

TEXAS COMMISSION ON JAIL STANDARDS

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Brandon S. Wood



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TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE MEMORANDUM #26-1

To: All Sheriffs and Jail Administrators
From: Brandon Wood, Executive Director
Date: January 22, 2026
RE: Training Updates and Regional Hosting Opportunities



New Mandate: Interacting with Veterans (TCOLE #4902)

Per **SB 1563 (89th Legislature)**, Occupations Code §1701.310(a) now requires **all licensed jailers** to complete this 4-hour course. Developed by TCOLE and the Texas Veterans Commission, the training is free to county jails.

The Texas Commission on Jail Standards (TCJS) is available to assist agencies in meeting new and existing training requirements. While TCJS is not mandated to conduct these courses, we are offering to **facilitate regional training sessions** as a courtesy to support statewide compliance and inmate safety.

Compliance & Safety Training

TCJS also facilitates the following 4-hour, no-cost courses:

- **Suicide Prevention (#4901):** Designed to satisfy annual training requirements within your facility's Mental Disabilities/Suicide Prevention Plan.
- **IDD Training for Jailers (#2831):** Focuses on recognizing and interacting with individuals who have Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities.

Host a Regional Session

If your agency is interested in **hosting** a regional session for any of these courses, please coordinate with our Mental Health Trainer:

Melvin Bowser

Email: melvin.bowser@tcjs.state.tx.us

Phone: 512-799-6931

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"The Commission on Jail Standards welcomes all suggestions and will promptly respond to all complaints directed against the agency or any facilities under its purview." To empower local government to provide safe, secure and suitable local jail facilities through proper rules and procedures while promoting innovative programs and ideas