

Travel Approval Form

Department: Jail - Sheriff's Office

Event Name: 40th Annual TJA Conference

Location: San Marcos, Texas

Event Dates: May 4-8, 2025

Purpose: ☐ Required Continuing Education/Certification
☒ Job Training
☐ Other: _____

Name of Attendees:

David Blankenship _____

Laurie Gunter _____

Court Decision: This section to be completed by County Judge's Office
 12/08/2025

Required Documents Checklist:

★★ Same-Day Travel - Commissioners Court Approval is not required ★★

Overnight Travel

- ☒ Travel Approval Form
- ☒ Registration Information or Confirmation
- ☒ Itinerary, Agenda, or Breakdown
- ☒ Hotel Information, Confirmation, or Hotel Reservation Request Form

For Out of State Travel, please also include:

- ☐ Cost Estimation Breakdown for Trip with Airfare, Rental Car, Meals, Hotel, Etc.
- ☐ Narrative as to why the Out of State Travel is necessary

Signature of Elected Official/Department Head:



Approved in CC on 9/11/2023

You are now Registered for this event!

Please print and keep this page for your records. Some characters (' , ") may not properly display.

Registration ID: 9017
Date Registered: 2025-11-19 14:42:35
Event: 40th Annual Texas Jail Association Conference
Date Start: 2026-05-04 08:00:00
Date End: 2026-05-08 12:00:00
Cost: \$315.00
Name: Blankenship, David
Title: Chief Deputy
Agency: Johnson County Sheriff's Office
County: Johnson
Address: 1800 Ridgemar Drive || Cleburne, TX 76031
Phone: 8175566024
Email: dblankenship@johnsoncountytexas.org
TCOLE PID: 49991

Thanks for registering! All conference registration/tuition fees should be paid on or before the start date of the conference.

As an option you may pay online by credit card or electronic check. If you are paying for multiple registrations at a time be sure each person has been registered separately and include all names in the Participant Names field on checkout. **PLEASE NOTE: This charge may appear as Sam Houston State University or SHSU on your account.**

PAY ONLINE

Cancellation Policy:

Payment is due upon submission of registration. Any cancellation, regardless of reason, will be subject to a service charge of 50% of the total registration fee. Refunds, minus the cancellation fee, will be given if a written request is received 45 working days prior to the conference. Registrations may be transferred to another attendee for the same event at no charge up to time of event check-in. Registrations cannot be transferred to future events. All refunds will be processed after the conclusion of the conference.

If no written cancellation is received 45 working days prior to the conference, or if the participant does not attend, the participant/agency will be required to pay 100% of the registration fee, if payment is not already received. Any agency or participant with an outstanding balance will not be eligible to register for future conferences until the delinquency is paid in full.

Any agency with an outstanding balance more than two weeks after the close of the conference will forfeit their opportunity to receive TCOLE credit.

Payment Information: TJA accepts cash and check payments as well as Visa and MasterCard. To make a credit card payment, please contact TJA by phone.

Please make checks payable to Sam Houston State University - TJA.

Mail checks to TJA, George J. Beto Criminal Justice Center, Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, TX 77341-2296.

You are now Registered for this event!

Please print and keep this page for your records. Some characters (' , ") may not properly display.

Registration ID: 9024
Date Registered: 2025-11-19 15:00:03
Event: 40th Annual Texas Jail Association Conference
Date Start: 2026-05-04 08:00:00
Date End: 2026-05-08 12:00:00
Cost: \$360.00
Name: Gunter, Laurie
Title: Lieutenant
Agency: Johnson County Sheriff's Office
County: Johnson
Address: 1800 Ridgemark Drive || Cleburne, TX 76031
Phone: 8175566024
Email: lgunter@johnsoncountytexas.org
TCOLE PID: 357339

Thanks for registering! All conference registration/tuition fees should be paid on or before the start date of the conference.

As an option you may pay online by credit card or electronic check. If you are paying for multiple registrations at a time be sure each person has been registered separately and include all names in the Participant Names field on checkout. **PLEASE NOTE: This charge may appear as Sam Houston State University or SHSU on your account.**

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40TH ANNUAL TJA CONFERENCE

MAY 4–MAY 8, 2026 | SAN MARCOS, TX

Monday, May 4

7:30am Registration for Participants

8:30–9:15am **OPENING CEREMONY**

Veramendi

Presentation of Colors

Travis County Sheriff's Office - Honor Guard

National Anthem

Maria Edwards

Wecoming Remarks

Frances Dembowski, Sharese Hurst, Sheriff Anthony Hipolito, Brandon Wood

9:15–9:30am **Election Information and Introduction of Candidates**

Veramendi

9:30–9:45am Break

9:45–11:30am **KEYNOTE SESSION**

Veramendi

A Plot Against the Downtown Detention Center

Sheriff Daron Hall, Brian Beazley, Cory Witkus,
and Thomas Conrad

11:30am–1:00pm Lunch (On Your Own)

1:00pm **Jerry Baggs Annual Golf Tournament**

Kissing Tree Golf Course

1:00–5:00pm **BREAKOUT SESSIONS** (choose one)

I The Basics

Texas Commission on Jail Standards

Spring Lake AB

II Legislative Update

Greg Whitley

Spring Lake C

III Below 100

Kenny Lemons

San Marcos River

IV Veteran's Class

Melvin Bowser

Chautauqua

5:00–7:00pm **Annual Jack Crump Scholarship Fundraiser Bar-b-que**

Veranda

\$10 per person to be collected at the event

Tuesday, May 5

7:00–11:30am Exhibitor Set-up

Veramendi

8:00–9:30am **BREAKOUT SESSIONS** (choose one)

I Assertiveness

Melvin Bowser

Spring Lake A

II Ethics

Jason Davis

Spring Lake B

III Fighting Fentanyl - The Noah Rodriguez Story

Mark Andrews & Janel Rodriguez

Spring Lake C

**IV Corrections Tactical Teams -
Risk and Liability Management**

Dionisio Dorado & Shawn Garcia

San Marcos River

**V Motivating Your Employees -
Team on Three; Put Me In Coach**

Alan Johnston

Chautauqua

9:30–10:00am Break

10:00–11:30am **BREAKOUT SESSIONS** (choose one)

I Finding Your Voice

Ricky Armstrong

Spring Lake A

II Liabilities

Aimee Crockett

Spring Lake B

III Trauma Informed Culture

Karen Ranus

Spring Lake C

IV Recruitment and Retention

Rowdee Edwards & Johnny Jaquess

San Marcos River

V Road To Retirement

Cynthia Gonzales

Chautauqua

11:30am–1:00pm Exhibit Hall Opens - Lunch and Fellowship for Participants

Veramendi

11:30am–5:00pm **Annual Blood Drive**
sponsored by Southern Health Partners

Parking Lot

1:00–2:30pm **BREAKOUT SESSIONS** (repeat from 8:00am)

2:30–3:00pm Break - Visit with Exhibitors

Veramendi

3:00–4:30pm **BREAKOUT SESSIONS** (repeat from 10:00am)

Wednesday, May 6

8:00–9:30am **BREAKOUT SESSIONS** (choose one)

I The Power of the Rubber Chicken
Jess Christensen

Spring Lake AB

II Don't Be That Guy: Redux
Ray Scifres

Spring Lake C

**III Emotional Intelligence:
Know Thy Self, Know Thy Co-Worker**
Heath Crossland

San Marcos River

IV Peer Support
Tamara Spencer

Chautauqua

9:00am–5:00pm **Jail Standards Showdown**
Hosted by the Texas Commission on Jail Standards

Chautauqua B

9:30am–2:00pm Exhibit Showroom Open

Veramendi

9:30–10:00am Break - Visit with Exhibitors

Veramendi

10:00–11:30am **BREAKOUT SESSIONS** (continued from 8:00am)

11:30am–1:00pm Lunch in the Exhibit Hall

1:00–2:30pm **BREAKOUT SESSIONS** (repeat from 8:00am)

2:30–3:00pm Break

Foyer

3:00–4:30pm **BREAKOUT SESSIONS** (continued from 1:00pm)

Thursday, May 7

7:00–8:00am **Prayer Breakfast**

Veramendi

8:00am **Jail Administrator Photo**

Veranda

8:15am **Sheriff's Photo**

Veranda

8:30–10:00am **BREAKOUT SESSIONS** (choose one)

**I The Culture We Create: How Organizational
Psychology Shapes Correctional Behavior**
Marcy Calnan

Spring Lake A

II Suicide Prevention
Tamara Spencer

Spring Lake B

Thursday, May 7 continued

III Complacency Melvin Bowser & Sarah Bigham	Spring Lake C
IV Corrections K9 - Start to Finish Charles Lenhard & Jeremy Landen	San Marcos River
V Report Writing Jason Davis and Jess Christensen	Chautauqua

10:00–10:30am Break

Foyer

10:30–12:00pm BREAKOUT SESSIONS (choose one)	
I Building Hope Behind Small Walls: Programming in Rural Jails Marcy Calnan & Robert Whitfield	Spring Lake A
II Complicance Jennifer Segura	Spring Lake B
III Hot Topics Texas Commission on Jail Standards	Spring Lake C
IV Jail Based Competency Restoration John Shoemaker, Jennifer Brashear, & Keisha Morris	San Marcos River
V Trauma Medical Care Jessica Medrano	Chautauqua

12:00–1:30pm Lunch (On Your Own)

1:30–3:00pm **BREAKOUT SESSIONS** (repeat from 8:30am)

3:00–3:30pm Break

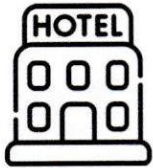
3:30–5:00pm **BREAKOUT SESSIONS** (repeat from 10:30am)

7:00pm–12:00am **Dinner and Entertainment**

Veramendi

Friday, May 8

8:00–11:30am Gangs and Social Media: CSTIU Gang Identification Noe Enciso & Antolin Torres	Spring Lake
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TRAVEL HOTEL RESERVATION REQUEST

(EMAIL TO PURCHASING at pur@johnsoncountytexas.org)

DATE: 11/19/2025

DEPARTMENT: Jail - Sheriff's Office

PERSON SENDING REQUEST: Kristen Lesley EXT: 3602

Person (s) Name Attending:

1. David Blankenship

2. Laurie Gunter

3.

4.

5.

6.

*If LEOSE Funds are being used to pay for the room upon check out, please check LEOSE FUNDS below:

☐ LEOSE FUNDS

Function Attending: 40th Annual TJA Conference

Hotel Name: Embassy Suites

Hotel Address: 1001 E McCarty Ln

City: San Marcos

State: Texas

Zip: 78666

Hotel Phone# (512) 392-6450

Special Requirements:

Conference Hotel Block Code:

Conference/Training Website: <https://www.texasjailassociation.com/annual.html>

How many rooms needed: 2

Date of Check In: 5/3/25

Date of Check Out: 5/8/25

NOTE: When the Purchasing Department reserves the hotel room, payment will be processed and paid for on the travel credit card. ALL Travel PO's MUST be in place prior to travel. The hotel receipt will need to be receipted on your PO upon return. If the traveler does not obtain a hotel receipt upon check out, it's the travelers responsibility to call the hotel and obtain a copy for receipting.