



40TH ANNUAL TJA CONFERENCE

MAY 4–MAY 8, 2026 | SAN MARCOS, TX

Monday, May 4

7:30am Registration for Participants

8:30–9:15am **OPENING CEREMONY**

Veramendi

Presentation of Colors

Travis County Sheriff's Office - Honor Guard

National Anthem

Maria Edwards

Welcoming Remarks

Frances Dembowski, Sharese Hurst, Sheriff Anthony Hipolito, Ricky Armstrong

9:15–9:30am **Election Information and Introduction of Candidates**

Veramendi

9:30–9:45am Break

9:45–11:30am **KEYNOTE SESSION**

Veramendi

A Plot Against the Downtown Detention Center

Sheriff Daron Hall, Brian Beazley, Cory Witkus,
and Thomas Conrad

11:30am–1:00pm Lunch (On Your Own)

1:00pm **Jerry Baggs Annual Golf Tournament**

Kissing Tree Golf Course

1:00–5:00pm **BREAKOUT SESSIONS** (choose one)

I The Basics

Texas Commission on Jail Standards

Spring Lake AB

II Legislative Update

Greg Whitley

Spring Lake C

III Below 100

Kenny Lemons

San Marcos River

IV Interacting with Veterans in a Jail Setting (TCOLE 4902)

Melvin Bowser

Chautauqua

5:00–7:00pm **Annual Jack Crump Scholarship Fundraiser Bar-b-que**

Veranda

\$10 per person to be collected at the event

Tuesday, May 5

7:00–11:30am Exhibitor Set-up

Veramendi

8:00–9:30am **BREAKOUT SESSIONS** (choose one)

- I Just Tell Me What You Want to Eat!
How Assertiveness Affects Your Wellbeing**
Melvin Bowser *Spring Lake A*
- II Integrity 101**
Jason Davis *Spring Lake B*
- III Hot Topics**
Texas Commission on Jail Standards *Spring Lake C*
- IV Corrections Tactical Teams -
Risk and Liability Management**
Dionisio Dorado & Shawn Garcia *San Marcos River*
- V Fighting Fentanyl - The Noah Rodriguez Story**
Mark Andrews & Janel Rodriguez *Chautauqua*

9:30–10:00am Break

10:00–11:30am **BREAKOUT SESSIONS** (choose one)

- I Finding Your Voice**
Ricky Armstrong *Spring Lake A*
- II Staying Out of the Jail You Work In: Let's Talk
Liabilities**
Aimee Crockett *Spring Lake B*
- III Why a Trauma Informed Culture Change
is Key to Staff Wellness**
Karen Ranus *Spring Lake C*
- IV Recruitment and Retention**
Rowdee Edwards & Johnny Jaquess *San Marcos River*
- V Retirement Readiness**
Cynthia Gonzales *Chautauqua*

11:30am–1:00pm Exhibit Hall Opens - Lunch and Fellowship for Participants

Veramendi

11:30am–5:00pm **Annual Blood Drive**
sponsored by Southern Health Partners

Parking Lot

1:00–2:30pm **BREAKOUT SESSIONS** (repeat from 8:00am)

2:30–3:00pm Break - Visit with Exhibitors

Veramendi

3:00–4:30pm **BREAKOUT SESSIONS** (repeat from 10:00am)

8:00pm Singles Cornhole Tournament

Foyer

Wednesday, May 6

8:00–9:30am **BREAKOUT SESSIONS** (choose one)

I The Power of the Rubber Chicken

Jess Christensen

Spring Lake A

II Peer Support: The Beginning, The Middle, No End

Tamara Spencer

Spring Lake B

III Don't Be That Guy: Redux

Ray Scifres

Spring Lake C

**IV Emotional Intelligence:
Know Thy Self, Know Thy Co-Worker**

Heath Crossland

San Marcos River

9:00am **Hays County Jail Tour Departs**

Foyer

9:00am–5:00pm **Jail Standards Showdown**

Hosted by the Texas Commission on Jail Standards

Chautauqua

9:30am–2:00pm Exhibit Showroom Open

Veramendi

9:30–10:00am Break - Visit with Exhibitors

Veramendi

10:00–11:30am **BREAKOUT SESSIONS** (continued from 8:00am)

11:30am–1:00pm Lunch in the Exhibit Hall

1:00–2:30pm **BREAKOUT SESSIONS** (repeat from 8:00am)

1:30pm **Hays County Jail Tour Departs**

Foyer

2:30–3:00pm Break

Foyer

3:00–4:30pm **BREAKOUT SESSIONS** (continued from 1:00pm)

4:00pm **Hays County Jail Tour Departs**

Foyer

8:00pm Cornhole Tournament

Foyer

Thursday, May 7

7:00–8:00am **Prayer Breakfast**

Veramendi

8:00am **Jail Administrator Photo**

Veranda

8:15am **Sheriff's Photo**

Veranda

8:30–10:00am **BREAKOUT SESSIONS** (choose one)

I The Culture We Create: How Organizational Psychology Shapes Correctional Behavior

Marcy Calnan

Spring Lake A

II Suicide Prevention: Did I Kill You or Did You Kill Me?

Tamara Spencer

Spring Lake B

III The Edge: Combating Complacency in Corrections

Melvin Bowser & Sarah Bigham

Spring Lake C

IV Corrections K-9 - Narcotics Start to Finish

Charles Lenhard & Jeremy Landen

San Marcos River

V Report Writing

Jason Davis & Jess Christensen

Chautauqua

10:00–10:30am Break

Foyer

10:30–12:00pm **BREAKOUT SESSIONS** (choose one)

I Building Hope Behind Small Walls: Programming in Rural Jails

Marcy Calnan & Robert Whitfield

Spring Lake A

II Complicance

Jennifer Segura

Spring Lake B

III Motivating Your Employees From Tip-Off to the Final Buzzer

Alan Johnston

Spring Lake C

IV Jail Based Competency Restoration

John Shoemaker, Jennifer Brashear, & Keisha Morris

San Marcos River

V Trauma Medical Care

Jessica Medrano

Chautauqua

12:00–1:30pm Lunch (On Your Own)

1:30–3:00pm **BREAKOUT SESSIONS** (repeat from 8:30am)

3:00–3:30pm Break

3:30–5:00pm **BREAKOUT SESSIONS** (repeat from 10:30am)

7:00pm–12:00am **Dinner and Casino Night**

Veramendi

Friday, May 8

8:00–11:30am **Gangs and Social Media: CSTIU Gang Identification**
Noe Enciso & Antolin Torres

Veramendi