

THE BRIEFING

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE TEXAS COMMISSION ON LAW ENFORCEMENT

MARCH 2026

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HIGH SCHOOL CRIMINAL JUSTICE PIPELINE

The Texas Commission on Law Enforcement is continuing the implementation of the High School Criminal Justice Pipeline Program, giving second-semester seniors an opportunity to obtain a jailer or telecommunicator license upon graduation.

The program establishes a contract between TCOLE, a TCOLE training provider/academy, and the local school district.

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HIGH SCHOOL PIPELINE

Beginning in the 2026-2027 school year, the pipeline program is aimed to increase the local workforce in the field of corrections or telecommunication and enrich graduates by providing an education toward a career path in public service.

The curriculum will be taught at an approved ISD classroom or at an approved training provider location based on needs of each individual program.

For more information about the program, contact our Special Services Division at 512-936-7759 or email sadie.stevens@tcole.texas.gov

PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS

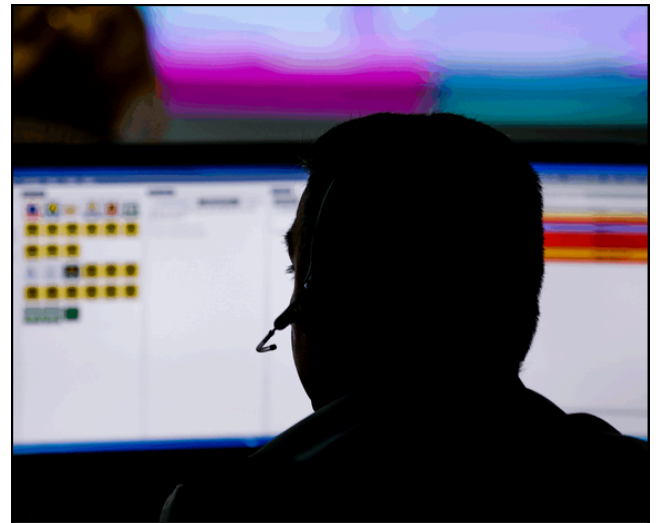
To take the class:

- U.S. Citizen
- 18 years of age within 180 days of completion of the program
- Pass fingerprint/background check
- Be present for all 120 hours of instruction (missed hours must be made up)

To take the exam:

- Successful completion of the course
- Be 18 years of age
- High School Graduate

*The state-mandated medical and psychological exam (L-2 and L-3) will be administered by the hiring agency after passing the licensing exam.



UVALDE STRONG ACT

Under the provisions of House Bill 33, the Uvalde Strong Act, certain law enforcement agencies are required to have a designated public information officer (PIO) (Texas Government Code Section 411.3735).

Those agencies subject to this requirement are:

- A municipal police department,
- A sheriff's office,
- A county constable's office,
- A school district police department, and
- The Texas Department of Public Safety.

The PIO may be the chief administrator but is not required to be a peace officer. An agency is only required to have one certified PIO. The PIO, if not directly employed by the chief administrator, should be clearly designated to the role through policy or written agreement. For example, a county PIO may, by written policy, act as the PIO for the sheriff's office and the constables in the county. A school district PIO may, by written policy, be designated as the PIO for the school district police department. A small agency could obtain a Memorandum of Understanding where a PIO from a larger agency agrees to act as the PIO for both agencies.

The PIO must complete training and obtain a certification from the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) within one year of appointment to this position, and complete continuing education annually. Individuals designated as a PIO currently have until September 1, 2026, to complete this requirement. The law enforcement agency is to submit a record of compliance to TDEM.

The list of approved courses to meet this requirement can be found on our website or by clicking the button below. See next page on steps to upload course certificate.

If you have previously taken any of the listed courses, you've met the deadline.

**PIO CERTIFICATION
TRAINING**

Note: other courses may be added as they are identified.

TCOLE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

COMMISSION MEETINGS:

April 15 and 16, 2026
San Antonio, Texas

June 25, 2026
Austin, Texas

September 3, 2026
Dallas, Texas

November 19, 2026
Austin, Texas



SPECIAL EVENTS:

Texas Peace Officers' Memorial
201 E 14th Street, Austin, Texas
April 26, 2026

Law Enforcement Achievement Awards
Austin, Texas
June 26, 2026

TCOLE Training Conference
Waco, Texas
August 11-13, 2026

FEBRUARY COMMISSION MEETING



Thank you to the Travis County Sheriff's Office Honor Guard for presenting the colors at last week's commission meeting. All commission meetings are streamed live on our YouTube channel.

**COMMISSION
MEETINGS**

TEXAS PEACE OFFICERS' MEMORIAL



Join us for the
2026
TEXAS PEACE
OFFICERS' MEMORIAL
CEREMONY

SUNDAY, APRIL 26, 2026

6:30 PM

THE MEMORIAL MONUMENT | CAPITOL GROUNDS

The Texas Commission on Law Enforcement is honored to be a part of the Texas Peace Officers' Memorial Committee. Join us next month at the Capitol Grounds to pay tribute to 30 new names and four historical names added to the monument.



Texas Commission on Law Enforcement

**IN PARTNERSHIP WITH TEEX
PRESENTS**

BACKGROUND INVESTIGATIONS COURSE

UPCOMING DATES:

April 9-10: Edinburg (hosted by Hidalgo Co. Sheriff's Office)

July 15-16: Huntsville (hosted by LEMIT)

August 18-19: Austin (hosted by University of Texas Police Department)

September: Location and dates TBD

October 14-16: El Paso (class includes an optional TCOLE Simplified Workshop on the afternoon of October 14, with the Background Investigations Course being held on October 15-16.)

November 12-13: Austin (TCOLE HQ)

December 8-9: San Antonio (hosted by Bexar Co. Sheriff's Office)

Other dates TBD

Course Overview

This course is designed to provide the participants with the knowledge and skills necessary to conduct thorough and effective background investigations, including: impact of failures and legislation, identifying red flags, best practices, interviewing references, the final report, and ensuring compliance with rules and statute.

Hours & Cost

- **16 TCOLE Training Hours**
- **Cost: Free!** (meals & lodging not included)

Want to Attend a Class?

REGISTER HERE

A list of available classes are at the bottom.

Space is limited!!

Want to Host a Class?

If you are interested in hosting this class at your agency, please contact:

Captain Robert Miljenovich

512-936-7326

robert.miljenovich@tcole.texas.gov

Lieutenant Dan Mireles

512-936-7326

dan.mireles@tcole.texas.gov



2026 TCOLE TRAINING CONFERENCE

SAVE THE DATE!
August 11th - 13th 2026

2026 TCOLE Training Conference
Waco Convention Center

Registration Fee \$450
Attendee Registration Opens Mid-April 2026



Please visit www.tcole.texas.gov → News & Events → TCOLE Training Conference soon for more information.

Access to discounted lodging will be made available once registration begins.

Please be advised, meals will not be provided during the conference.
Food options will be available onsite and nearby.

Exhibitor booth sign ups are now open for the 2026 TCOLE Training Conference. To request a spot, fill out the [Exhibit Space Application](#). Attendee registration is set to open mid-May. More details will be announced soon on our website.

LAW ENFORCEMENT ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

STATE OF TEXAS

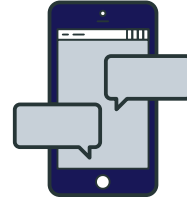
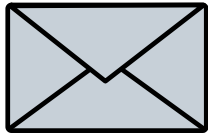


LAW ENFORCEMENT ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

- TCOLE accepts Nominations throughout the year. For each June Ceremony, the deadline is January 15.
- Nominees must be a licensed officer, jailer, or telecommunicator to recognize Professional Achievement, Public Service or Valor.
- Who Can Nominate: Licensees, elected officials of the state or political subdivision, or a law enforcement agency administrator.
- Please go to TCOLE Rule 211.33 for more details and criteria.

STAY UP TO DATE WITH TCOLE

SUBSCRIBE TO TCOLE COMMUNICATIONS



Stay up to date on TCOLE news, events, and reminders! Click the button below to subscribe to TCOLE communications via GovDelivery. This service is provided to you at no charge by Texas Commission on Law Enforcement. Be sure to allow emails from: TXCOLE@public.govdelivery.com.

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X

**CLICK OR SCAN QR CODE
FOR CURRENT TCOLE STATISTICS**



2026 IADLEST CONFERENCE

WE'RE READY, ARE YOU?

IADLEST 2026 Conference

Fort Worth, Texas
June 7-10, 2026



400+ Law Enforcement Executives, Training Managers, POST Directors & Academy Directors. 50 States. 16+ Countries. 3 days. 1 Keynote. 20 Training Tracks. Roundtable Discussions. 28 Exhibits. 2 Social Events.

IADLEST is committed to transforming policing by pursuing excellence in training and the development of professional standards; and each year, the annual conference showcases this commitment by focusing on the most pressing issues for training managers and executives.

Topics Include:

- Recruitment & Retention
- Officer Safety & Wellness
- Effective Curriculum Development
- Scenario-Based Training
- Training Innovation
- Instructional Design
- Leadership & Ethics

Omni Fort Worth Hotel
1300 Houston St
Fort Worth, TX 76102

REGISTER NOW AT

<https://www.iadlest.org/conference>



RULE UPDATES

PROPOSED RULE AMENDMENTS

THE RULE AMENDMENTS BELOW ARE OPEN FOR PUBLIC COMMENT.

Proposed February 12, 2026

§211.1 - Definitions for a Public Information Officer (PIO) and an administrative duty pay status

§211.30 - Chief Administrator Responsibilities for Misdemeanor Waivers

§217.1 - Minimum Standards for Enrollment and Initial Licensure

§219.11 - Reactivation of a License

§221.1 - Proficiency Certificate Requirements

§221.12 - Mental Health Telecommunicator Proficiency

§221.33 - Standardized Field Sobriety Testing Instructor Proficiency

§221.48 - Public Information Officer Certificate

PROPOSED RULES

ADOPTED MODEL POLICIES

Medical and Psychological Examination of a Licensee
Agency Adoption Date - September 1, 2024

Hiring Procedures
Agency Adoption Date - June 1, 2025

Misconduct Allegations
Agency Adoption Date - June 1, 2025

Personnel Files
Agency Adoption Date - June 1, 2025

Please visit the TCOLE website to view the most current versions of the model policies that have been finally adopted by the Commission. All law enforcement agencies shall adopt these model policies, or substantively similar policies, no later than the agency adoption date provided and submit the adopted policies to the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement.



MODEL POLICIES

UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFO IN YOUR MYTCOLE ACCOUNT

TCOLE may notify you through email, text message, or U.S. mail of changes or deficiencies impacting your license status. Make sure your phone number, email address, and mailing address are up to date so you receive these important notifications.

MyTCOLE Features:

Connect to
Free Online
Training

Order Your
Proficiency
Certificates &
Photo ID
Card

Print your
License

View Your
Personal
Status Report
(PSR)

Check
Training
Compliance

HOW-TO:

1. Log into your MyTCOLE account:
<https://tcledds.tcole.texas.gov/mytcole/Login>
2. Click on 'My Information' along the top toolbar

My Information

3. Scroll down to the Personal Tab

4. Update your information

5. Click the Save Changes button

The screenshot shows the 'My Information' form in the MyTCOLE system. The form is divided into several sections with tabs at the top: Personal, Education, Courses, Exams, Awards, and Service. The 'Personal' tab is selected. The form contains the following fields and options:

- High School: Yes (checked)
- G.E.D.: No
- Citizen: Yes (checked)
- Gender: Male
- Race: MultiCultural
- *Telephone: 512-936-7700
- *City: Austin
- *Height (ft): 5
- *Primary Email: Email@tcole.texas.gov
- *State: TX
- *Height (in): 9
- *Alternate Email: fake-email@email.net
- *Zip: 78723
- *Weight: 150
- *Address 1: 123 ABC Street
- *Driver's License #: 55555
- *Hair Color: Black
- Address 2: (empty)
- *Driver's License State: GA
- *Eye Color: Blue
- Issued: (empty)
- Save Changes (button)

TCOLE STAFF UPDATES



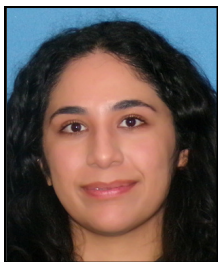
Denise Pace joined our Field Services Division as a Sergeant Investigator. Prior to TCOLE, Denise worked for the Corpus Christi Police Department for 23 years in various roles such as patrol, Training Academy Coordinator, City Liaison Officer, Accreditation and Policy Manager, and Peer Support Coordinator. She played a key role in conducting a comprehensive review and update of the CCPD General Rules Manual, ensuring alignment with best practices, compliance with state and local laws and led multiple accreditation efforts at both the state and national levels.



James Sullivan joined our Special Services Division as a Sergeant Investigator. Prior to becoming a police officer, James served in the U.S. Air Force for eight years as a Combat Arms Instructor (CATM). He began his law enforcement career with the Lubbock Police Department in 1999 and has served in many capacities including patrol, Training Academy, Property Crimes Detective, Person Crimes Detective, Patrol Sergeant and Detective Sergeant. His most recent assignment was as the supervisor for the Major Crimes/Aggravated Assault Squad.



Jennifer Archer joined our Special Services Division as a Sergeant Investigator. After attending college, she spent 23 years with the Arlington Police Department, where she worked in Patrol and in the Personnel and Recruiting Unit as a recruiter and background investigator.



Daniella De Leon joined our Education Services team as an Education Specialist. She comes to TCOLE after working with the Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX) where she expanded upon her instructional design and writing skills. Before TEEX, she taught at an elementary school for several years. Daniella obtained her Bachelor of Arts in English Literature from the University of Texas at Rio Grande Valley and also has a Master's in Educational Technologies.



Ewa Dela Cruz joined our Finance Division as the Human Resources Manager. She built her professional HR experience through roles that emphasize accountability, community engagement and compliance. Her decision to join TCOLE was driven by a desire to serve her community in a more direct and impactful way.

TCOLE STAFF UPDATES



Jim McGregor joined our Special Services Division as a Sergeant Investigator. He was previously the training coordinator for the Tarrant County College Law Enforcement Academy where he delivered training to numerous organizations and even presented at the 3rd National Conference of Police Training Academies and Institute Directors in Hidalgo, Mexico at the request of the US State Department. McGregor also spent 14 years with the Alamo Heights Police Department, where he fulfilled a variety of roles and developed and administered the department's reality-based training program as well as the department's directed patrol program. When he left the police department, he went to teach full-time at the Alamo Area Council of Government (AACOG) Law Enforcement Academy where he facilitated the Basic Peace Officer Course and obtained additional instructor certificates. Jim completed his PhD in management recently prior to joining the team at TCOLE.



Congratulations to our Field Service Agent Mike Dickey on 10 years with the agency. Thank you for all that you do!

TCOLE has several current employment opportunities, with many more expected in the coming months. Check our employment page for additional information.

APPLY TODAY

[CLICK HERE TO VIEW STATEWIDE PEACE OFFICER VACANCIES.](#)



COMMISSION MEMBERS

Chief Kim Lemaux
Presiding Officer

Assistant Chief Jason D. Hester
Assistant Presiding Officer

Constable Justin West
Secretary

Janna Atkins
Justin Berry
Patricia Burruss
Sheriff Mike Griffis
Conor Harvey
Sergio Saenz

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Gretchen Grigsby
Cade Andrews

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