

Trauma Matters

The Official Web Letter of the Texas Trauma Coordinators Forum

Special Election Edition November 2018



Texas Trauma Coordinators Forum

This edition of Trauma Matters is dedicated solely to encourage YOUR participation in the election process; with the subsequent follow-up with our legislators who are trauma funding friendly for the purpose of education regarding continued financial support of the Texas Trauma System!

We believe that your interaction with your legislator has made... and continues to make a HUGE difference for the preservation of trauma funding in Texas.

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Are you a Member?

Open to anyone interested in improving care for trauma patients. Meetings of the TTCF are held quarterly and provide an

Please remember to RSVP for the TTCF meeting!

On-line registration (RSVP) using [Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.com) via the TTCF homepage www.ttcf.org is important to provide adequate meal and room provisions at each meeting. For further information please contact Jacky Betts by email: jbetts@unitedregional.org

Road to "Trauma Day at the Capitol 2019"

- Nov. 2 - TTCF Meeting - Wyndham Garden Austin
- **Nov. 6 * MIDTERM ELECTIONS**
VOTE! VOTE! VOTE!
- November - January - Call YOUR Legislator... either Incumbent who was re-elected OR Newbie in office!
- February 26 2019 - Austin - Wyndham Garden
TTCF "Trauma Day at the Capitol"

TTCF will meet as a group and travel to the Capitol on this day to personally meet with Legislators. Our collective purpose is to:

- Educate elected officials re: Importance of funding
- YOUR role in the trauma system and what it means to you!

outstanding opportunity to network with Trauma Coordinators, Trauma Registrars, Trauma Program Managers, and Trauma Personnel throughout Texas. The Forum shares information regarding trauma system development, hospital designation, and legislation information regarding Trauma and Emergency Medical issues as well as updates on injury prevention programs, trauma registry requirements, and rule changes. TTCF Committees & Workgroups include: Level I/II, Level III, Level IV, Injury Prevention, Special Populations, Public Relations/Legislative, Fund Raising, Education, Trauma Registry, and Mentorship. Membership applications can be found on the TTCF homepage www.ttcf.org. Due each year in February, membership costs are \$50 using the on-line application process.



Letter

FROM THE

President



November is election time. You may wonder how this is important to you and to your job in the world of trauma. With trauma money coming from state funding, it is important to know the people you are voting for agree with your direction. Your voice is valued and there are many ways to ensure your legislative representative is on the same page as the hospital where you are employed and also aligns with the goals within your region. The voting choices you make now will directly impact trauma funding in the future. Remember to get out and vote.

After the votes are counted and people are in office, we turn our direction to those who can continue their support of trauma or make a change in our direction. The TTCF meeting in February will be “Trauma Day at the Capitol”. Our group will meet for a brief period of time and then load the buses to the Capitol building in Austin. The day consists of getting to see the House of Representatives and Senate at work as well as being announced in both chambers as trauma professionals. This may create some new opportunities for personal trauma program development. You will see how legislative sessions proceed and may allow you to get to know your legislators and those who represent your communities.

If you are interested in speaking with your legislator, you can schedule your visit in advance. This is recommended, but is not absolutely necessary. When you call, explain the reason for the visit. Depending on legislative developments, it may be necessary to meet with staff rather than the legislator. Staff members are an excellent resource and will often advocate on your behalf. Regardless who you meet with, the discussion should be focused on explaining why trauma care and funding is important to you. Simply have a conversation with whoever will listen and tell them why the trauma system in Texas needs to have their continued support.

Remember that you do not have to know all the answers to have a conversation about trauma. Talk about why you started working in the field. Explain what happens when patients do not have the care they need when they need it. We all have individual stories to share and if nothing else, remind them that trauma happens to anyone at any time. We want to make sure our family members are taken care of no matter where they may be in Texas. The support from our legislators can help continue this progress.

I invite and encourage you to join me and attend this important meeting in February. Our group has a unique opportunity during this time to share why trauma care is important in Texas and help make a difference into the future.

Sherry

Sherry Jennings, MSN, RN, TCRN
TTCF President

Stay Connected...

(Last session—85th)

Important Committees

- Senate Appropriations (Article II)
- House Appropriations (Article II)
- Senate Health & Human Services
- House Public Health

The following websites are useful in knowing who, what, and where - trauma funding issues are introduced and sponsored by.

Tracking bills - <https://capitol.texas.gov/>

Searching bills - <https://capitol.texas.gov/>

Committees

Appropriations (Article II) and Public Health

House Committees

- <https://house.texas.gov/committees/committee/?committee=C410>
- <https://house.texas.gov/committees/committee/?committee=C010>

Senate Committees

- <https://senate.texas.gov/cmte.php?c=610>
- <https://senate.texas.gov/cmte.php?c=540>



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Public Health Committee

Committee Members

Chair



Rep. Price,
Four

Vice Chair



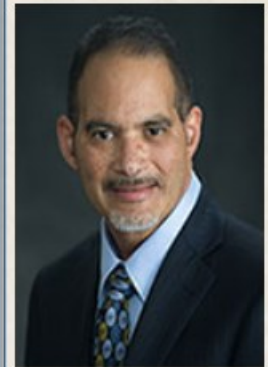
Rep. Sheffield,
J. D.



Rep. Arévalo,
Diana



Rep. Burkett,
Cindy



Rep. Coleman,
Garnet



Rep. Collier,
Nicole



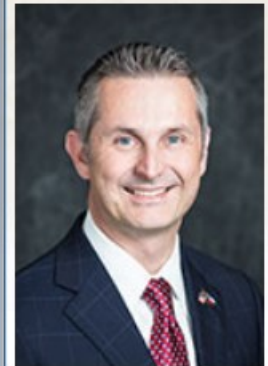
Rep. Cortez,
Philip



Rep. Guerra,
R. D. "Bobby"



Rep. Klick,
Stephanie



Rep. Oliverson,
Tom



Rep. Zedler,
Bill

Sec. 31. PUBLIC HEALTH. The committee shall have 11 members, with jurisdiction over all matters pertaining to:

(1) the protection of public health, including supervision and control of the practice of medicine and dentistry and other allied health services;

(2) mental health and the development of programs incident thereto;

(3) the prevention and treatment of mental illness;

(4) oversight of the Health and Human Services Commission as it relates to the subject matter jurisdiction of this committee; and

(5) the following state agencies: the Department of State Health Services, the Anatomical Board of the State of Texas, the Texas Funeral Service Commission, the Hearing Instrument Fitters and Dispensers Advisory Board, the Texas Health Services Authority, the Texas Optometry Board, the Texas Radiation Advisory Board, the Texas State Board of Pharmacy, the Interagency Obesity Council, the Texas Board of Nursing, the Texas Board of Chiropractic Examiners, the Texas Board of Physical Therapy Examiners, the Texas State Board of Podiatric Medical Examiners, the Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists, the State Board of Dental Examiners, the Texas Medical Board, the Advisory Board of Athletic Trainers, the Dental Hygiene Advisory Committee, the Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas, the Texas State Board of Acupuncture Examiners, the Health Professions Council, the Office of Patient Protection, and the Texas Board of Occupational Therapy Examiners.



Texas House of Representatives

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Appropriations - S/C on Article II Committee

Committee Members

Chair



**Rep. Davis,
Sarah**

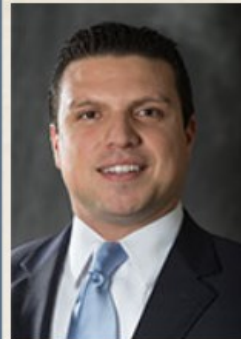
Vice Chair



**Rep. Bonnen,
Greg**



**Rep. Dukes,
Dawanna**



**Rep. Muñoz, Jr.,
Sergio**



**Rep. Roberts,
Kevin**



**Rep. Sheffield,
J. D.**



**Rep. Wu,
Gene**



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Senate Committee on Health & Human Services

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MEMBERS

[Dawn Buckingham](#)

[Konni Burton](#)

[Lois Kolkhorst](#)

[Borris L. Miles](#)

[Charles Perry](#)

[Van Taylor](#)

[Kirk Watson](#)

CLERK:

[Luisa Venegoni](#)

TEL:

(512) 463-0360

LOCATION:

Sam Houston Building, 420



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[Charles Schwertner](#)

[Kel Seliger](#)

[Larry Taylor](#)

[Kirk Watson](#)

[Royce West](#)

[John Whitmire](#)

CLERK:

[Stephanie Hoover](#)

TEL:

(512) 463-0370

LOCATION:

Capitol Extension, E1.038



Legislative/Public Relations Workgroup Leadership

Marvin Cloud & Christa De Le Garza
Chair & Co-Chair



Legislative Updates and additional Texas Trauma information: Look for the updates from Texas EMS Trauma & Acute Care Foundation (TETAF) at www.tetaf.org

The Mid-Term election is upon us! Primaries were March 6th. And Run-offs were in May. The election is in November. This Workgroup implores all TTCF members to become familiar with the candidates running for office. We must continue to elect Trauma Center “funding-friendly” candidates. TTCF members will then participate in the *2019 Trauma Day at the Capitol*. This event reiterates the importance of support of continued funding for trauma care in the state of Texas. The group is committed to encouraging the need for TTCF individuals to identify & reach out to their Texas Legislators to educate them on the need for continued and increased trauma funding, as well as informing them that current funds have been cut or appropriated to other organizations without any source of replacement.



Sign up to receive announcements by email regarding the Texas Department of State Health Services EMS Trauma Systems program including Legislative updates.

DSHS

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/emstraumasystems/Email-Updates.shtm>

TETAF

<https://www.tetaf.org>

TTCF

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