TEXAS COMMISSION ON JAIL STANDARDS

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TO: ALL SHERIFFS & COUNTY JUDGES FROM: Adan Muñoz, Jr., Executive Director

RE: Changes to Website DATE: September 28, 2010

As of September 1, 2010 several important changes to the Texas Commission on Jail Standards website were implemented. As part of the Sunset Review the agency was directed to provide additional information in electronic format in an effort to not only increase access to this information by the general public and our client base, but allow for ease of submission for required reports.

It is now possible to submit a **Death in Custody Report** or an **Escape from Custody Report** by using the "automated" version of the forms posted on our website. Our goal is to provide as many required reports in an easy to use format as possible and this is our first attempt. If you are unable to utilize the electronic forms, we will still accept a hard copy version submitted in the more traditional manner. Each of the forms can be found here:

Death in Custody http://www.tcjs.state.tx.us/docs/Inmate%20death%20reporting%20form.pdf

Escape from Custody http://www.tcjs.state.tx.us/docs/JAIL%20ESCAPE.pdf

In addition, the website now includes a listing of all facilities under our purview that are non-compliant with Minimum Jail Standards. This listing will allow the general public or anyone interested to view the Inspection Report which will identify the areas of non-compliance the facility was cited for. Upon confirmation that county officials have received the official notice of non-compliance, that county will be added to the listing. Any facility that is found to be in compliance with minimum jail standards will be removed from the website as soon as possible. The listing can be found here:

http://www.tcjs.state.tx.us/index.php?linkID=340