



Texas Jail Association

2024-2025 AWARDS CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The Texas Jail Association is accepting nominations for Detention Officer of the Year (Professional Service and Valor), the Hall of Fame, the Jerry Baggs Leadership Award, the TJA Lifesaving Award, and the Bob Patterson Award. The purpose of these awards is to recognize exceptional service provided by an individual in the field of county jail operations. How often have you been told that you're doing a good job? Positive reinforcement and recognition of a job well done encourages staff to continue this exemplary behavior. TJA encourages you to evaluate your agency and find the individual who is excelling and is deserving of recognition. Whether it is a peer, a subordinate, or a supervisor, there is someone who has positively impacted your agency. Their level of professionalism, esprit de corps, dedication, loyalty, and/or actions has made a difference in the field of county corrections. Now is the time for you to recognize them.

The nomination process is simple. Please complete the nomination form and submit it to the Awards Committee by March 1, 2024. A person does not have to be a member of TJA; however, they must be eligible for membership. These awards will be presented at the 38th Annual TJA Conference, May 6-10, 2024, in San Marcos, Texas.

Recipients will receive complimentary conference registration and hotel accommodations at the Annual Training Conference. The recipients will also be presented with a commemorative plaque and will be recognized in the TJA newsletter.

Any nomination MUST have the written endorsement of the agency head.

Nominations will be accepted for the following:

Detention Officer of the Year – Professional Service

This award is given to an individual working in county corrections who has demonstrated a commitment to professional service at his/her agency by making outstanding contributions to county corrections that exceed basic ability and expected performance.

Detention Officer of the Year – Valor

This award is given to an individual working in county corrections who demonstrated courage or valor in the face of danger while in the performance of his/her official duties.

Hall of Fame Award

This award is a tribute to the service of an individual career of outstanding contributions to county corrections and the criminal justice system. The recipient of this award has demonstrated a dedication to the advancement of the field of county corrections.

Jerry Baggs Leadership Award

This award is presented to an individual employed in the field of county corrections who has demonstrated outstanding leadership in and appreciation of the field of county corrections. He or she has exhibited a sincere commitment to the professional advancement of county corrections personnel.

TJA Lifesaving Award

The Lifesaving Award is given to an officer/s working within county corrections who has displayed extraordinary performance in their duty to save the life of a person who would likely have died if not for the action of the officer/s.

It shall be awarded only after the awards committee confirms the following circumstances:

1. The officer took direct, immediate, and positive action to preserve the life of another human being who was in danger of dying.
2. The action taken did prevent the loss of a human life.
3. The circumstances of the act were such that any delay in providing assistance would, in all probability, have resulted in the person's death.

Bob Patterson Award

This award is presented to a leader who has demonstrated a passion for the advancement of corrections by working to develop professionals serving jails across the State of Texas. The recipient should demonstrate successful management of day-to-day jail operations, such as crowded conditions, mental health, personnel shortages, and fostering innovative ideas.

Nominations must be received by March 1, 2024.

NOMINATION FORM (may be sent as a separate document, as long as following information included)

Person Nominated _____

Official Title _____

Business/Agency Address _____

Contact Phone _____

Nominated By _____

Endorsement by Agency Head _____

Please describe in detail how this nominee meets the criteria for the award. Attach additional pages if needed. Attach supporting documentation such as offense reports, statements, newspaper clips, and letters of recommendation.

Send form and additional information to:
TJA Headquarters, Attn: Sharese Hurst, Box 2296, Huntsville, Texas 77341-2296
or you may email all information to: sharese@shsu.edu