

Close Up *Bulletin*

The Monthly Supplement
to the "Close Up"
Quarterly Newsletter



Law Enforcement Bills Ready to be Signed

A List of Some of the Bills That Have Reached the Governor's Office

Issue # 11
June
2011

Monday, May 30th was the final day of the 82nd Regular Session of the Texas Legislature. As of Friday the 27th, the law-enforcement-related bills listed below had been approved by both chambers and sent to the governor's office. Over the coming weeks, many of them will probably be signed into law, along with other bills that were either approved in the last days of the regular session or re-examined in the special session. For more information about law-enforcement-related legislation, visit the commission website or Texas Legislature Online (<http://www.capitol.state.tx.us>).

Upcoming Events:

- Quarterly Commission Meeting
June 2, 2011
- 2010 Law Enforcement Achievement Awards
June 3, 2011
- Last day that the governor can sign or veto bills passed during the regular legislative session
June 19, 2011
- Quarterly Commission Meeting
September 8, 2011
- Annual Training Coordinators' Conference
October 31, 2011
- Quarterly Commission Meeting
December 1, 2011

HB46 - Already signed into law

HB215	HB442	HB530
HB726	HB1241	HB1254
HB1379	HB1503	HB2006
SB32	SB150	SB166
SB315	SB530	SB545
SB601	SB604	SB867
SB1065	SB1292	SB1378

Save Time - Do A Background Investigation

From the Executive Director

Ever hear the story about a man who figured out how many Saturdays were in his future if he lived to his statistical life expectancy? He multiplied the number of years by 52 and purchased that number of marbles. He placed them in a large, transparent jar in his garage, and every Saturday he made it a ritual to remove one. This jar, with fewer and fewer marbles, became a weekly reminder to him of his mortality. Those Saturdays became reality checks and, as the story goes, he remembered to live life to its fullest and not waste time. This reality check helped him cherish his family and friendships more, and he stopped putting off telling people how much he appreciated them and their enduring friendships. This story is a real lesson in time management.

Time management has many universally proven principles and many personal techniques that each of us develop throughout our lifetime.

One time saver that I strongly subscribe to is the time an agency can save by doing a thorough and complete background investigation of potential employees. I have come to realize that for every hour spent on a thorough and complete background, many hundreds and even thousands of hours are saved by knowing past successes and past failures of applicants. I have ignored some telltale signs that cost me and my agency many hours because my hope for change that just didn't occur.

There are a few axioms that reinforce the concept of thorough background checks. One axiom is "the best predictor of future behavior is past behavior." Another is, "people change, but seldom." A thorough and complete background check is essential in law enforcement. Without it, you are ignoring the best predictor of future behavior. You wouldn't go into a darkened building without a flashlight, so why do some chief administrators hire someone to enforce the law without a thorough and complete background investigation?

As you move forward in your careers, remember your personal life and employment history follow you, and you will have to defend it in almost every future interview.

As Smith Barney would say, "you got it the old fashioned way: you earned it." You earned your life and work history, and it is now your reputation. As you remove that marble every Saturday, can you be proud, or do you suffer with irreversible regret?



Golf Tournament Fund-Raiser a Great Success

Repair Fund for the Peace Officers' Memorial Boosted by More Than \$25,000

The 1st Annual Golf Tournament of the Friends of the Texas Peace Officers' Memorial this May was a great success, with 22 foursomes participating. Over \$25,000 was raised, thanks to outstanding support from the sponsors, tournament participants and volunteers, and the dedication of Commission staff.

Visit the Friends of the TPOM website (www.texaspeaceofficersmemorial.org) to find out more about the tournament and its sponsors.

Watch the website and mark your calendars - we'll be back next year with an even better tournament!



Photos by Larry Wilson

Commissioners

Charles Hall
Presiding Officer

Stephen Griffith
Assistant Presiding Officer

Dr. Johnny E. Lovejoy, II
Secretary

Patt Scheckel-Hollingsworth
James Oakley
Joseph Pennington
Joel Richardson
Ruben Villescascas
Randy Watson



Contact Information

Mailing Address:

Phone: 512-936-7700

Texas Commission on Law Enforcement
Officer Standards and Education
6330 E Highway 290, STE 200
Austin, TX 78723-1035

Fax: 512-936-7714

Website:
www.tcleose.state.tx.us

Notice

In compliance with the Americans With Disabilities Act, the publications of the Commission are available by request in alternative formats.

To request an accessible format, please contact our ADA Compliance Officer at the address or phone number listed above, or through RELAY Texas at (800) 735-2989.

The Commission is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate in providing services or employment.
