



## November NEWSLETTER

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### MESSAGE FROM SHERIFF HERNANDEZ

Have you started your holiday decorating yet? I have, and it's one of my very favorite things to do. As I open the boxes, taking out ornaments and home décor, I'm transported back in time and I cherish the journey down memory lane. I reflect on the year that has just passed, and often marvel at how fast the time flew by. I count my blessings with deep gratitude while I think about the kids and grandkids who'll be filling my home with laughter and joy.

Family is a common thread during the holiday season and it's a time when we at TCSO like to offer assistance to families in need. [Travis County Brown Santa](#) is already in full swing and the elves are busy with their tasks. Started in 1981 by a few deputies who helped about 25 families in the unincorporated areas of Travis County, the effort now serves over 2000 families.

Brown Santa partners with individuals, groups and businesses throughout Travis County to be able to provide each family with a turkey and non-perishable food items. Each child (ages: birth - 14 years) receives two toys, a bundle of books, a plush toy and a puzzle.

I hope you'll consider purchasing gifts for those in our community who are less fortunate. Here's a list of suggested [Donation Items](#) and [Donation Barrel Locations](#) throughout Travis County.

Thank you for your generosity and I wish you a warm and wonderful holiday season!



### DPS FITNESS INSTITUTE



Our academy instructors are top notch! Sergeant James Nicholson and Senior Deputy Allisia Sabrsula graduated from the Department of Public Safety Fitness Institute, which is no small feat. Deputy Sabrsula achieved the added accolade of being first in her class in both the physical and academic tests. Well done!

### VETERANS CELEBRATION



As a tradition they started together, Chief Anthony Johnson and Captain Xavier Montalvo purchase cakes to celebrate the Marine Corps Birthday and Veterans Day. This year, they delivered cakes to 13 TCSO buildings and celebrated the service of our veteran employees throughout the agency. We are proud to have so many employees who have served in our nation's armed forces!



### THANKSGIVING LUNCHEON



On November 20<sup>th</sup>, TCSO Central Command hosted a Thanksgiving Luncheon for staff. Not only do we have the best employees, but they can cook too! We stuffed ourselves with all the wonderful food, but more importantly we stuffed our hearts with fellowship and gratitude.



### A GENEROUS COMMUNITY



When our deputies encounter small children involved in critical incidents, they give each child a plush toy. Having a stuffed animal to snuggle offers comfort, calms fear and generates trust. We want to thank Internal Revenue Service employees who loaded us up with a whole bunch of donated toys. We'll distribute them to our patrol deputies and give a little extra love to children when they need it most. We appreciate your generosity so much!



### WOMEN'S JAIL FACILITY



In an effort to care for our inmate population in an effective and dignified manner, TCSO has been working diligently with Travis County Judge Sarah Eckhardt and County Commissioners to design and break ground on a women's jail facility at the Travis County Correctional Complex. These efforts along with our collaborative approach to accomplishing the task, caught the attention of the Washington Post. You can read the article [here](#).

### CENTRAL BOOKING



Central Booking is often times considered the gateway into the criminal justice system. The Central Booking Officers are responsible for each step of an arrestee's progression into our system. We are staffed with 90 Officers, 12 Security Coordinators, 7 Sergeants, and 1 Lieutenant.

Upon arrival, an arrestee will be taken through the intake process. The arrestee will be searched for contraband and weapons and their personal items will be inventoried. The arrestee will be asked a series of intake screening questions regarding medical and mental health status. During this intake screening process, officers will document their observations of the arrestee (intoxicated, disruptive, possible need of medical or mental health assessment, etc.).

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### CONSULATE OF IRELAND VISIT



On November 26<sup>th</sup>, Sheriff Hernandez had the honor of welcoming Consul General of Ireland Claire M'Carthy for a visit to the Sheriff's Office. TCSO is proud of the partnership we have with the Irish Consulate and look forward to continuing to support their efforts in our community.

### LAWMAN MEMORIAL



Sheriff Hernandez, Chief Anthony Johnson and Major Wes Priddy attended the Sheriffs' Association of Texas Lost Lawman Memorial on November 22<sup>nd</sup>. The ceremony honors those who have given their lives for the protection of our citizens. The event recognized Sheriffs, deputies, and jailers whose names have been dedicated on the Memorial Wall as well as the 513 names previously dedicated.

### NAMI RECOGNITION



Sheriff Hernandez attended the [NAMI Central Texas](#) 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary & Annual Meeting on November 20<sup>th</sup> where she accepted our TCSO Cares team award for a top fundraising team in this year's [NAMI Walks Central Texas](#). Thank you all who participated in the walk and supported our team!



### THANKSGIVING BASKETS



On November 24<sup>th</sup>, TCSO Community Outreach and TCSO Explorer Post 1099 joined [Mission Accomplished](#) at their Thanksgiving Basket Giveaway event. The baskets provided everything for a complete Thanksgiving meal. [Mission Accomplished](#) strives to provide individuals and families with the resources to live a more prosperous, stable and healthy lifestyle.

