



Kim Vickers  
Executive Director

# TEXAS COMMISSION ON LAW ENFORCEMENT

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23 April 2014

House Bill 1009  
School Marshal Information

Dear Superintendent,

The Texas Commission on Law Enforcement, a state agency, has been charged with the creation and monitoring of the new School Marshal training program. This program, approved under 83(R) H.B. 1009, allows a public school district or open-enrollment charter school to appoint a school marshal to act as necessary to prevent or abate the commission of an offense that threatens serious bodily injury or death of students, faculty or visitors on school premises.

*Texas Occupations Code 1701.001 defines a School Marshal as a person employed and appointed by the board of trustees of a school district or the governing body of an open-enrollment charter school under Article 2.127, Code of Criminal Procedure, and in accordance with and having the rights provided by Section 37.0811, Education Code.*

The training program includes 80 hours of instruction designed to emphasize strategies for preventing school shootings and for securing the safety of potential victims of school shootings, educate a trainee about legal issues and enable the trainee to respond to an emergency situation requiring deadly force, such as a situation involving an active shooter.

If you are interested in the program and plan to appoint school marshals in the future, we have included an application with this letter for you to fill out and return to our office. Due to this being a new program, space in upcoming classes will be limited. Your school district is not required to participate in the school marshal program, nor are you required to notify our agency if you do not plan on appointing a school marshal.

If you have any questions about the program or require any additional information please contact our School Marshal Specialist, Chris Varady, at 512-936-7700. If your district is not interested in participating in this program, no contact is needed.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Helenberg".

John Helenberg  
Director, Agency Operations