," he said. ""I don't know what to say to people about



it other than, go hug your kids and tell them you love them.

What else can you do? "

Load-Date: May 23, 1997

End of Document

[Police investigating deaths of North Texas teen-agers; Young couple](#)

Austin American-Statesman (Texas)

May 21, 1997

Copyright 1997 The Austin American-Statesman

Section: Metro/State; Pg. B7

Length: 446 words

Byline: Terry Wallace

Body

WILLIAMSON COUNTY

Although police speculate that junior high school sweethearts Angela James and Gary Dean committed suicide, friends could not explain Tuesday why the pair would shoot themselves in the head.

Gary's father found the bodies of his 14-year-old son and his 15-year-old girlfriend about 7 p.m. Monday in Gary's upstairs bedroom of the Deans' wood-frame townhouse. Both attended Joe Bailey Junior High School in Arlington.

Police Chief **Bill Waybourn** said a .38-caliber revolver was recovered at the scene, and a compact disc of The Doors was playing in the room.

Our preliminary investigation ... showed that we believe the wounds were self-inflicted," Waybourn said.

However, he said he could not rule out that one might have shot the other until autopsies by the Tarrant County medical examiner's office were completed.

Notes and an audiotape were found in the room, he said, but he declined to disclose their contents. There were no signs of a struggle, nor any outward evidence of drug or alcohol use, Waybourn said. The ownership of the gun was still being investigated Tuesday.

Gary and Angela had been dating for at least four months, said Ruby Welch, an anguished friend of her family's.

Angie is a good girl," Welch said. She has never been in anytype of trouble. She is not the type of girl that would do something like this without some type of influence."



A neighbor of the Deans who refused to identify himself said Gary and his son were friends. He called Gary a real nice, likeable kid. He cared for other people."

He declined to say more. Out of respect for the families, I'll only talk about the positive things," he said.

Welch described Angela as an outgoing girl who showed no signs of depression. She often made friends with troubled teens and tried to help them turn their lives around, Welch said.

Angela's stepfather had told Welch that Angela had been trying to wean Gary from a troubling taste for white-supremacist ideology.

She was trying to show him this was not the life that he wanted," Welch said. ... I know that Angie's mother had talked to Gary about going to church with them and becoming part of a family-life group."

Waybourn and school officials declined to comment on whether the boy had shown an interest in white supremacy. However, Gary had had a troubled history," said Charlene Robertson, a spokeswoman for the Arlington school district. She declined to elaborate.

The pair were average students" and not known as troublemakers, Robertson said.

The teens' families were in seclusion Tuesday and not available for comment.

Dalworthington Gardens is a residential suburb of about 2,000 residents, surrounded by southwest Arlington.

Load-Date: May 22, 1997

End of Document

**[Teen couple's deaths stun town;
Apparent suicides in Dalworthington Gardens investigated](#)**

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

May 21, 1997, Wednesday, FINAL AM EDITION

Copyright 1997 Star-Telegram Newspaper, Inc.

Section: NEWS;

Length: 821 words

Byline: JEFF PRINCE, Star-Telegram Writer

Body

DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS - The eerie music of The Doors was set on continuous play when a man discovered his son and a girl lying dead in the boy's room Monday night.



Gary Dean, 14, of Dalworthington Gardens and Angela James, 15, of Arlington, each apparently died of a self-inflicted gunshot wound, according to a preliminary report from the Tarrant County Medical Examiner's Office.

The deaths sent shockwaves through Bailey Junior High School, which both children attended. Dozens of school counselors were on hand to speak to students, many of whom left school early with their parents.

Dalworthington Gardens police Chief **Bill Waybourn** said the deaths remain under investigation. A .38-caliber revolver was recovered at the scene. Police discovered several letters and an audio tape in the room but would not reveal their contents.

Schoolmates provide varying accounts of Dean. Some describe him as angry, troubled and racist. Others say he was cordial but quiet. The same students describe James as being a kind, outgoing girl who was trying to turn Dean's life around.

"I saw her every day," said Nikki Pope, 14. "She was really a sweet girl. She talked about Gary all the time. "

James' mother, Robin Baldrige, said her daughter was a loving, goal-oriented girl who spoke of getting a college degree, then moving to California to work with dolphins and whales.

"As far as I know she didn't have any problems," said Baldrige, her swollen eyes rimmed with tears. "I spent the day Sunday with her.

We went shopping. We went to church. "

Baldrige said Dean was a troubled, but good boy. She and Dean often talked about his problems, and she had become a mother figure to Dean, whose parents divorced a year ago.

"He just needed some attention," she said.

Dean's father could not be reached for comment yesterday.

Some students said Dean and James had previously discussed suicide. Most, however, said they had never heard the couple speak of killing themselves.

Though they had been sweethearts for about a year, Dean and James had never been intimate, Baldrige said. The two teens as recently as Sunday had discussed splitting up because James was headed for high



school next year, while Dean, who had failed two years of school, would be entering the eighth grade.

Talk of splitting up did not visibly upset either child, Baldrige said.

"They were both OK with it," she said.

Dean's father, Walter Dean, found the bodies and notified police about 6:40 p.m. Monday, Waybourn said.

Police found James lying on a bed, while Dean was lying on the floor beside the bed. The gun was on the floor closest to Dean's body, Waybourn said.

Playing on a stereo was a compact disc by The Doors, a late-1960s group known for its enigmatic leader, Jim Morrison, whose gloom-and-doom lyrics and hard-living lifestyle culminated in his death at 27. The CD player was programmed to play two songs, Riders on the Storm, which refers to death and insanity, and The End, with the following line: "This is the end, my only friend, the end. "

"They had it set up where it played those two songs over and over again," Waybourn said.

A neighboring couple said they have known the Dean family for years, and that their 14-year-old son and Dean had been good friends for about seven years.

"Up until about a year ago he was a real neat kid," said the neighbor, who asked that her name not be used. "The last year or so, his clothing changed, he got his hair cut. He became more withdrawn. "

The woman said Dean was upset about the divorce of his father and stepmother and had become depressed and started dressing in "grungy" clothing.

"He went downhill after she left," the neighbor said.

The neighbor said she also knew James, who was trying to help Dean adjust.

"She seemed really sweet," the woman said. "I feel like she was more level-headed than Gary. I was under the impression she felt like she could help him. "

Some schoolmates said Dean was a racist who sometimes fought after school because of his beliefs.



Others dispute that characterization.

"Everybody says he is racist but he's not," said Donnell Jones, 12, who is black and shared two classes with Dean. "I never had any problems with him. He was pretty nice. "

School officials said Dean had a history of trouble at school, even being disciplined as recently as Friday.

John Moore, Bailey Junior High principal, said he had spoken with Dean one-on-one many times and had recently noticed a positive change.

"He was a troubled child who was working through his problems successfully," Moore said.

Baldrige, speaking in quiet, measured tones, stood in her apartment where Dean revealed some of the frustrations and pain in his life and James spoke of her aspirations.

Baldrige searched for words to describe the nightmare.

"His family is in a lot of pain, and my family is in a lot of pain," she said.

MAP(S): Teens found dead - Dalworthington Gardens

Load-Date: August 20, 1997

End of Document

**[Two teens die in apparent suicide pact;
Team of counselors sent to students' junior high school](#)**

THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

May 21, 1997, Wednesday, ARLINGTON MORNING NEWS EDITION

Copyright 1997 The Dallas Morning News

Section: NEWS; Pg. 1A

Length: 1084 words

Byline: Eric Garcia, Tracey-Lynn Clough, Staff Writers of the Arlington Morning News

Dateline: DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS

Body



DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS - A romance between two Bailey Junior High School students ended tragically Monday night when both teenagers fatally shot themselves in what police call an apparent suicide pact.

Angela R. James, 15, and Gary D. Dean, 14, were found by the boy's father at about 6:42 p.m. at a home in the 2200 block of Chase Court in this small Tarrant County town surrounded by Arlington. The Tarrant County medical examiner's office said both teens died of a single gunshot wound to the head.

The deaths prompted Arlington school officials to send an emergency team of 30 counselors to the junior high school Tuesday.

The news came three days before summer break begins.

"It's a tremendous tragedy," said **Bill Waybourn**, chief of public safety for Dalworthington Gardens Police Department. "We don't have any clue why they decided to do this. We simply don't have those answers today and we may never."

Angela's family members said they were struggling to deal with the girl's death.

"This is a major shock to all of us," said Ruby Welch, a great-aunt. "They went to a dance Saturday and seemed happy. . . .

We don't understand why she did this. Even if Angela were standing here today, I don't think she could tell you why she did this. I think it was a split-second decision."

Before noon, school counselors dealt with more than 100 students and staff members who were grieving the loss of the seventh-grade boy and eighth-grade girl.

"There is a lot of emotion among students and their families and some of the staff," district spokeswoman Charlene Robertson said.

"Our counselors are very concerned."

Police said both teens were clothed when they were found in Gary's bedroom in the duplex where he lived with his father. Two notes and an audio tape were left at the scene, but police declined to release details. No alcohol or drugs were found, Chief Waybourn said.

Although the police investigation remains open, authorities said helping families was a top priority.

"Our focus is on the families as they deal with their loss," Chief Waybourn said. "Obviously being teenagers, there's a large assembly of friends that need to be cared for as well."

Chief Waybourn said the boy's father was "traumatized and grief-stricken" when he found the bodies after he arrived home from work.

Arlington Police Chaplain Harold Elliott said Angela's mother and stepfather were heartbroken by the girl's death.

"They were totally shocked and deeply grieved," said Mr. Elliott, who broke the news to them. "They were trying to understand why this happened. You always ask what prompted this.

Unfortunately, they took the reasons with them. There are no answers. It's an illogical act."



Family members said the girl lived with her mother and stepfather in a West Arlington home. She attended school in Arlington infrequently during the past two years because her family moved several times, school officials said.

"She was a quiet, pleasant young lady," Mrs. Robertson said.

Neighbors in Gary's Dalworthington Gardens neighborhood described him as a polite, outgoing teenager.

"He was a nice kid," said one neighbor, who asked not to be identified. "He was just a happy-go-lucky, easy-going kid. I'm just kind of blown away by all this."

School officials said Gary had frequent, but minor discipline problems at Bailey. "He was a troubled young man, but he had made some great progress," Mrs. Robertson said.

Both students skipped classes Monday, and instead, spent the day in Gary's bedroom, listening to music by Jim Morrison and the Doors, police said.

Investigators believe the suicides occurred between 3 to 6:30 p.m. Angela's body was found across Gary's bed; Gary was found lying on the floor nearby. A .38-caliber handgun was found between the pair, but it was somewhat closer to the boy, Chief Waybourn said.

Police have not determined who owns the gun, or how the teenagers obtained it. Parents of both teens told police that they did not own or keep guns at their homes. It is unclear whether the gun's owner could face criminal charges because the students acquired it, Chief Waybourn said.

The gun was loaded with five bullets, two of which had been fired, Chief Waybourn said. Investigators are not sure which of the teenagers committed suicide first.

A final ruling of the deaths will be determined after toxicology and other tests are complete, said medical examiner's office spokesman Ed Bodiford.

Funeral arrangements for the teens were not complete Tuesday.

Paula Burgess, a relative of Angela, said that a fund had been established at the Bank of America, 1300 S. Bowen Road, to help pay funeral expenses.

The National Center for Health Statistics reports that the suicide rate in 1994 for young people ages 15 to 24 was 13.8 per 100,000 residents. That is above the 12 per 100,000 for all age groups, but below the 18.1 per 100,000 for people ages 65 and older.

Tarrant County crisis counselors reported that they were kept busy as news of the apparent suicides spread.

"We've had more calls than usual," said Vernon Phillips, program coordinator for Family Services Crisis Intervention in Fort Worth.

"A lot of people are concerned about their children."

Although double suicides are uncommon, Mr. Phillips said parents should be aware that a single suicide could spur others.

"They see how much those students are missed and how many people grieve for them and it becomes glamorized," Mr. Phillips said.



"Then there is a pattern of other students following suit."

Plano experienced a rash of suicides in the early 1980s. Eight Plano high school students killed themselves within a two-year period, spurring national interest.

The Arlington police chaplain said that the aftermath of suicides is powerful. "It's the most devastating death that there is," said Mr. Elliott, who has co-written the book Ripples of Suicide and produced two suicide-prevention videos.

Because suicide rests solely on the person who commits it, lingering questions add to family members' pain, he said.

"It leaves a wound that never completely heals," Mr. Elliott said. "Family members are left wondering what happened because that person made a choice to leave them, to leave their love."

Counseling will continue to be available for students as needed, Mrs. Robertson said.

In a letter to parents, Principal John Moore said that "teenagers may react strongly to death, even though they might not have known Gary or Angela well."

Graphic

PHOTO(S): 1. (Arlington Morning News: J. Mark Kegans) Arlington school district spokeswoman Charlene Robertson, left, talks to the media about an apparent double suicide. 2. Dean. 3. James. CHART(S): (1. - 2. AMN) 1. TIPS. 2. WHAT TO DO. ; PHOTO LOCATION NOTE: Photo #3 were not sent to the library for archiving.

Load-Date: June 20, 1997

End of Document

**[Two teens reportedly kill selves;
Girl, 15, boy, 14, die of gunshot wounds](#)**

THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

May 21, 1997, Wednesday, HOME FINAL EDITION

Copyright 1997 The Dallas Morning News

Section: NEWS; Pg. 34A

Length: 436 words

Byline: Eric Garcia, Tracey-Lynn Clough, Arlington Morning News

Dateline: DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS



Body

DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS - A romance between two junior high school students ended tragically Monday afternoon when the teenagers fatally shot themselves.

Angela R. James, 15, and Gary D. Dean, 14, were found by the boy's father about 6:42 p.m. at a home in the 2200 block of Chase Court in Dalworthington Gardens, a small town surrounded by Arlington, police said. The Tarrant County Medical Examiner's office said that each teen died of a single gunshot wound to the head.

"It's a tremendous tragedy," said **Bill Waybourn**, chief of public safety. "We don't have any clue why they decided to do this. We simply don't have those answers today and we may never."

Police said the teens were found in Gary's bedroom in the duplex where he lived with his father. Two notes and an audio tape were left at the scene, but police declined to release details. No alcohol or drugs were found, Chief Waybourn said.

Chief Waybourn said the boy's father, who could not be reached Wednesday, was "traumatized and grief-stricken" when he found the bodies after arriving home from work.

Neighbors described Gary as a polite, outgoing teenager. School officials said the seventh-grader had frequent, but minor, discipline problems at Bailey Junior High School. "He was a troubled young man, but he had made some great progress," school district spokeswoman Charlene Robertson said.

Angela lived with her mother and stepfather, who could not be reached for comment, in a West Arlington home, family members said.

The eighth-grader attended school in Arlington infrequently during the past two years because her family moved several times, school officials said.

"She was a quiet, pleasant young lady," Mrs. Robertson said.

Ruby Welch, a great-aunt, said, "This is a major shock to all of us. They went to a dance Saturday and seemed happy. . . . We don't understand why she did this. . . . I think it was a split-second decision."

Both students skipped classes Monday and spent the day in Gary's bedroom, listening to music, police said.

Investigators believe that the suicides occurred between 3 and 6:30 p.m. Angela's body was found across Gary's bed; Gary was found lying on the floor nearby. A .38-caliber handgun was found between the pair, somewhat closer to the boy, Chief Waybourn said.

The deaths prompted Arlington school officials to send an emergency team of 30 counselors to the junior high school Tuesday, three days before summer break begins.

"There is a lot of emotion among students and their families and some of the staff," Mrs. Robertson said. "Our counselors are very concerned."

Load-Date: May 22, 1997



End of Document

[Two teenagers apparent suicides](#)

United Press International
May 20, 1997, Tuesday, BC cycle

Copyright 1997 U.P.I.

Section: Domestic News

Length: 205 words

Dateline: DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS, Texas, May 20

Body

Police in North Texas are investigating the deaths of a 14-year-old boy and a 15-year-old girl who apparently died of self-inflicted gunshot wounds in a suicide pact. Police Chief **Bill Waybourn** says the bodies of Gary Dean and Angela James were found in the boy's bedroom Monday night, with two notes and an audio recording.

The contents of the notes and recording were not released. Waybourn says the medical examiner's preliminary report states that the single shots were self inflicted. He says, "There was no indication of why they might have done this, based on the evidence." Waybourn says the room appeared to be much like any teenage boy's room. He says a Jim Morrison and The Doors album was playing on the CD player. A .38 caliber revolver was found in the room. Waybourn says the teenagers had been "seeing each other" but he did not know for how long. School officials say 30 counselors have been sent to the Arlington junior high school where the teenagers attended classes. Some of the students were dismissed from classes early to go home. Dalworthington Gardens is a suburban community near Arlington in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. ---

Copyright 1997 by United Press International. All rights reserved. ---

Load-Date: May 21, 1997

End of Document

[In case of emergency. . . ; Dalworthington police get defibrillators](#)

THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS
January 24, 1997, Friday, ARLINGTON MORNING NEWS EDITION

Copyright 1997 The Dallas Morning News

Section: NEWS; Pg. 1A



Length: 663 words

Byline: Nancy Donisi, Staff Writer of the Arlington Morning News

Dateline: DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS

Body

DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS - Almost eight months ago, Officer Jayson Wittmayer saw the face of death in an elderly woman whose heart had given out.

Officer Wittmayer was one of the first emergency technicians to arrive at the scene. He did all he could with what he had.

"We spent seven minutes giving her CPR," he said. "In a situation like that, you're nervous, scared. You just hope the person will live."

The ambulance arrived several minutes later. Using an automatic defibrillator, paramedics got a heartbeat with an electric shock to her heart. The woman survived. But without it, she may have died.

In hopes of increasing people's chances of surviving, Dalworthington Gardens Department of Public Safety has bought two portable defibrillators for patrol cars. The public safety department is cross-trained in fire, emergency and police work.

"Traditionally speaking, most cities have fire service and police service separate, and the fire service is attached to the Emergency Medical Service givers," Chief **Bill Waybourn** said. "But we are a department of public safety. Our officers are emergency medical technicians, they are also firefighters. They do everything."

Officers began using the machines in early January after spending several months training.

"Having defibrillators is a new frontier for policing service, and an exciting one. It gives you more arrows in your quiver," Chief Waybourn said.

Since the beginning of the year, the defibrillators have been used once. But the woman died, he said.

The small community department is the first in Tarrant County to carry the machines in patrol cars, the chief said.

Arlington police officers are trained in advanced first aid but patrol cars do not have defibrillators, spokesman Dee Anderson machines. Arlington firefighters are trained as Emergency Medical Technicians and have the defibrillators on both engines and ambulances, he said.

Chief Waybourn said because Dalworthington Gardens public safety officers are often the first to arrive at a medical call or traumatic situation, they must provide the most effective help.

An automatic external defibrillator is an electrical machine that sends a shock across the heart in an attempt to return the heartbeat to normal, said Bill Ferguson, EMS coordinator for Dalworthington Gardens.

Normally, a chemical reaction in the body causes a natural electricity to surround the heart and keep it beating, Mr. Ferguson said.



"When adults go into cardiac arrest, the ventricular fibrillation the heart's electricity is not in its normal pattern. It is chaotic and the heart is quivering," he said. "This is not jump starting the heart. It's jump stopping the heart, in hopes that it will return to normal on its own."

More than 20,000 deaths could be prevented each year if the defibrillators were more widely available to those who arrive first on the scene, according to the American Heart Association. After 10 minutes, few resuscitation attempts are successful.

The portable defibrillators used by Dalworthington Gardens are semiautomatic, Mr. Ferguson said. After the electrodes are attached to the patient, the machine will evaluate the fibrillating heart.

It will then begin its three-shock cycle, starting with 200 watts per second and increasing to 360 watts, ending the cycle when it determines the heart has returned to normal.

"There is a human element involved," Chief Waybourn said. "The officer will physically do a pulse check and a quick patient assessment before using the machine."

The department's liability is not in question, Chief Waybourn said, because of the state's Good Samaritan Law and the extensive training required of officers using the defibrillators.

Public Safety Officer David Seward said he thinks the defibrillators will be beneficial to the medical patients the department serves.

"There is nothing scarier for us than getting on the scene and not knowing what to do to help," he said.

Graphic

PHOTO(S): (Arlington Morning News: Brad Loper) Dalworthington Gardens Public Safety Officer David Seward carries with him one of two defibrillators the department recently bought. The devices are used to revive heart attack victims.

Load-Date: February 25, 1997

End of Document

LETTERS

THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

December 17, 1996, Tuesday, ARLINGTON MORNING NEWS EDITION

Copyright 1996 The Dallas Morning News

Section: OPINIONS; LETTERS; Pg. 7A

Length: 271 words



Body

Police chief responds

I most strenuously object to the mischaracterization of my conversation with your reporter in your Dec. 11 article (Law officials question AISD rule). I said nothing that would indicate either I or the Arlington Police Department share the opinion of Dalworthington Gardens Police Chief **Bill Waybourn** that AISD's zero-tolerance policy toward youths with alcohol undermines police authority.

As I recall, I asked your reporter if she had attended the forum hosted by AISD. In discussing that forum, I told the reporter that there had been discussion there about the severity of the punishment under the district policy. The quotes attributed to me about calls from citizens were not the result of calls from citizens but were reservations expressed by some in attendance at that forum. The next to the last paragraph, in particular, which was not attributed to me as a quote, is an almost verbatim recounting of what I told your reporter that I heard at the forum.

I deeply regret that those who read the article, and its even more misleading headline, probably got the impression that I am opposed to the district's policy. I have not taken such a stance, nor has the Arlington Police Department. School discipline is a matter for school officials to determine.

I support and respect that Superintendent Lynn Hale has created more community concern and focus about the serious problem of teenage drinking. I am also pleased that school officials believe their responsibility for young people extends beyond the school day and school boundaries.

David M. Kunkle

Arlington Police Chief

Load-Date: December 18, 1996

End of Document

**[Drinking cases on agenda;
The Arlington school board will hear about offenses and punishment
of students who broke rules.](#)**

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

December 12, 1996, Thursday, ARLINGTON AM EDITION

Copyright 1996 Star-Telegram Newspaper, Inc.

Section: NEWS;

Length: 1109 words

Byline: JESSAMY BROWN, Star-Telegram Writer

Body



ARLINGTON - The school board meets behind closed doors tonight to hear the cases of students punished under new regulations on alcohol use. But the issue has seeped beyond the instance of seven students into a debate on what some view as an overly strict stance on teen-age drinking.

Though the issue hasn't generated a fever-pitched public debate, behind the scenes, sides are forming on the rule, which institutes a yearlong ban on extracurricular activities and sports for students who possess, use or deliver alcohol and drugs.

On one side there is the American Civil Liberties Union, a doctor of psychology who has proposed an alternate plan and school board member Barbara Nash, who wants trustees to review the issue.

Elsewhere stand the superintendent, the six other school board members and residents who see the rule as an important step in cracking down on what they all agree is a problem in Arlington.

The anti-alcohol measure, implemented in September by Superintendent Lynn Hale as an "administrative regulation," has garnered as much interest over whether it is the best way to address teen substance abuse as the lack of debate by school district trustees.

The directive has been denounced by the ACLU as an overstep of authority and received applause from three families involved in an Arlington Toughlove support group. The measure earned support from the Arlington Ministerial Association, and a redraft was submitted by a psychiatry professor who believes the rule is rash and potentially damaging to students.

"There is a controversy. There is disagreement in the community," said Arlington Mayor Richard Greene, who has not taken a position on the matter. "People have demanded that the school district do something about the problem and in doing so, HaleS has met with some people who disagree with it. "

Teachers and other educators appear to be divided.

"The UEA United Educators Association board is very concerned about underage drinking. The executive board has voted not to take a position until they could have more information of how this is to be



implemented," said Judy Luttrell, administrative director for the employee group.

An October petition circulated by some UEA members in support of tough punishment for teen drinking - but not necessarily in favor of revoking extracurricular activities - was signed by about 1,500 people and delivered to the superintendent, Luttrell said. The district has more than 5,000 employees.

Arlington resident Greg Tresidder was among three members of an Arlington Toughlove Parent Support Group who addressed school trustees last week to praise the zero-tolerance measure.

"Undoubtedly there is community pressure to relook at the stand that you've taken," Tresidder said. "There are countless people that agree with you. "

Arlington Police Chief David Kunkle said he is glad the school district is addressing teen drinking, including behavior that takes place outside of school, but he has not taken a position on the rule.

"I think it would be inappropriate to say the school district policy needs to be rewritten to be more strict or less strict. That's not my role as police chief," said Kunkle, who said he has not had many calls on the matter.

Bill Waybourn, chief of the Dalworthington Gardens Department of Public Safety, offered similar comments, but noted that some parents have told him they would be hesitant to approach police with concerns about underage drinking for fear of repercussions from the school district.

"That concerned me," Waybourn said. "But in no way do I want it to appear that I am debating school district policy. "

Also of concern is that the issue has not been discussed publicly by trustees. Nash, the board assistant secretary, has suggested that the board have a work session to review the matter, but the other six trustees have said they support the measure and feel a meeting is not necessary.

Tonight's grievance hearings are for seven Martin High School students banned from extracurricular activities stemming from misdemeanor citations issued by the University of Texas at Arlington police after they were caught drinking near the university during halftime of an October high school football game.



The families have been in contact with each other and are concerned that the policy is "one strike you're out," one father said.

"We feel like there should be zero-tolerance - because we're definitely against kids drinking - but there should be an earn-back procedure," said the man, who did not want to be identified. "We would like there to be a second chance, because these are adolescents. We don't want there to be 25 chances, of course. "

Dr. Robert J. Gatchel, a psychiatry department professor at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas who has been in contact with several of the families, submitted a proposal to Hale and trustees that involves treating each case individually and giving first-time offenders the chance to "buy back" the privilege to participate in extracurricular activities by attending Alcoholics Anonymous-style meetings or performing community service.

"A traditional, albeit very unsuccessful, approach to the discipline of adolescents has been to 'get tough' and to indiscriminantly use the punitive/punishment method," Gatchel's Nov. 26 memo states. "Although our goal as educators is to help develop a sense of responsibility in students, many students are not yet developmentally prepared to coherently evaluate all of the long-term implications of their behavior. "

Gatchel, an Arlington resident, said scientific literature shows that the focus should be on increasing participation in extracurricular activities.

"Our major goal should be to develop methods to increase academic performance and not instituting a policy that will unwittingly decrease that academic performance. We need to administer immediate and strict discipline though the use of constructive behaviors," Gatchel wrote.

Hale said she has read the proposal but has no plans to revise the current rule.

"I believe you give any type of change an opportunity to determine whether it's working," Hale said. "At this time I believe that it is having an effect. While I recognize expertise of individuals that are offering proposals, I feel like it's premature to make a change. "

Board President Carlton Lancaster said trustees expect administrators to update them on ideas submitted by the public,



including ideas that grew out of a November forum for community leaders.

"I certainly would anticipate an opportunity to hear the progress that's been made on these initiatives," Lancaster said.

Load-Date: August 25, 1997

End of Document

[Law officials question AISD rule Dalworthington Gardens police chief says it could hinder officers' jobs](#)

THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

December 11, 1996, Wednesday, ARLINGTON MORNING NEWS EDITION Correction Appended

Copyright 1996 The Dallas Morning News

Section: NEWS; Pg. 1A

Length: 596 words

Byline: Kelly D. Patterson, Staff Writer of the Arlington Morning News

Body

Arlington School Superintendent Lynn Hale should allow police and parents to take the initial steps in disciplining teenagers for underage drinking, Dalworthington Gardens Police Chief **Bill Waybourn** said Tuesday.

Echoing a sentiment that Arlington Police Chief David Kunkle said he has heard from city residents, Chief Waybourn said the school district's new zero-tolerance policy on alcohol and drugs undermines the authority of police and parents.

The policy, implemented by Mrs. Hale in September, bars students from participating in extracurricular activities if they are caught with alcohol or drugs. Chief Waybourn said he is concerned that parents will keep police out of issues involving underage drinkers for fear of punishment from the schools.

"There are lines that need to be drawn on authority," he said.

"Some parents have said if they see students with alcohol they will take matters in their own hands because they don't want the students to lose their privileges. That concerns me when people feel they should not get the police involved in policing issues."

Chief Kunkle said he has received many phone calls from residents concerned about the policy.

While he supports Mrs. Hale's desire to steer teens away from alcohol, he said, more balance is needed in the disciplinary measure.



"People respect the school district for trying to tackle the issue but believe the punishment is too severe," Chief Kunkle said.

"Many people have said they believe it is up to the Police Department to handle any punitive issues that deal with drinking while students are not in school. The school district's responsibility does not extend to after-school hours."

Chief Waybourn also stressed that he respects the intent of Mrs. Hale's policy.

"I think Mrs. Hale's intentions are honorable," he said. "Our department's philosophy and policy is that we give the officers in the field the discretion whether or not to cite a minor for consumption or possession of alcohol."

He said his department's procedure for underage drinking also calls for the immediate involvement of parents.

"At all opportunities we get parents out on the scene and let them see the evidence, then allow them to take action," Chief Waybourn said. "I still have a great deal of faith that families will do what is right."

Mrs. Hale's policy was enacted after a Sept. 13 drinking party attended by more than 75 students, many from Arlington High School.

A 16-year-old Arlington High girl reported to police she was sexually assaulted during the party.

Nine football players were cited for simple assault and disorderly conduct, but no one has been charged with sexual assault. In addition, 15 student athletes who admitted to drinking at the party received a one-game suspension.

Following the highly publicized incident, Mrs. Hale sent parents letters informing them that if a student breaks the law by possessing, using or delivering alcohol or other drugs during the school year, they would be immediately removed from extracurricular activities for the remainder of the year.

A student need not receive a police citation to be punished under the policy.

Mrs. Hale's tough stand has been praised by many in the community, but some believe the policy is too strict and doesn't allow students to redeem themselves. Critics say it also has no avenue for counseling or education if a student has a problem with controlled substances.

The fact that the policy was implemented with no discussion by the school board has also raised concern among some in the community.

Correction

A story on page 1A in Wednesday's Arlington Morning News may have left the impression that Police Chief David Kunkle had taken a position on the Arlington school district's zero-tolerance drinking policy. Chief Kunkle said it would be inappropriate for him or his department to take a position. He said any comments he made about the policy were those he had heard from Arlington residents.

Correction-Date: December 12, 1996, Thursday, ARLINGTON MORNING NEWS EDITION



Graphic

PHOTO(S): 1. Kunkle. 2. Waybourn.

Load-Date: December 14, 1996

End of Document

**[Man gets 60 years for role in crime;
He burglarized house after accomplice allegedly killed elderly
Dalworthington Gardens couple in 1995](#)**

THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

November 15, 1996, Friday, ARLINGTON MORNING NEWS EDITION

Copyright 1996 The Dallas Morning News

Section: NEWS; Pg. 8A

Length: 667 words

Byline: Larry Hartstein, Staff Writer of the Arlington Morning News

Dateline: FORT WORTH

Body

FORT WORTH - A Tarrant County jury on Thursday convicted Bruce Conley and sentenced him to 60 years in prison for his role in burglarizing the home of Albert and Nancy Welch, the Dalworthington Gardens couple found dead after the October 1995 burglary.

Mr. Conley, 42, of Arlington, showed no emotion as the sentence was read. He must serve at least 30 years before he is eligible for parole.

Two more suspects in the case are awaiting trial.

After the sentencing, the couple's son rose in the courtroom gallery and read a letter from Albert Welch's sister, Janell Wade, who lives in Huntsville and could not attend the trial.

"My mind and heart cannot fathom why these men attacked and killed these two people," Ron Welch said, pausing to compose himself. "This has devastated our family, most especially our mother in her 90s who has literally almost lost her mind.

"I want my brother back," the letter concluded.

Mr. Conley's roommate, Chris Beeman, has been indicted for capital murder in the stabbing death of Albert Welch, a 65-year-old retired Bell Helicopter Textron employee, and is scheduled to stand trial next month.



A third man, Dale Bradshaw, has been indicted for driving the Welches' stolen car a few days after the burglary and is also awaiting trial.

Mr. Conley did not testify, but in a statement to police he admitted planning the robbery with the other two suspects and stealing from the home after the couple was dead.

The manner of death of Nancy Welch, a 60-year-old retired Arlington library assistant who was found tied up but bore no obvious signs of injury, was ruled undetermined.

In closing arguments, prosecutors stressed Mr. Conley's casual attitude.

"He knew that they were already dead. Did that bother him? No, it didn't, because he still went into their house and took their stuff," Assistant District Attorney Deborah Kernan said. "He went home, drank some more beers and went to bed, it bothered him so badly."

Defense attorney Robert Patton pointed to the prosecution's decision to try Mr. Conley on the charge of engaging in organized criminal activity instead of the more serious offense of capital murder.

"Don't punish Mr. Conley for murder if the state won't even try him for murder," Mr. Patton said. "If they would have the evidence to try and convict him for murder, don't you think they would?"

Mr. Conley faced a wide sentencing range, from probation to life in prison. The 60-year term is equivalent to life because both mandate 30 years in prison before parole is possible.

Ron Welch discovered his parents' bodies after failing to reach the couple by telephone for several days. He found his mother in the bathroom with her wrists and ankles taped.

The couple's dog led him to a tool shed where he found his father, who had been beaten and stabbed repeatedly.

Prosecutors said the suspects used the victims' credit cards to go on a shopping spree and stole clothes, expensive sunglasses and other merchandise from the South Bowen Road home.

In his statement, Mr. Conley said the trio planned the robbery during an afternoon of cruising around, drinking beer and taking LSD, a hallucinogenic drug.

While the other two went inside to rob the home, Mr. Conley said, he waited in the car to watch for signs of trouble. He went in only after he thought they were taking too long, he said.

Before sentencing, prosecutor Sharon Johnson asked jury members to think about whether they wanted Mr. Conley to be free anytime soon.

"This man is a scary individual," she said. "This man tells you that he was willing to take the proceeds of the murder of these people . . . This is a man who sees blood and a woman bound up, and stops to get a beer while he's loading their property."

Dalworthington Gardens Police Chief **Bill Waybourn** said the "path of closure has begun for the Welches."

"It's the first one of three," he added, referring to the upcoming trials of Mr. Beeman and Mr. Bradshaw. "The ballgame isn't over."

Load-Date: November 16, 1996



End of Document

***Defendant account read in Welch trial;
Bruce David Conley said he was told a homeowner 'stroked out' and
the other would have to be killed.***

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

November 14, 1996, Thursday, ARLINGTON AM EDITION

Copyright 1996 Star-Telegram Newspaper, Inc.

Section: NEWS;

Length: 718 words

Byline: DEANNA BOYD, Star-Telegram Writer

Body

FORT WORTH - After entering a Dalworthington Gardens home that three men targeted to burglarize, Bruce David Conley was told one homeowner "stroked out," so the other would have to be killed, according to a statement read yesterday during Conley's trial.

Conley, 42, is charged with engaging in organized criminal activity in the Oct. 10, 1995, burglary of the home of Albert and Nancy Welch, who were found dead four days later. Prosecutors have said Conley collaborated in the commission of the burglary, in which a knife and unknown deadly weapon were used, along with Dale Edward Skates, 49, and Chris Darrell Beeman, 29.

Other trials in connection with the case are pending, including capital murder charges against Beeman and Conley. Skates has been charged with unauthorized use of a motor vehicle.

After drinking together in the apartment that he shared with Beeman, Conley said he and the other two men, whom he described as "tripping on LSD," left to pick up more beer and then scoped out a place to burglarize, according to the statement.

"I was in agreement with the plan," Conley said, according to the statement read by Assistant District Attorney Deborah Kernan.

Conley, who said in his statement that his recollection of details was "sketchy" because he was intoxicated, remained in the back seat



drinking beer while Skates, who also uses the last name of Bradshaw, and Beeman entered the Welch home at 2612 S. Bowen Road.

"I think I was supposed to blow the horn if anyone came," he said.

The statement said Conley began to enter the home after Skates and Beeman did not return for a long time.

"As I approached the door, I saw blood stains on the cement. I was frightened," the statement said.

After entering through a rear sliding door, Conley saw signs of a struggle and blood on the wall. Skates and Beeman were rummaging through the home looking for items to steal. The three men took some items to Skates' car and got more beer before returning to the home to look for more items to take, the statement read.

The statement then describes Conley seeing Nancy Welch.

"I have a vague memory of seeing the woman with tape on her. I think it was on her ankles, wrists and over her mouth. Dale said the woman stroked out and we had to do the man in.

"By now, I want the hell out of here. "

Tarrant County Medical Examiners, who released the final report of Nancy Welch's death in September, listed the cause of the 60-year-old woman's death as hypertensive heart disease but ruled the manner of her death undetermined. Officials have said Albert Welch, 65, was beaten and stabbed to death.

In the statement, completed in the early hours of Oct. 20, 1995, Conley said that although he saw Albert Welch's blood in and outside the home, he did not see Albert Welch. After finishing the burglary, Skates left in his car, and Beeman and Conley returned to their apartment in the Welch's white Buick, the statement said.

"In the car, before I got out, he said he would sell all the stolen stuff and would split it between the three of us," the statement read. "I went in, had more beer and went to sleep. "

Conley said that when he awoke the next day, a "quieter than usual" Beeman showed up, still in the Welch's car and with new shoes, shirts and Ray Ban sunglasses.

"He didn't offer me any money and never mentioned the murders," Conley said. "By now I had blocked them out as well. "



Conley added to his statement that Beeman usually carried what appeared to be a fillet knife in a tan sheath and had it the night of the burglary. No weapon was recovered, police have said.

Earlier in the day, **Bill Waybourn**, chief of the Dalworthington Gardens Department of Public Safety, described to jurors what he saw at the Welch home soon after their son, Ronald Welch, discovered his mother's body in a hall bathroom and notified police.

Waybourn said that he discovered the body of Albert Welch in a metal storage shed. The Welch family dog was growling in the direction of the shed, then Waybourn opened the door, he said.

He also chronicled the events leading up to each man's arrest and the recovery of some of the Welch's property, which Beeman stored in his then-girlfriend's home.

Tarrant County Medical Examiner Nizam Peerwani is expected to take the stand today, prosecutors said.

Load-Date: August 23, 1997

End of Document

[Martin High Explorers post to learn about law enforcement](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

November 4, 1996, Monday, ARLINGTON AM EDITION

Copyright 1996 Star-Telegram Newspaper, Inc.

Section: ARLINGTON;; EDUCATION

Length: 586 words

Byline: JESSAMY BROWN, Star-Telegram Writer

Body

A Law Enforcement Explorers post has been initiated for students at Martin High School, created in conjunction with a new Introduction to Criminal Justice elective course.

Explorers is a nationwide program offered through the Boy Scouts of America.



Post 800 counts about 40 youths in its membership. They have started learning the basics, such as proper procedures for using radios, and are electing student officers to lead the group, said Martin teacher Jeff Garrison.

Students will also learn about subjects such as how arrests are made, the Penal Code, the Code of Criminal Procedure, firearms, jail and prison systems and rules about use of force, said **Bill Waybourn**, chief of the Dalworthington Gardens Department of Public Safety, which sponsors the post.

"It's a resurrection. We had an Explorers post several years ago and it kind of died and went away," Waybourn said. "This gives them the opportunity to take a look inside the crystal ball and see if it's appealing. "

The Explorers plan to visit the Arlington Fire Department's training facility, Garrison said.

"They're going to pull hoses and everything except actually fight a fire," Garrison said. "It allows those that are really interested in it to do some of the fun stuff we can't get to do in class because of the liability. "

And because Dalworthington Gardens is a Department of Public Safety, not just a police department, Explorers will have the opportunity to learn about law enforcement, firefighting and the work of emergency medical technicians, Garrison said.

"It's a real big advantage," said Garrison, who teaches the course with Beth Parker. Both instructors are commissioned officers with the Dalworthington Gardens department.

About 300 Martin students are participating in the class this semester, Garrison said. Its appeal is going beyond students who plan to be police officers.

"Criminal justice is not just law enforcement. We cover the courts and the prison system," Garrison said.

Last week, anti-drug DPS officer David Seward and canine DPS officer Mike Taylor visited the class, accompanied by Jenny, a black Labrador retriever.

District officials added the class this year in response to



surveys that indicate that many students are interested in criminal justice, one of the fastest-growing career fields.

Starting in the 1997-98 school year, the district plans to offer a more intense look at criminal justice careers by adding three classes: Fundamentals of Criminal Law, Crime in America and Law Enforcement Training.

-

Students from sophomore English classes at Arlington High School recently organized a Halloween carnival for about 60 disadvantaged children from homeless shelters, women's shelters and low-income areas around the city.

They also planted 150 pansy plants and weeded flower beds on the grounds of a child advocacy center, The Alliance For Children, in honor of Make A Difference Day, said teacher Holly Hillgardner Wilson.

The teen-agers bought costumes for the students and organized activities for them including a beanbag toss, face painting and pumpkin decorating.

The 48 high school students raised \$ 200 for the project. Because many of the supplies were loaned by the students or donated by local businesses, \$ 125 remains in leftover funds, which the group plans to use to set up a fund for other community service projects.

Jessamy Brown covers the Arlington school district and educational issues for the Arlington Star-Telegram. Call her at 548-5424, or fax her at 261-1193.

Load-Date: August 23, 1997

End of Document

[City reviews police rules about off-duty enforcement](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

August 25, 1996, Sunday, ARLINGTON AM EDITION

Copyright 1996 Star-Telegram Newspaper, Inc.

Section: ARLINGTON;

Length: 1231 words



Byline: BRIAN D. CRECENTE, Star-Telegram Writer

Body

DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS - A recent rash of incidents involving off-duty police officers is putting policies regarding their off-duty responsibilities to the test.

The policy is being reviewed in Dalworthington Gardens, where a police officer is being investigated for his actions while off duty.

However, Police Chief **Bill Waybourn** said the incident did not prompt the reassessment.

The Dalworthington Gardens Department of Public Safety is in the process of reviewing several policies, including the one governing off-duty law enforcement Waybourn said.

"I don't know exactly what they are looking at doing but if it is going to address anything it might address misdemeanors," Waybourn said. He said he doesn't expect any policy changes to take place until after the first of the year.

In the Dalworthington Gardens case, off-duty officer Don Feare, who was in Forest Hill, tried to apprehend three people who were in a truck that matched the description of one used in an aggravated robbery in Everman. Feare, 48, who was not in uniform, fired his gun once during the incident but no one was injured, police said.

The incident is under administrative investigation.

All of the truck's occupants have been cleared by police of any involvement in the robbery, and at least one of the truck's occupants has filed an aggravated assault charge against Feare.

Three weeks ago in Arlington, an off-duty Fort Worth officer fatally shot a youth who reportedly tried to rob him at a banking machine. Two weeks ago, an off-duty Haltom City officer helped capture a homicide suspect after spotting the suspect outside his apartment.

Dalworthington Gardens is the latest city considering a change in its off-duty enforcement policy. The city's current policy is much like the state's, which gives off-duty officers the same authority as those who are on duty, Waybourn said.



The policy requires officers to notify a supervisor if they become involved. When off-duty officers identify themselves as police officers they are immediately considered on duty and subject to department policy.

Waybourn said the policy allows officers to use their best judgment when a situation arises.

"I would want to be extremely careful about dictating policy that might take away from an officer's discretion to act and have someone else pay the ultimate price for it," Waybourn said. "If you get too conservative in those areas, then suddenly they are not policing.

They are trying to figure out what they can and can't do.

"I want to leave that discretion to the officers as much as I can," he said.

Arlington Police Chief David Kunkle said his department's more restrictive policy, which discourages an off-duty officer from taking action unless it is necessary to prevent loss of life or significant property loss, is designed to protect both the city and its officers.

"I have the position that by definition, off-duty enforcement can be very problematic because of the possible confusion of an officer's identity," Kunkle said. "Also, it is a situation when an officer doesn't have access to resources they normally have while on duty. "

Arlington police Lt. Jay Six, head of the department's internal affairs division, said that before an off-duty officer becomes involved in a situation, the officer must make sure it is absolutely necessary, that they have a tactical advantage and that the risk involved is outweighed by the need to act.

"Our policy is designed to help keep officers from feeling obligated to engage in a situation where they really weren't prepared," Six said.

Six said the policy also helps to balance an officer's natural instinct to be "on duty" 24 hours a day.

Fort Worth's off-duty enforcement policy is the same as the state's, police Lt. Mark Krey said.

"There has been numerous incidents where Fort Worth officers have acted very courageously in apprehending people who were wanted for



everything from aggravated sexual assault to robbery and burglary," Krey said.

For many officers, off-duty enforcement is part of the job, Krey said.

"They realized and understood that when they accepted the job and have no hesitation to do their duty when the need arises," he said.

The Grand Prairie Police Department also makes no additions to the state's policy, Deputy Chief Brad Geary said.

"We give them the same discretion to make a decision as when they are on duty," Geary said. "Most officers won't get involved unless it is a life-threatening situation. "

Geary said officers understand that they should only step in when it is absolutely necessary.

"The courts have years to decide on something an officer has only milliseconds to think about," he said.

Jim Shelton, manager of the North Central Texas Regional Police Academy, which trains rookie officers for about 30 North Texas cities, said many cities decide to have more restrictive policies than the state's policy because of safety and liability concerns.

"I think a city has a vested interest when they issue a commission," Shelton said. "They have to be concerned with liability and officer safety.

"I think it is best that the department makes the final decision on how much enforcement an off-duty officer is going to do," he said

In Dallas, off-duty officers are prohibited from enforcing Class C misdemeanors, such as public intoxication, disorderly conduct or traffic violations. Also, when unarmed, officers are instructed only to handle situations within their ability, police spokesman Ed Spencer said.

In Haltom City, an off-duty officer has the same authority as an on-duty officer and is also required by the department to carry a handgun and police identification at all times while in the city, Assistant Chief Roger Macon said.

Waybourn said that despite policy, most officers remain vigilant 24 hours a day and that often, the public expects it.



"I don't think the badge ever comes off," Waybourn said. "If I'm in a restaurant and have a cardiac arrest, and you are a doctor, I expect you to respond. It's the same with police. It's a level of professionalism, of believing in what you are doing. "

Policies for off-duty police officers

Off-duty policies for law enforcement personnel vary among Metroplex municipalities. The following is the state guideline that all Texas peace officers must follow and additional restrictions mandated by local cities.

State Law: It is the duty of every peace officer to preserve the peace within his jurisdiction. He shall in every case where he is authorized by the law attempt to prevent or suppress crime.

Dalworthington Gardens: Off-duty officers are expected to assist officers or other departments when the situation requires it and must notify a supervisor immediately once becoming involved in an off-duty situation.

Arlington: Off-duty officers are not allowed to enforce class c traffic offenses and are discouraged in taking any action unless it is necessary to prevent an immediate threat to life or a significant property loss.

Grand Prairie: No additional written policies.

Fort Worth: No additional written policies.

Dallas: Off-duty officers are not allowed to enforce class c misdemeanors or traffic offenses and are cautioned to not take action beyond their ability when not armed.

Haltom City: Off-duty officers have to carry handguns and police identification at all times while in the city limits.

Load-Date: August 22, 1997

End of Document

[Recording offers insight into policeman's gunfire](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

August 15, 1996, Thursday, ARLINGTON AM EDITION



Copyright 1996 Star-Telegram Newspaper, Inc.

Section: ARLINGTON;

Length: 400 words

Byline: BRIAN D. CRECENTE, Star-Telegram Writer

Body

A Dalworthington Gardens police officer who discharged his weapon while off duty was carrying out an Everman dispatcher's request to detain a pickup truck that she said was suspected of being used in a robbery, according to a recording of the call.

Officer Don Feare, 48, is under investigation after firing his weapon while off duty Friday evening in Forest Hill. Feare, who lives in Everman, remains on duty while the Forest Hill and Dalworthington Gardens police departments conduct criminal and administrative investigations.

No one was injured, but one of three occupants of the truck filed a complaint of aggravated assault against Feare. Everman police who were called to the scene determined that the occupants were not involved in the robbery.

In the recording released by Everman Police Chief Randy Sanders, Feare asks an unidentified dispatcher for the license number of the truck being sought, then asks why the truck is wanted.

"A shooting earlier, a robbery earlier," the dispatcher says.

Feare then asks the dispatcher if she wants the truck, which was parked in a Kroger parking lot, detained.

"Yes, sir, we do," she says.

Feare tells the dispatcher that he is in a "plainclothes unit" and needs backup immediately.

In the background, Feare is heard telling someone to "get out of the car" and identifying himself as a police officer. He then shouts, "Hey," and a few seconds later tells the dispatcher, "The suspects are running, and I think I see a firearm. "

Both Forest Hill and Dalworthington Gardens police officials said they couldn't disclose when or at what Feare fired his weapon.



Feare said last night that he cannot comment until the investigations are complete.

Bill Waybourn of the Dalworthington Gardens Public Safety Department said it appears that Feare was doing what he believed was right.

"In this particular situation we have an officer who believed he has robbery and shooting suspects in front of him," Waybourn said.

"In this case the officer had what turned out to be bad information. "

Waybourn said Feare, who has 20 years of law-enforcement experience, did not fire at the occupants or into the air.

The license number provided by the dispatcher belongs to a truck registered to Thomas Risher of Fort Worth, who said yesterday that his grandson was in the truck Friday night.

Risher said his grandson was at work last night and unavailable for comment.

Load-Date: August 22, 1997

End of Document

Dalworthington Gardens officer investigated

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

August 14, 1996, Wednesday, ARLINGTON AM EDITION

Copyright 1996 Star-Telegram Newspaper, Inc.

Section: ARLINGTON;

Length: 360 words

Byline: BRIAN D. CRECENTE, Star-Telegram Writer

Body

DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS - A Dalworthington Gardens police officer is under investigation after firing his weapon while off duty Friday evening in Forest Hill at three people in a truck whom he suspected of being armed robbers, police said.

No one was injured, and no property was damaged in the incident,



Forest Hill Police Sgt. Thomas Sanders said last night.

Dalworthington Gardens officer Don Feare, who lives in the Forest Hill area, remains on duty while Forest Hill and Dalworthington Gardens police departments investigate the incident.

Sanders said a patrol unit was flagged down at 10:52 p.m. Friday by three people who said they were shot at while parked in the Kroger parking lot at 6605 Forest Hill Drive.

Sanders said Feare told Forest Hill police he fired his gun because he thought that one of the three in the truck matched the description of a suspect in an armed robbery that occurred at an Everman convenience store earlier that evening.

Everman police were called to the scene, where they determined that the three in the truck, who were not identified by police, were not involved in the robbery.

One of the truck's occupants filed an aggravated assault complaint against Feare, which Forest Hill is investigating, Sanders said.

Feare was in civilian clothes and not in a marked car at the time of the shooting, he said.

"We are handling this like any other complaint," Sanders said.

"This is no different than when one citizen is being shot at by another citizen.

"To us it's just another report. "

Chief **Bill Waybourn** said the Dalworthington Gardens Public Safety Department is also conducting a routine administrative investigation into the officer's actions.

"Basically we are investigating to see if there was any criminal wrongdoing on anyone's part," he said. "Police officers are police; it's not what they do, it's what they are. "

Waybourn said Feare, who has been in law enforcement for 20 years and with the department for five, was not placed on leave because no one was injured in the shooting.

Both Forest Hill and Dalworthington Gardens officials said they hope to have the investigation concluded by the end of the week.



Load-Date: August 22, 1997

End of Document

Automobile Accident

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

May 9, 1996, Thursday, ARLINGTON AM EDITION

Copyright 1996 Star-Telegram Newspaper, Inc.

Section: ARLINGTON;

Length: 89 words

Byline: Star-Telegram

Body

Bill Waybourn, chief of the Dalworthington Gardens Department of Public Safety, checks where a car drove through the Cookie Machine, 3100 W. Arkansas Lane, yesterday.

Witnesses said Dorothy Alexander,

73, of Arlington was pulling into a parking space when she accelerated and drove into the bakery. Police said Ysabel Roblez, who was inside the bakery at the time of the accident, was hit by the car or furniture. Roblez, 57, of Grand Prairie was treated at Columbia Medical Center of Arlington and released.

PHOTO(S): Gregg Ellman

Load-Date: August 22, 1997

End of Document

Aquatic harvester toils to rid lake of hyacinths

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

April 9, 1996, Tuesday, ARLINGTON AM EDITION

Copyright 1996 Star-Telegram Newspaper, Inc.

Section: ARLINGTON;



Length: 312 words

Byline: Robert Cadwallader, Special to the Star-Telegram

Body

DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS - On the west end of Pappy Elkins Lake, a loud, grinding contraption paddled along yesterday, thrashing through the water and the plants covering a good portion of its surface.

Once again, the city was doing battle with the hyacinth plants blanketing more than half of the small lake.

This time, Aquatic Habitat Management Corp. of California, armed with a diesel-powered "aquatic harvester," is scheduled for a weeklong assault on the stubborn plants.

The city is paying \$ 15,000 for the service, hoping to eradicate at least 90 percent of the hyacinths.

The hyacinth plants produce a long tangle of roots that hangs several feet below the surface. Experts say that in addition to clogging the surface for boating, the roots upset the food chain by allowing smaller fish to hide from predator fish.

"There's no way you can get all of it out of here," Greg Shugart, city secretary/finance director, said. "We just hope to get it into a manageable format where we can handle it with our own equipment and sprayers. "

The city contracted with the county last summer to try scooping it out with a long-armed, land-based loader. Despite the removal of more than 100 truck loads, the plants, which reproduce quickly, seemed able to keep pace.

A couple of cold spells during the winter killed some of the overgrowth, and spraying by the city helped. But the large, clear areas in the lake are misleading. The dead plants linger just below the surface, and because decomposition destroys oxygen in the water, removing their remains is as important as removing the live plants, officials said.

The \$ 80,000 harvester, which cuts and scoops the plants from the lake before dump trucks haul them off, was having some success by mid-afternoon, **Bill Waybourn**, chief of public safety, said.



"But there's a lot out there," he added.

PHOTO(S): Willis Knight

Load-Date: August 21, 1997

End of Document

[Gun discharge in car injures Alvarado teen](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

April 5, 1996, Friday, FINAL AM EDITION

Copyright 1996 Star-Telegram Newspaper, Inc.

Section: METRO;

Length: 250 words

Byline: Brian D. Crecente, Star-Telegram Writer

Body

DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS - A semi-automatic pistol was discharged apparently by accident in a parked car early yesterday, wounding an 18-year-old Alvarado woman in the arm and thigh, police said.

The bullet from the High Point .40-caliber semi-automatic pistol passed through Shanna Ellich's right upper arm and thigh and the floorboard of the car, said Police Chief **Bill Waybourn**.

Ellich was listed in stable condition at Columbia Medical Center of Arlington, Waybourn said.

Waybourn said Ellich and four other people were sitting in a car parked in a driveway in the 3200 block of Roosevelt Drive when the incident occurred about 1:30 a.m.

"There were some 18- to 21-year-olds there in a car, and from everything we gather right now, they were playing with a pistol and thought it was unloaded," Waybourn said. "A single round discharged and hit Ellich in the right upper arm and right thigh.

Waybourn said he could not yet release the names of the four others involved because of the ongoing investigation. He said they were a woman from Florida, two men from Cleburne and a man from



Dalworthington Gardens in whose driveway the shooting occurred.

"We are still looking at the possibility of an aggravated assault," Waybourn said. "It could be deadly conduct, but we are still in the review process and are looking at the most serious first. "

Waybourn said he could not disclose the name of the owner of the gun but said that police believe the gun was not in Ellich's hand when it went off.

Load-Date: August 21, 1997

End of Document

**[Area sees results of crime bill;
Dalworthington Gardens receives funds for equipment, and a class of
eight graduates from the Arlington police academy.](#)**

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

March 29, 1996, Friday, ARLINGTON AM EDITION

Copyright 1996 Star-Telegram Newspaper, Inc.

Section: ARLINGTON;

Length: 328 words

Byline: Brian D. Crecente, Star-Telegram Writer

Body

The increased police presence promised in the 1994 crime bill officially kicks in today with the approval of funds for the Dalworthington Gardens Public Safety Department and the graduation of a class of eight Arlington police officers, U.S. Rep. Martin Frost said yesterday.

The officers were funded as part of the crime bill's proposal to add 100,000 additional police and sheriffs' deputies nationwide.

Arlington's eight new officers, who officially graduate tonight, actually began working about three weeks ago, said Lt. Del Fisher, Arlington police training academy commander.



Dalworthington Gardens was awarded \$ 13,824 for equipment to help free up two of its officers to get back on the streets under the COPS MORE program, said Frost.

"It's very important because they have a small police department and need all of the help they can get," Frost said.

Chief **Bill Waybourn** of Dalworthington Gardens' Public Safety Department said the news of the funding caught him by surprise because he had not been officially notified as of last night.

"We submitted a wish list of things we needed, including a data processing clerk and a 'dictaphone' for officers so they can call their reports in," Waybourn said. "That would free up the officers to be out on the streets.

"Right now we have officers who have to spend two hours a night on paperwork. "

Waybourn said the grants' effect on the police force, which has eight full-time officers and 20 volunteer officers, would be significant.

"There are times that having to do paperwork could take a senior officer off of the streets," he said. "It's a big deal. "

The grant pays for 75 percent of the cost of the equipment, technology and civilian salaries or overtime for one year with the remaining 25 percent paid locally.

So far, in Texas, \$ 94.9 million has been authorized to hire and redeploy more than 1,800 officers under the federal crime bill.

Nationwide, grants have helped pay for 33,000 new officers.

Load-Date: August 21, 1997

End of Document

**[Different approach planned in plant war;
Dalworthington Gardens hires a California firm to clear Pappy Elkins
Lake of fast-spreading water hyacinth](#)**

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

March 22, 1996, Friday, ARLINGTON AM EDITION



Copyright 1996 Star-Telegram Newspaper, Inc.

Section: ARLINGTON;

Length: 264 words

Byline: Robert Cadwallader

Body

DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS - The City Council last night put out a \$ 15,000 contract on a troublesome water plant that has covered more than half of the surface of Pappy Elkins Lake.

Aquatic Habitat Management of California will deploy one or more floating combines in the lake early next month to harvest the tangle of hyacinth plants that has resisted local efforts to remove it.

Mayor Al Taub said the goal was to extract 90 to 95 percent of the plants and kill the rest with herbicides.

In the summer, the county worked 10 days scooping up the quick-spreading plants from shore with a long-armed backhoe and removed 110 truck loads.

"And we only made a small dent in it," Taub said. "It is a scary product. "

Officials expect Aquatic Habitat to spend about five days on the job.

In other action, the council:

Approved a plan to pay the city's Department of Public Safety officers for the three hours a week that they now receive time off for. The officers, who are cross-trained in both police work and firefighting, work 43 hours a week, receiving comp time and a half for the extra three hours. Under the new plan, they would receive straight pay for those hours instead.

DPS Chief **Bill Waybourn** said it would be an inexpensive way - less than \$ 5,000 for the remainder of the fiscal year - to provide a morale boost.

Canceled a discussion and scheduled a public hearing for next month's meeting to consider a request from citizens that the city convert the east end of Clover Lane into a cul-de-sac, which would



buffer the neighborhood against the soon-to-be-widened Bowen Road.

Load-Date: August 21, 1997

End of Document

[Fate of vintage getaway car worries suspect in 7 robberies; Police say it was Jon Todd Nickerson's beige 1973 Mercedes-Benz that led to his arrest in a string of Metroplex service station holdups Monday](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas)

March 13, 1996, Wednesday, FINAL AM EDITION

Copyright 1996 Star-Telegram Newspaper, Inc.

Section: METRO;

Length: 546 words

Byline: John Council, Star-Telegram Writer

Body

He faces aggravated robbery charges and a maximum 99-year prison sentence. But the Arlington man accused in a string of robberies while driving a vintage Mercedes-Benz is more worried about his car, investigators said yesterday.

"He talked incessantly about the vehicle and wanted to make sure it was properly stored," Detective Sgt. Charlie Ward of the Southlake Department of Public Safety said of the robbery suspect, Jon Todd Nickerson.

"He told us there were cleaning and maintenance supplies in the trunk," he said. "He's just a big car-care guy. "

Police say it was the distinctive car that led to Nickerson's arrest. Nickerson, 30, was driving his beige 1975 Mercedes when he was arrested leaving a Southlake service station late Sunday, police said. A similar car had been described by victims in a half-dozen earlier robberies throughout the Metroplex, police said.

"In this day and time, when you get a compact and subcompact description, it fits 75 percent of the cars on the road," Ward said.



"In this case we knew exactly what we were looking for. "

Nickerson was arraigned Monday in connection with the Southlake robbery and was in Tarrant County Jail last night with bail set at \$ 50,000.

A gunman robbed the Southlake Chevron, 2315 E. Texas 114, and slid the clerk a \$ 20 bill before leaving, saying it was payment for "staying cool" during the holdup, police said.

In previous robberies that day, the gunman gave money to the clerks, saying the money was "to give to your wife and kids," earning him the moniker of the "Robin Hood bandit," police said.

Nickerson could face more armed robbery charges in Grapevine, Irving, Lewisville and Farmers Branch, police said.

Nickerson has denied being involved in the robberies, police said.

When he was stopped by police and officers found a large amount of cash under the driver's seat of the Mercedes, Nickerson said he was a professional disc golfer and that he had won the money in a tournament, police said.

Officials with the Pro Disc Golf Association in Weatherford said they have no record of Nickerson's membership. Tim Jendel, a professional disc golfer who practices regularly at Veterans Park in Arlington, said that Nickerson may have played in one Veterans Park minidisc golf tournament at the novice level, but that he was by no means a professional.

Nickerson also told investigators he had played football for the Seattle Seahawks in the mid 1980s, police said. But no one with his name is listed on the Seahawks all-time roster.

Dalworthington Gardens police said Nickerson fits the description of a man who claimed to be a police officer during a confrontation with a woman in late February.

Bill Waybourn, chief of the Dalworthington Gardens Department of Public Safety, said that Nickerson had filed a pre-application form with the department, but that he is not employed as an officer.

While Nickerson may have wanted to become a police officer, only his Mercedes will likely serve law enforcement, officials said.

Southlake police want to seize his car under a provision of state



law that allows vehicles used in crimes to become police property.

"It might be used for undercover work, or we might sell it for proceeds at public auction," Ward said. "He's extremely upset over it. "

Load-Date: August 21, 1997

End of Document

**[2 charged with capital murder;
Roommates held in Dalworthington Gardens slayings](#)**

THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

October 26, 1995, Thursday, HOME FINAL EDITION

Copyright 1995 The Dallas Morning News

Section: NEWS; Pg. 29A

Length: 416 words

Byline: Veronica Alaniz, Mid-Cities Bureau of The Dallas Morning News

Dateline: DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS

Body

DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS - Two Arlington roommates have been charged with capital murder in the deaths of a Dalworthington Gardens couple found slain at their home two weeks ago, police said Wednesday.

One of the suspects, Chris Beeman, 28, was already in jail on a car theft charge related to the slayings of Albert Welch, 65, and his wife, Nancy, 60.

His roommate, Bruce Conley, 40, was charged with capital murder after police found evidence at their apartment that connected him to the crime, said Chief **Bill Waybourn**.

The pair were being held without bail Wednesday in the Dalworthington Gardens jail and were expected to be taken to the Tarrant County Jail within two days, the chief said.

The Welches' bodies were found Oct. 14 by one of their sons, who had become worried when he could not reach his parents by telephone.

Mrs. Welch's partially clothed body, which bore no obvious signs of injury, was found in the bathroom. The body of Mr. Welch, who had been stabbed several times, was found in a toolshed in the back yard. The couple had been dead for several days.



A third suspect in the killings, Dale Skates, 48, was still being held without bail on several charges, including a warrant for violating his state parole on a hot-check conviction.

Mr. Skates, whose given name is Dell Edward Bradshaw, was arrested Oct. 15 while driving the Welches' car and charged with unauthorized use of a motor vehicle. Police said Mr. Skates, who has denied knowing anything about the killings, told them he had borrowed the car from a friend, whom police later identified as Mr. Beeman.

Chief Waybourn said capital murder charges against Mr. Skates are still likely.

Police arrested Mr. Beeman on Oct. 18 and initially charged him with unauthorized use of a motor vehicle. They said he had been identified as the man witnesses saw driving the Welches' car Oct. 11. Police think the couple were killed Oct. 10 or 11.

Chief Waybourn said that when police arrested Mr. Beeman, they found items stolen from the Welches' home and merchandise - including expensive sunglasses and clothes - purchased Oct. 11 with the couple's stolen credit card.

Although Chief Waybourn would not give specifics, he said police found evidence at the suspects' apartment and a friend's apartment that indicates that the pair had used Mr. Welch's stolen credit card and that ties them to the crime scene.

He said investigators were still trying to piece together the events leading to the slayings.

Graphic

PHOTO(S): 1. Chris Beeman. 2. Bruce Conley.

Load-Date: October 27, 1995

End of Document

**[Capital murder charges expected;
Officials say evidence ties 2 men to couple's slayings](#)**

THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

October 20, 1995, Friday, HOME FINAL EDITION

Copyright 1995 The Dallas Morning News

Section: NEWS; Pg. 27A

Length: 559 words

Byline: Veronica Alaniz, Mid-Cities Bureau of The Dallas Morning News

Dateline: DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS



Body

DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS - Two men charged with stealing a car belonging to a couple slain in their home last week probably will be charged with capital murder, police said Thursday.

"We have found evidence that ties them to the crime scene," Dalworthington Gardens Department of Public Safety Chief **Bill Waybourn** said during a news conference. "We plan to file capital murder charges on them but we need to do some more investigating.

We want to be very, very cautious."

Albert Welch, 65, and his wife, Nancy, 60, were killed Oct. 10 or Oct. 11 at their home in the 2600 block of South Bowen Road in Dalworthington Gardens, a small city surrounded by Arlington in the southwest part of the city. He was a retired engineer and she was a retired library assistant.

Their bodies were discovered Saturday by a son who went to the house when he grew worried that he had not been able to reach his parents by phone.

Mrs. Welch's partially clothed body was found in the bathroom.

Chief Waybourn said there were no signs of violence to her body and that authorities do not know how she died. Mr. Welch's body, with several stab wounds, was found inside a tool shed in the backyard.

Donald and Ronald Welch, the dead couple's sons, thanked the Police Department and people who provided information that have helped the investigation.

"We just want to say thank you to the Dalworthington Gardens police and to all the people who have called in with information and everyone who's been trying to help solve this case," Ronald Welch said during the news conference.

Added Donald Welch: "The work that everyone's done has paid off up to this point."

The two men in custody are Chris Darrell Beeman, 28, and Dale E. Skates, 48, both of Arlington. The pair are being held in lieu of \$ 100,000 bail each on a charge of unauthorized use of a motor vehicle. Both men have denied involvement in the slayings, Chief Waybourn said.

Mr. Skates, whose real name is Dell Edward Bradshaw, was arrested Sunday night while driving the 1991 Buick Century sedan that belonged to the Welches.

Mr. Skates told police he borrowed the car from Mr. Beeman, who was arrested Wednesday in Arlington at the apartment of a friend.

When they arrested Mr. Beeman, police said, they also found property belonging to the Welches that was taken from their home.

They also found items - including an expensive pair of sunglasses - purchased Oct. 11 with Mr. Welch's stolen credit card.

Chief Waybourn said investigators also believe that Mr. Beeman is the man witnesses reported seeing driving the Welches' car Oct. 11 - shortly after police believe the couple were killed.



Chief Waybourn said Mr. Beeman and Mr. Skates met each other while incarcerated at the Tarrant County jail.

According to court records, Mr. Beeman has not been convicted of any crimes in Tarrant County. But he is facing two counts of driving while intoxicated - one in 1994 in Dalworthington Gardens and one in June in Arlington.

On the same day last month, he was charged with resisting arrest and search and failure to identify in Pantego and evading arrest in Fort Worth. Two weeks ago, he was arrested on a charge of marijuana possession. All of those cases are pending.

Mr. Skates was convicted in 1991 on a felony forged check charge and was sentenced to 20 years in state prison.

Graphic

PHOTO(S): 1. (The Dallas Morning News: Beatriz Terrazas) Donald Welch (left) listens to Dalworthington Gardens Chief **Bill Waybourn** on Thursday. 2. Albert Welch. 3. Nancy Welch. 4. Chris Darrell Beeman. 5. Dale E. Skates.

Load-Date: October 24, 1995

End of Document

[2nd man held, suspected in slayings of Dalworthington Gardens couple](#)

THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

October 19, 1995, Thursday, HOME FINAL EDITION

Copyright 1995 The Dallas Morning News

Section: NEWS; Pg. 31A

Length: 360 words

Byline: Aline McKenzie, Jason Sickles, Staff Writers of The Dallas Morning News

Dateline: DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS

Body

DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS - Police have arrested a second Arlington man in connection with last week's double slaying and robbery of a couple.



Chris D. Beeman, 28, was arrested Wednesday in Arlington and will be charged with unauthorized use of a motor vehicle, police said. His friend, Dale E. Skates, 48, was arrested Sunday night and charged with the same offense.

Both men are suspects in the slayings of Albert and Nancy Welch but have not been charged in the slayings, Police Chief **Bill Waybourn** said.

"We want to be sure about this," he said Wednesday night.

Chief Waybourn said that a credit card apparently stolen from the couple was used at a store and that a witness had said Mr. Beeman was at the same store after the slayings.

Police also said a witness saw Mr. Beeman driving the Welches' car shortly after the slayings last week. Police said he closely resembles a composite sketch based on the description provided by the witness.

Mr. Beeman was arrested at a friend's house on Bennett Drive in Arlington after police received a tip.

Mr. Welch, 65, and Mrs. Welch, 60, were slain Oct. 11 at their home on South Bowen Road in Dalworthington Gardens, a small city surrounded by Arlington, police said. He was a retired engineer, and she was a retired library assistant.

Their bodies were found Saturday after their son went to the house, worried because he hadn't been able to reach his parents by phone. Mrs. Welch's body was found in the bathroom with head wounds from a blunt weapon, officials said. Mr. Welch's body, stabbed several times, was in a shed in the back yard.

The couple's car was missing after the attack, as was Mr. Welch's wallet. Police say they think the motive for the killings was robbery.

Mr. Skates was arrested while driving the Welches' car, police said. He told investigators he had borrowed the car from a friend.

Mr. Skates remained jailed Wednesday night with bail set at \$ 100,000. Mr. Beeman was still being questioned.

Slayings are rare in Dalworthington Gardens - the first in 20 years occurred in April, when a resident fatally shot his girlfriend's estranged husband, police have said.

Load-Date: October 26, 1995

End of Document

[More suspects sought in slaying of mid-cities couple](#)

THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

October 18, 1995, Wednesday, HOME FINAL EDITION

Copyright 1995 The Dallas Morning News

Section: NEWS; Pg. 27A

Length: 317 words



Byline: Veronica Alaniz, Staff Writer of The Dallas Morning News

Dateline: DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS

Body

DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS - Police were searching Tuesday for one or two more suspects in the slaying of a couple last week.

Dale Edward Skates, 48, of Arlington was arrested Sunday night while driving the car belonging to the slain couple - Albert Welch, 65, and Nancy Welch, 60. He remained in jail on a charge of unauthorized use of a motorized vehicle, with bail set at \$ 100,000.

Authorities were looking for the man who Mr. Skates said lent him the car, said **Bill Waybourn**, chief of the Dalworthington Gardens Department of Public Safety.

"All we have is a first name right now," Chief Waybourn said.

"We're trying to identify who the man is and find him."

Authorities also are looking for a man who was seen driving away from the Welches' house after the slayings early Oct. 11. He was described as white, with light brown hair and a bowl-style haircut that is shaved close to the scalp above the ears and in back. Authorities did not know whether he is the man Mr. Skates says lent him the car.

The Welches' son, Ronald Welch, found their bodies Saturday at the couple's home in the 2000 block of Bowen Road after trying to reach them by phone for several days.

Police said they think the couple were attacked and robbed at their home late Tuesday or early Wednesday. Their car, Mr. Welch's wallet and a television were missing, police said.

Mrs. Welch, who suffered head wounds, was found partially clothed in the home's bathroom. Chief Waybourn said she may have died of a heart attack and not her injuries. The Tarrant County medical examiner's office was awaiting results of toxicology tests before ruling on the cause of death.

Mr. Welch's body was found in a toolshed in the back yard. He had been stabbed in the head, neck and chest, police said.

Chief Waybourn said investigators were continuing to search for clues. "We have not narrowed our scope," he said.

Graphic

PHOTO(S): Dale Edward Skates.

Load-Date: October 19, 1995



Arlington man held in killings in mid-cities Police seek second suspect in brutal attack on couple

THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

October 16, 1995, Monday, HOME FINAL EDITION

Copyright 1995 The Dallas Morning News

Section: NEWS; Pg. 13A

Length: 930 words

Byline: Douglas Holt, J. Lynn Lunsford, Staff Writers of The Dallas Morning News

Dateline: DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS

Body

DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS - A 48-year-old Arlington man was arrested Sunday night in connection with the slayings of a Dalworthington Gardens couple, but police said they were continuing the hunt for more suspects.

The suspect, who was not identified, was arrested in Arlington about 9:10 p.m. while driving a car that belonged to the victims, Albert and Nancy Welch.

He was being held on investigative charges of unorthodox use of a motorized vehicle. Police were questioning the man late Sunday where he got the car, a white 1991 Buick Century sedan, said **Bill Waybourn**, Dalworthington Gardens chief of public safety.

Chief Waybourn said the suspect was not the man seen driving away from the Welches' house after the slayings early Wednesday.

Police released a sketch of that suspect earlier and were searching for him Sunday night. The chief described the second suspect as a white male with light brown hair and a bowl-style haircut that was shaved shaved close to the scalp above the ears and in back.

The Welches were stabbed and beaten to death late Tuesday or early Wednesday in what officials said is the Tarrant County town's most brutal slaying ever. Their bodies were found Saturday in their home, but their Buick and Mr. Welch's wallet were missing.

The 48-year-old man was arrested near the corner of Oakland and Division streets in Arlington after Dalworthington Gardens police received an anonymous tip that the suspect would be in the area.

Dalworthington Gardens officers staked out a strip center near the corner and waited for the car, bearing Texas license plates that read BYP 94S. The driver did not put up any fight or try to run when officers arrested him, Chief Waybourn said.

"The focus of the investigation was to recover the vehicle. He was in it, so we've got a lot of questions for him," Chief Waybourn said.



A witness told police he saw the second man drive away from the Welches house, set behind a stand of tall trees in the 2000 block of S. Bowen Road, Wednesday morning.

The witness said the clean car and scruffy driver "just didn't fit," Chief Waybourn said. Officers suspect the Welches were slain during a robbery because their car and Mr. Welches wallet are missing.

Chief Waybourn described the Welches as an "American dream couple."

"These were just nice people who were out there on a large plot of land to relax," he said.

Mr. Welch, 65, was a retired engineer with Bell Helicopter Textron. His wife was a 60-year-old retired library assistant with the Arlington Public Library.

Their bodies were found shortly before 6 p.m. Saturday by their son, Ronald Welch of Arlington, who had become concerned when he couldn't reach his parents on the phone.

When he got to the one-story brick house, set behind a stand of tall trees, the front door had been left open, Chief Waybourn said.

But there was no forced entry, leading investigators to speculate that the Welches might have known their attacker, Chief Waybourn said.

Investigators also found fingerprints and blood that might belong to the attacker.

"It seemed like a vicious, cold murder," Chief Waybourn said.

"There was blood in the house, there was blood outside, there was blood in the storage area."

The Welch slayings are just the third homicide incident in 20 years in Dalworthington Gardens, officials said. The town, with a population of about 1,300, is wedged between south Fort Worth and Arlington. The city requires homes to be built on lots that are at least a half-acre.

The Welches' home was typical, police said, with land enough to board a horse.

Karen Burton, who lives in a subdivision across the street from the Welch house, said the town is quiet and considered safe. "My son was scared to death last night," she said of her 11-year-old boy. "He had to sleep in my room."

Mr. Welch was an engineer who took early retirement five years ago to spend time with his family, pursue his carpentry and play golf, said Carl Harris, a Bell Helicopter spokesman.

Friends described Mrs. Welch as reader and a painter who loved to do portraits. She worked at Arlington's Woodland West Branch Library from 1975 to 1992, said Polly Baugh, who was Mrs. Welch's supervisor. After retiring, Mrs. Welch served as vice president for membership of the Friends of the Public Library, a fund-raising group.

"None of us can even think of anyone they could have even angered," said Ms. Baugh, the group's president. "They were both just very decent, pleasant people. We just can't understand it.

We're all just kind of shock."

"I was devastated," added neighbor Shelly Crawford. "They were just a great couple, happily married."



Police found Mrs. Welch's partially clothed body in the home's bathroom. She apparently died of blunt head wounds, Chief Waybourn said.

Mr. Welch's body was found in a tool shed in the backyard. He had been stabbed in the head, neck and chest, police said.

The witness who saw a man drive away from the Welches house Wednesday morning called police Saturday night minutes after a TV report about the slayings, officers said. The witness said he saw a white Buick between 9 a.m. and 10 a.m. Wednesday at a four-way stop sign at Arkansas Lane and Bowen Road, a few blocks north of the murder scene.

The eight-officer Dalworthington Gardens police force asked Arlington investigators to comb the Welches' home for evidence and sent out a nationwide bulletin about the missing Buick, Chief Waybourn said.

"It seemed like a vicious, cold murder." **Bill Waybourn**, police chief of Dalworthington Gardens

Graphic

PHOTO(S): 2nd suspect in killings.

Load-Date: October 23, 1995

End of Document

[Couple found dead at their home Dalworthington Gardens victims had been dead several days, police say](#)

THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

October 15, 1995, Sunday, HOME FINAL EDITION

Copyright 1995 The Dallas Morning News

Section: NEWS; Pg. 41A

Length: 262 words

Byline: Jason Sickles, Staff Writer of The Dallas Morning News

Dateline: DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS

Body

DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS - A 65-year-old man and his 60-year-old wife were found beaten and stabbed to death Saturday evening at their home, police said.



Albert Welch, a retired Bell Helicopter employee, was found dead in a wood shed outside the couple's brick home on South Bowen Road, officers said.
His wife, Nancy, was found in a bathroom, they said.

The couple's son, who lives in North Arlington, discovered his mother at about 6 p.m. and called police, authorities said.

Officers then discovered Mr. Welch's body. Relatives said they had tried to contact the couple since Wednesday.

"There did appear to be somewhat of a struggle" in the shed, said Chief of Public Safety **Bill Waybourn**.

Police said robbery may have been a motive for the slayings.

The couple's white 1991 Buick Sentry with Texas license plate BYP94S was missing.

Chief Waybourn said he believes the couple had been dead for several days. A construction worker doing work in the area called police late Saturday to tell them he had seen the couple's car leaving the scene Wednesday morning. "We believe we have several suspects," the chief said.

In addition to the car, other unspecified items were missing from the home, Chief Waybourn said.

The Welches' large brick home sits on a largely unpopulated road in Dalworthington Gardens, a city of about 2,000 people north of Interstate 20 and encircled by southern Arlington.

Anyone with information about the slayings is asked to call investigators at (817) 275-1234.

Staff writer Robert Ingrassia contributed to this report.

Load-Date: October 23, 1995

End of Document

[Couple found dead at their home Dalworthington Gardens victims had been dead several days, police say](#)

THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

October 15, 1995, Sunday, HOME FINAL EDITION

Copyright 1995 The Dallas Morning News

Section: NEWS; Pg. 41A

Length: 262 words

Byline: Jason Sickles, Staff Writer of The Dallas Morning News

Dateline: DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS

Body



DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS - A 65-year-old man and his 60-year-old wife were found beaten and stabbed to death Saturday evening at their home, police said.

Albert Welch, a retired Bell Helicopter employee, was found dead in a wood shed outside the couple's brick home on South Bowen Road, officers said.

His wife, Nancy, was found in a bathroom, they said.

The couple's son, who lives in North Arlington, discovered his mother at about 6 p.m. and called police, authorities said.

Officers then discovered Mr. Welch's body. Relatives said they had tried to contact the couple since Wednesday.

"There did appear to be somewhat of a struggle" in the shed, said Chief of Public Safety **Bill Waybourn**.

Police said robbery may have been a motive for the slayings.

The couple's white 1991 Buick Sentry with Texas license plate BYP94S was missing.

Chief Waybourn said he believes the couple had been dead for several days. A construction worker doing work in the area called police late Saturday to tell them he had seen the couple's car leaving the scene Wednesday morning. "We believe we have several suspects," the chief said.

In addition to the car, other unspecified items were missing from the home, Chief Waybourn said.

The Welches' large brick home sits on a largely unpopulated road in Dalworthington Gardens, a city of about 2,000 people north of Interstate 20 and encircled by southern Arlington.

Anyone with information about the slayings is asked to call investigators at (817) 275-1234.

Staff writer Robert Ingrassia contributed to this report.

Load-Date: October 16, 1995

End of Document

**[Arlington man killed in argument;
Police arrest suspect after 9-hour standoff](#)**

THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

April 4, 1995, Tuesday, HOME FINAL EDITION

Copyright 1995 The Dallas Morning News

Section: NEWS; Pg. 17A

Length: 319 words

Byline: John Yearwood, Staff Writer of The Dallas Morning News

Body



A man accused of killing his girlfriend's estranged husband was arrested early Monday after holding off police for nine hours in Dalworthington Gardens, authorities said.

Russell Reger was arrested after officers with the Arlington Police Department special tactics squad found him hiding in his attic, said Dalworthington Gardens Police Chief **Bill Waybourn**.

He was charged with murder and was being held at the Dalworthington Gardens jail, Chief Waybourn said.

Mr. Reger allegedly shot Matthew Storey, 26, of Arlington about 9 p.m. Sunday near Mr. Reger's home in the 2200 block of Madrid Court in Dalworthington Gardens, a town of about 2,000 that's virtually surrounded by southwestern Arlington.

It was the first homicide in the small city in at least 14 years, Chief Waybourn said.

Police said the two men argued on the telephone shortly before Mr. Storey was shot.

Mr. Reger, 26, lived with Mr. Storey's estranged wife, Vickie.

Chief Waybourn said it was unclear specifically what led to the shooting.

During the telephone dispute, Mr. Storey told Mr. Reger that he was coming over to his house, Chief Waybourn said.

"Storey turned onto the street Reger lived on, and Reger met him armed with a rifle," Chief Waybourn said. "Storey got out of his vehicle, and Reger shot him."

Mr. Storey was shot three or four times in the upper body and died at the scene, police said.

As police arrived, Mr. Reger entered his home, broke windows with his bare hands, threw furniture outside and barricaded himself, police said.

Chief Waybourn said Mr. Reger refused to leave the house and briefly held two children who lived at his home hostage. The children, ages 2 and 7, were released unharmed.

The standoff ended after the Arlington Police Department's special tactics team entered the home and arrested Mr. Reger in the attic, Chief Waybourn said.

"It could have been a lot worse," he said.

Graphic

MAP(S): (DMN) Site of shooting standoff.

Load-Date: April 14, 1995

End of Document



Tranquil suburb reaps crime bill benefits

THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

January 15, 1995, Sunday, HOME FINAL EDITION

Copyright 1995 The Dallas Morning News

Section: NEWS; Pg. 31A

Length: 939 words

Byline: Doug J. Swanson, Staff Writer of The Dallas Morning News

Dateline: DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS

Body

DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS - Residents of this tiny Tarrant County suburb know plenty about drive-by shootings and gang murders.

They've seen reports of the bloody crimes on TV and read of them in newspapers.

But gangs aren't gunning down each other here. In fact, no one is gunning down anybody. The town has not recorded a single murder in the 14 years it has been keeping track.

Police in Dalworthington Gardens, population 1,758, average less than one felony arrest per week. The number of single-family residences burglarized in 1994: one.

President Clinton may not have had "the Gardens" in mind when he helped push the crime bill through Congress last year by invoking preyed-upon citizens and the murders of children.

Yet money from the bill allowed Dalworthington Gardens to add another patrol officer, increasing its force from six to seven. The town applied for and received a grant of \$ 69,500 over three years.

As a candidate, Mr. Clinton pledged to provide money for 100,000 new officers. About 9,500 have been funded to date. Hiring more officers, the president said last month, "is essential to making our country safe again."

Few outsiders see the additions as a cure-all for crime. "Anyone who thinks increasing the number of American police by 17 percent will reduce crime by 17 percent is sadly mistaken," said James Fyfe, professor of criminal justice at Temple University in Philadelphia.

Paradoxically, the additions may do the most good in places such as Dalworthington Gardens.

Putting more patrols on the streets can be beneficial in some ways, said Dr. Fyfe, a former New York City police officer.

"The police can be very effective in protecting places, but it's much more difficult to protect people," he said.

Property crimes such as theft and burglary - where the mere presence of officers deters would-be perpetrators - might drop.



"But the addition of new cops is not going to discourage the drug dealer who wants to kill his rival," Dr. Fyfe said.

The criminal element in Dalworthington Gardens has not heretofore included homicidal pushers. "We've had a few people that've tried to set up drug businesses," Chief **Bill Waybourn** said.

"They were encouraged to move on."

The federal grant allowed Chief Waybourn to elevate dispatcher Tim Honsinger to patrol officer in November. Mr. Honsinger, 47, served in Vietnam, where he was awarded a Silver Star and a Purple Heart.

So severe were his wounds that he was believed dead, he said.

His name is erroneously engraved on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C.

Patrols in Dalworthington Gardens have thus far proved less hazardous. Let other cities try to wrest semiautomatics from the hands of teenage assassins. Here, much of the new officer's emphasis will be on city code enforcement.

"The broken-window theory of criminology," Chief Waybourn called it, meaning that neighborhood upkeep helps in the prevention of crime.

The town, bordered by Arlington on three sides and Pantego on one, covers less than three square miles. It is 96 percent white, with married-couple families making up three-fourths of the households. The median home value is \$ 151,000, according to Census Bureau figures.

The landscape is part rural and part suburban. Fields with horses and cows separate subdivisions full of two-story brick houses.

Police answered 7,521 service calls last year and averaged 55 arrests per month, almost all misdemeanors. On the day of a recent interview with the chief, the town's four-cell jail was empty.

Four suspected gang members were arrested last year, but they were out-of-staters just passing through on Pioneer Parkway, the town's only street with more than two lanes.

The one restaurant that serves liquor has been the source of "zero problems," Chief Waybourn said. Rowdy teenagers sometimes have late-night parties in the city park, the chief said, but there are no parts of town notorious for criminal activity.

The rougher stretches of Dallas and Fort Worth loom relatively close by, however. "I think people are certainly aware of drive-by shootings in the metropolitan area," said Chief Waybourn. "I think they feel safe once they're here."

Even those armed robber-magnets, convenience stores, have a gentler life here. The AM-PM market at the corner of Arkansas Lane and South Bowen Road has been robbed, but that was four years ago.

"If you're going to work in a convenience store, it is the best place to work," clerk Lydia Beitler, 38, said of her Dalworthington Gardens place of employment. "It's almost like having glass around you."

Olen "Pappy" Knowles moved to Dalworthington Gardens in 1950, before the roads were paved. "All we had was a city marshal then," said Mr. Knowles, 75. "He was also the water man and dogcatcher."



Mr. Knowles said he has never been a victim of violent crime here, nor does he know anyone who has. The most memorable police action he witnessed was the recent arrest of a door-to-door salesman who failed to secure a city permit.

"They carried him down to the jail and locked him up," Mr. Knowles said.

Still, the fear of crime stays with him, he said. "It just gets so close to home, you get concerned about it. I've got a double-barreled shotgun over the door. . . . Like everyone else, I've got a revolver."

The addition of one officer to Dalworthington Gardens does make him feel a little safer. Has that transformed Mr. Knowles, a retired defense plant middle manager, into a supporter of the president?

He shook his head. "There's not enough officers in the United States to make me support Bill Clinton."

Graphic

PHOTO(S): Chief **Bill Waybourn** added a seventh officer to his Dalworthington Gardens force with a \$ 69,500 grant, courtesy of the crime bill President Clinton helped guide through Congress. The Tarrant County suburb isn't a crime hotbed, but troubled areas in Dallas and Fort Worth aren't far away. (The Dallas Morning News: Ariane Kadoch)

Load-Date: January 17, 1995

End of Document

CHURCH FACES TROUBLE FOR RUINED CEMETERY

The Miami Herald

May 8, 1986 Thursday, FINAL EDITION

Copyright 1986 The Miami Herald All Rights Reserved

The Miami Herald

Found on Miami.com

Section: FRONT; A; Pg. 27

Length: 1035 words

Body

EAST

MARYLAND



SASSAFRAS -- Criminal charges may be brought against a small Methodist church for the destruction last week of a 200- year-old cemetery, Kent County state's attorney Frederick Price said Wednesday.

The congregation of the John Wesley United Methodist Church had the cemetery bulldozed because it was an eyesore and was not being cared for, church members said.

Price said state law forbids removal of a cemetery without his permission, which he hadn't given.
MASSACHUSETTS

City's skateboarders

are rolling again

NORTHAMPTON -- A ban on skateboards downtown was wiped out when the mayor offered a compromise to keep the sidewalk surfers from hanging 10 in heavy traffic areas.

About 70 irate teens who showed up with their skateboards at a City Council committee meeting Tuesday night took the compromise in stride, said Mayor David B. Musante Jr.

The compromise: Skateboards are now allowed only on neighborhood sidewalks, Musante said. And, he added, youngsters must hop off to let pedestrians pass.

THE REGION

* IN WARREN, R.I., schools reopened Wednesday when striking 115 teachers obeyed a judge's back-to-work order to end their 12-day walkout.

* THE BOSTON PUBLIC School System and Emmanuel College on Wednesday opened the nation's first educational technology center specially equipped for handicapped students.

SOUTH

TEXAS

Goods at yard sale

too hot to pass up

ARLINGTON -- Plainclothes officers, arriving at the home of a man to question him about burglaries, instead became browsers at a yard sale featuring merchandise they said was stolen.

"We just posed as customers and started looking over the stuff," Dalworthington Gardens Police Chief **Bill Waybourn** said. "We saw a shotgun that we knew was stolen."

Waybourn said he and another officer left the sale Saturday because they were in Arlington, outside their jurisdiction, but reported the case to Arlington detectives. The suspect remained at large Wednesday.

Report: Investigators

misled by murderer

AUSTIN -- Numerous killers are free because authorities were hoodwinked or accepted bogus murder confessions from condemned killer Henry Lee Lucas, simply to clear cases, Texas Attorney General Jim Mattox said Wednesday.



Mattox said investigators who closed more than 210 murder cases across the country based on Lucas' confessions willfully took part in a "miscarriage of justice."

A 60-page report on the Lucas investigation released by the attorney general's office says it is "highly unlikely" Lucas could have committed many of the approximately 600 murders, including that of union boss Jimmy Hoffa, to which he confessed. The report said Lucas likely committed no more than three murders.

THE REGION

* A SPACE experiment from a rocket launched in Wallops Island, Va., that will release colorful clouds along the East Coast has been postponed 24 hours until Friday.

* IN NORFOLK, Va., the Navy lawyer for Petty Officer Second Class Phillip J. Nolan, who faces court-martial for refusing to take an AIDS blood test, says he will argue that the military's practice of testing all personnel for the deadly disease is illegal.

MID-AMERICA

OHIO

Railroad terminal

gets OK for museum

CINCINNATI -- Voters have approved a \$41.7 million tax levy to transform historic Union Terminal into a museum. The levy will be matched by an \$8 million state capital improvements grant.

The railroad terminal was built during the Depression and is hailed as a masterpiece of the Art Deco style of architecture. It contains huge mosaic murals depicting various events in Cincinnati history and the development of transportation.

The levy approved Tuesday will be used to issue bonds to pay for transforming the terminal into the Heritage Center, home of the Cincinnati Museum of Natural History and the Cincinnati Historical Society.

IOWA

Kids caught boozing

must skip the prom

SIBLEY -- Sibley-Ocheyedan High School students who were caught drinking on the senior trip cannot participate in graduation ceremonies unless they attend a four-hour seminar on prom night, the school board has decided.

The decision amounts to a second chance for the students, who along with their parents signed notarized statements prior to the trip that they could not participate in the ceremonies if they were caught drinking.

Twenty-three of 59 seniors on a three-day trip to the Ozarks resort area in Missouri last month admitted they had been drinking. On prom night, they will hear a two-hour lesson on drug and alcohol abuse, then be assigned to work around the school.

THE REGION



* IN LINCOLN, Neb., deaf mute James Curtright, 21, was convicted Wednesday of hacking to death his mother and sister with a 10-inch butcher knife because he disapproved of them working as topless dancers.

WEST

ALASKA

U.S.-Soviet team

to scale new heights

ANCHORAGE -- Soviet and American mountain climbers ranked among the best in the world are reaching for a new summit in U.S.-Soviet relations by teaming up to conquer Mount McKinley, the highest peak on the continent.

"It's a little attempt to better your international relations with our country," said Nicolai Chernyi, one of 10 Soviet climbers who arrived Tuesday to scale the 20,320-foot mountain.

The expedition will be the first in an American-Soviet mountaineering exchange program. The team will fly to the Mount McKinley base camp this week.

UTAH

Mormon letters

called forgeries

SALT LAKE CITY -- The "White Salamander Letter" and about two dozen other documents peddled by booby-trap bombing suspect Mark Hofmann, 31, are fakes, a documents expert testified Wednesday.

Chemical testing of the Salamander Letter showed Hofmann used ammonia to age the ink, William Flynn, a documents expert from the Arizona Crime Laboratory, testified during the second week of Hofmann's preliminary hearing.

Flynn also said the signature of Mormon Church founder Joseph Smith Jr. on a 19th Century printing contract was forged.

Hofmann, 31, a dealer in rare historical documents, is charged in the bombing deaths of two people last October and 30 other counts of fraud and theft.

THE REGION

* IN LOS ANGELES, "Night Stalker" suspect Richard Ramirez confessed shortly after his arrest that he was the serial killer accused of 15 slayings, according to court transcripts unsealed Wednesday.

Load-Date: November 12, 2009

End of Document

[Burglary Suspect Holds Yard Sale](#)

The Associated Press



May 7, 1986, Wednesday, AM cycle

Copyright 1986 Associated Press All Rights Reserved

Section: Domestic News

Length: 183 words

Dateline: ARLINGTON, Texas

Body

Plainclothes officers, arriving at the home of a man to question him about several burglaries, instead became browsers at a yard sale featuring merchandise they said was stolen.

"We just posed as customers and started looking over the stuff," Dalworthington Gardens Police Chief **Bill Waybourn** said Tuesday.

"We saw a shotgun that we knew was stolen."

Waybourn said he and another officer left the sale Saturday because they were in Arlington, outside their jurisdiction.

The men returned with two Arlington detectives and confiscated some property. Waybourn said the suspect told him he owned all the items.

By the time the officers returned, the shotgun had been sold.

Waybourn said the man wasn't arrested then because officers believed they needed more evidence. They left a second time to get a warrant after talking with neighbors and strengthening their case, he said.

The suspect had left by the time the officers returned. He remained at large Wednesday, authorities said.

Police said burglars took more than \$20,000 in jewelry, silver and other items from homes in Dalworthington Gardens last week.

End of Document

