

# TEXAS COMMISSION ON JAIL STANDARDS

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## TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE MEMORANDUM

**To:** All Sheriffs and Jail Administrators  
**From:** Brandon Wood, Executive Director  
**Date:** November 20, 2012  
**Reference:** HB 3866 - Certified Fire Inspectors

HB 3866 was a bill from the 2009 Legislative Session that requires fire inspectors to be certified by the Texas Commission on Fire Protection (TCFP). However, the law allowed a 2 year grace period for all fire inspectors to receive the necessary training in order to become "certified" by September 1, 2011 at which time HB 3866 went into full effect.

Section 419.908 highlighted below, for compliance and inspection purposes, is the important section of the bill. Section 419.908 states:

**SAFETY INSPECTIONS. (a) Only an individual certified by the commission as a fire inspector may conduct a fire safety inspection required by a state or local law, rule, regulation, or ordinance.**

In the above section, "commission" refers to the TCFP and not the Texas Commission on Jail Standards. However, due to the fact minimum jail standards require your facility to be inspected annually by a local fire official, the fire official conducting that inspection **must** be certified by the TCFP. Failure to ensure that the individual conducting your annual fire inspection is certified is classified as a life safety issue and grounds for the issuance of a notice of non-compliance.

With that said, I have included a list of all certified fire inspector's for the State of Texas as of November 19, 2012. The list was provided by TCFP and is provided for your convenience. Please share this information with your fire/life safety employees so that they can ensure that a certified inspector is being utilized.