

Houston Area Police Chief's Association

February 2023
Volume 21, Issue 2

HAPCA Newsletter

Next Monthly Meeting

February 28, 2023



Crime Stoppers

3001 Main Street, Houston Texas

Tuesday February 28, 2023 11:30 am

February Guest Speaker

FBI Supervisory Agent

Tam Dao

SA Tam Dao, will share information on the FBI's Threat Management Team and the great work and support they can provide to Houston area law enforcement agencies.

In addition, we will receive a briefing update from HPD Assistant Chief Ban Tien on the upcoming NCAA Final Four in Houston March 31st to April 3rd.

Also, Councilman Dwight Boykins will attend to share information about his community outreach initiative, "Changing 1 Life at a Time" basketball tournament, designed to break down barriers between inner-city kids and first responders.

This will be a busy meeting as we have a full agenda. We are also aware of several other morning events occurring in Houston on Tuesday. If you can not attend, please feel free to send your assistant chief, deputy chief or commander. Please register on the HAPCA webpage.

See you Tuesday!

Please RSVP on-line for the February

HAPCA meeting.

Lunch will Mexican Food

Calendar of Upcoming Training and Events

April 11, 2023 8 am—5 pm,

Female Enforcers—Advanced mental, Physical and Tactical Skills

Harris County Sheriff's Office

Training Academy \$179

March 20-24, 2023 8 am—4 pm

Basic Police Mountain Bike for the Patrol Officer (TCOLE 3358)

Humble Police Department \$40

W3ww.humblepolice.com

May 16—17, 2023

Blue to Gold

May 16 Advanced Search and Seizure

May 17 De-escalation/Intervention

Lufkin, TX

More training opportunities at:

www.texaspolicechiefs.org

www.hccp2.com/trainingcalendar

<http://texaspolice trainers.com>

2023 Executive Board

- Chief Clemente Rodriguez, President, crodr@rice.edu
- Chief Kirk Riggs, Vice-President
kriggs@jerseyvillagetx.com
- Chief Paul Cordova, Secretary, pscordova@aldineisd.org
- Chief Jeff Bert, Treasurer
jburt@tomballtx.gov
- Chief Ray Schultz, Past-President, Rschultz@mvpdtx.org
- TPCA Liaison, Chief S. Cook
- Legislative Committee, Chief J. Bert



WWW.HAPCA.ORG

HOUSTON

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Contact Us

Phone
(713) 693-5000

Address
1 Justice Park Drive
Houston, TX 77092

You can report suspicious activities and crime by contacting us 24/7 by phone or at tips.fbi.gov.

Main Field Office Territory

Counties covered: Harris and Montgomery

Satellite Office Territories

Along with our main office in Houston, we have four resident agencies in the area.

- **Beaumont:** Hardin, Jasper, Jefferson, Liberty, Newton, and Orange counties
- **Bryan:** Austin, Brazos, Colorado, Fayette, Grimes, Madison, San Jacinto, Walker, and Waller counties
- **Corpus Christi:** Aransas, Bee, Brooks, Calhoun, DeWitt, Duval, Goliad, Jackson, Jim Wells, Kenedy, Kleburg, Lavaca, Live Oak, Nueces, Refugio, San Patricio, and Victoria counties
- **Texas City:** Brazoria, Chambers, Fort Bend, Galveston, Matagorda, and Wharton counties

FBI Houston History

1940s

Since its inception in 1908, the FBI has conducted investigations in the Houston area, tackling peonage (forced labor) violations, the theft of interstate shipments, and other issues. For many years, though, these investigations were overseen from Dallas or other cities in Texas.

As war broke out in Europe—but before the U.S. officially joined the conflict—the Bureau decided to open a field office in Houston in response to the already booming ports, armed service facilities, and national defense-related manufacturing in the region. In July 1940, E.L. Richmond was appointed special agent in charge to head up the new office.

During this time, the Houston Division worked to protect the area from spies and saboteurs and to handle the FBI's many other wartime responsibilities—from rounding up draft dodgers to conducting background checks on federal workers.

1950s through 1970s

The Houston Division's national security work remained its top priority during the first decades of the Cold War, as the FBI worked to uncover and turn back Soviet espionage in this country.

Civil rights cases, theft of interstate shipments, and other investigations grew in importance over the next decades. Violent fugitives on the loose were also a concern, and Houston agents helped investigate and capture FBI Ten Most Wanted fugitives like [Joseph Franklin Bent, Jr.](#), in Texas City in 1952; [Sydney Martin](#), who agents captured in 1953 after a citizen in Corpus Christi recognized him; and [Allen Haugsted](#), who was arrested in Houston in 1965.

Leadership



Special Agent in Charge
[James Smith](#)

Assistant Special Agents in Charge

- Clyde W. Ellis, Jr.
- Heith R. Janke
- David Martinez
- Jimmy Paul
- Christopher Raia

Administrative Officer
[Ashleigh Beach](#)



FBI Houston History



UTILITY

SOLUTIONS THROUGH TECHNOLOGY

Utility is an innovative technology company that continually delivers groundbreaking digital systems for frontline professions that depend on speed, accuracy, easy-to-access data, and transparency in their work.



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All Usage As Of Today				
Unions	Active Employees	Open Positions	Job Views	Personnel Requested
		1,55,394	1,668,449	79,309
Totals for Selected Date Range				Hours Available

HAPCA February Meeting Agenda



Twitter: @HAPCA
WWW.HAPCA.ORG
Hapcboard@gmail.com

Chief Clemente Rodriguez, President
Chief Kirk Riggs Vice President
Chief Paul Cordova, Secretary
Chief Jeff Bert, Treasurer

HAPCA MEETING – Agenda

February 28, 2023 11:30 am

Call Meeting to Order: Verify a Quorum is Present (10 members)

Welcome: Chief Rodriguez

Lunch Sponsor Presentations

1. Utility
2. Power Details

New Business:

1. Oath of Office for Secretary, Chief Paul Cordova,
2. Councilman Dwight Boykins- Inner City Youth vs. First Responders
3. HPD Assistant Chief of Police Ban T. Tien- Briefing on Final Four in Houston
4. Legislative Update- Harris County Fire Marshal Laurie Christensen

Lunch Speaker: FBI Supervisory Special Agent Tam Dao

Agent Dao is currently assigned to the FBI Threat Management Team which is tasked with addressing all criminal and national security threats to the Houston area. Agent Dao will be presenting on the work his office does in the Houston area, and support they can offer to area departments if requested.

Association Business

1. Newsletters (March, April), Information for future editions send to:
rschultz@mvpdtx.org
2. Treasurer Report- Chief Jeff Bert
3. Secretary Report- Chief Paul Cordova
4. TPCA Liaison Report- Chief Solomon Cook
5. Harris County DA Liaison Report- Chief Josh Bruegger
6. 2023 Dues, \$50 (W-9's on Webpage) \$2.00 processing fee if you pay by credit card, no fee if you pay with a check.

HAPCA February Meeting Agenda



Twitter: @HAPCA
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Hapcaboard@gmail.com

Chief Clemente Rodriguez, President
Chief Kirk Riggs Vice President
Chief Paul Cordova, Secretary
Chief Jeff Bert, Treasurer

Membership Updates/Announcements

1. Endorsement of Will Johnson for 4th Vice-President IACP
2. Association Vote- TPCA Prayer Breakfast Sponsorships
3. Open Forum

March Speaker:

Chief Special Agent Will D. Johnson
Topic: Vision for IACP

March Lunch Sponsor

Sponsor: Off Duty Management

Display Sponsor: Mutualink

Adjourn

Texas Law Enforcement News



WILL JOHNSON FOR IACP



Chief Will Johnson has twenty-eight years of law enforcement experience and serves as the Chief Special Agent & Assistant Vice President for BNSF Railway. BNSF Railway is one of the largest railroad companies in North America, operating in 28 U.S. states and three Canadian providences. Before joining BNSF Railway, Chief Johnson served as the Police Chief for the Arlington, Texas, Police Department for eight years, leading a team of nearly 1,000 employees. During this time, the department earned national recognition as a premier law enforcement agency in the United States, promoting community policing, procedural justice, and protecting the civil rights of all persons. Will serves on the Board of Directors for the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) and chairs the IACP Police Professional Standards, Ethics and Image committee. Previously Chief Johnson has served as an elected Vice President for IACP, as chair of the IACP Human and Civil Rights Committee, and served on the IACP Financial Review Committee. Will is a lifetime member of the Major Cities Chiefs Association and served as an executive board member for the association from 2019 to 2020. Will presently serves on the Texas Police Chiefs Association and aruth Police Institute executive boards and the Alliance for Children executive board.

Chief Johnson is a subject matter expert for the Department of Justice and is an executive fellow for the Police Executive Research Forum, where he developed the first national best practices for the use of conducted energy weapons in policing. Chief Johnson is a past recipient of the Police Executive Research Forum Gary P. Hayes Leadership Award, the Ethical Leadership Award from the Institute for Law Enforcement Administration, and the civil rights award from the IACP.

Chief Johnson holds a master's degree from Texas Christian University and a bachelor's degree from Texas Tech University. He graduated from the FBI National Academy 245th Session, where he was honored to serve as the session president. He is also a graduate of the 35th session of the Senior Management Institute for Police, the 40th FBI National Executive Institute, and the Texas Law Enforcement Management Institute's 45th Leadership Command College.

1980s and 1990s

Growing law enforcement partnerships were the hallmark of the next few decades, as crime grew in complexity and scope.

In August 1987, for example, the Houston Division and the Houston Police Department issued a memorandum of understanding creating a Joint Terrorism Task Force to prevent and investigate domestic and international terrorism in the region. It was the FBI's second such task force, following New York's in 1980. Five years later—in September 1992—the Houston FBI and Houston Police Department joined with other federal and state law enforcement agencies in creating a Joint Drug Intelligence Group focused on curbing the movement of illegal narcotics through the port city.

Later in the decade, the division investigated one of the most heinous civil rights crimes since the 1960s. In June 1998, a 49-year-old African-American named James Byrd was brutally murdered in Jasper, Texas by being chained to the back of a pickup truck and dragged for three miles. An investigation by the FBI and other agencies in the area led to the arrest and conviction of three men for the attack.

In March 2000, the Houston Joint Terrorism Task Force prevented a potential domestic terror attack when it arrested an anti-government extremist named Mark Wayne McCool as he tried to purchase explosives and a rifle from an undercover agent. McCool—leader of a militia group that advocated a violent revolution against the U.S. government—was planning to attack the federal building in Houston. He pled guilty to an explosives charge in June 2000.

The Houston Division also prevented a serious cyber attack when it identified and arrested a hacker named Franklin Wayne Adams in March 2000. Adams was attempting to use the Internet to plant a "worm" on the computers of small businesses that would have wiped out their hard drives. The worm would have also launched a denial of service attack against the region's 9-1-1 system, essentially shutting it down.

Post-9/11



Investigators emerged from a 2002 search of Enron headquarters in Houston with more than 500 boxes of evidence.

Following the 9/11 attacks, preventing terror attacks became the division's top priority, along with the rest of the Bureau. As a result, the division strengthened its Joint Terrorism Task Force and began working to upgrade its intelligence capabilities.

Less than four months after the attacks, however, the Houston Division became involved in a major financial case that shook the nation. In December 2001, it launched a massive, wide-ranging investigation into the failure of the energy trading company Enron, a business headquartered in Houston. The case revealed a vast conspiracy to overstate Enron's financial performance and many instances of insider self-dealing. Several prominent officers of the company—including the CEO and CFO—were charged and found guilty of the massive fraud and conspiracy that led to Enron's collapse and billions of dollars in losses to investors and employees. So far, the investigation has led to 21 convictions.

The division continued to build its capabilities to fight crime and terror. In October 2003, it launched a [Regional Computer Forensic Laboratory in Houston](#), a multi-agency center devoted to examining and gathering evidence from laptops, cell phones, and other digital devices.

When [Hurricanes Katrina](#) and [Rita](#) hit the Gulf Coast in the fall of 2005—followed by [Hurricanes Gustav](#) and [Ike](#) in 2008—the crime and fraud that followed in its wake had a significant impact on the Houston Division. When some of the gangs from New Orleans migrated to Houston and caused a spike in crime, the division teamed with the Houston Police Department to go after them. Houston investigators also handled a number of fraud cases related to the disasters.

Even as Houston handled a full load of criminal cases—everything from bank robberies to violent crimes engineered by the MS-13 street gang, from child porn to the theft of trade secrets—it made important contributions to the FBI's top priority of protecting the nation from terrorism. In 2005, for example, Houston agents arrested Ronald Allen Grecula following an arranged undercover meeting during which he offered to build and sell a bomb to terrorist groups targeting the United States. Grecula later pled guilty and was sentenced to five years in prison. In 2008, the division also worked with the Drug Enforcement Agency to shut down a drugs-for-weapons scheme involving a South American terror group in a case known as "[Operation White Terror](#)."

As the FBI heads into its next century of service, the Houston Division is committed to continuing its work to protect the city and surrounding communities from all manner of national security and criminal threats.

The men and women of FBI Houston—which covers **40 Texas Gulf Coast counties** ranging from Beaumont to Bryan and Corpus Christi to Texas City— work diligently to investigate and neutralize criminal and national security threats every day. Here are some examples of the achievements made by our office last year. Violent Crime

A.O.R.

Division Territory



HOUSTON DIVISION
TERRITORY



UNCLASSIFIED