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Agency News

Executive Director Livingston to retire in August

On April 15, Brad Livingston announced his decision to retire from the agency after nearly 12 years as executive director of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. "I am honored and humbled to have served Texas in this position during such an important time," Livingston said. "While this role has its challenges, I have had the opportunity to work with an exceptionally talented and engaged leadership team, as well as dedicated frontline and support staff, the unsung heroes who perform demanding, often dangerous, and always vital functions for the state of Texas. I am profoundly grateful for the opportunity to have led this remarkable organization and will remain a dedicated public servant during this transition period."

One of the longest serving executive directors in Texas prison history, Livingston joined the agency in October 1997 as deputy director of the Financial Services Division. Appointed chief financial officer in June 2001, he took over responsibility for TDCJ's day-to-day business, fiscal and administrative operations. He was named interim executive director in November 2004 and formally appointed the executive director in July 2005.



Brad Livingston

During Executive Director Livingston's tenure, state policymakers and agency staff have achieved many notable accomplishments, to include significant reductions in TDCJ's inmate population and in recidivism rates for released offenders. Correctional officer salaries have increased substantially during his tenure, and in 2014, TDCJ was presented with the American Correctional Association's prestigious Golden Eagle award, given to criminal justice agencies that have all aspects of agency operations fully accredited, to include accreditation of every facility and department under its jurisdiction.

"Brad epitomizes what it truly means to be a leader and he has made a profound, positive impact on this department. There's hardly an area within the TDCJ that has not been affected by his leadership," said Texas Board of Criminal Justice Chairman Dale Wainwright. "He never backed away from a challenge, but addressed them head on. His legacy, reflecting exemplary service to the people of the state, will be felt for many years to come."

Livingston's leadership has been recognized by both state and national professional associations; he received the Texas Public Employees Association's Agency Administrator of the Year Award in 2007, 2009, 2013 and 2015. Also in 2015, the ACA recognized Livingston's work with the E.R. Cass Award for dedication and outstanding contribution during the course of his career, and the Association of State Administrators honored him as their Outstanding Director of Corrections and presented him with the Michael Francke Award for Excellence in the field.

In his letter announcing his retirement to the Texas Board of Criminal Justice, Livingston wrote, "One of the most gratifying aspects of this position is the opportunity it has afford-

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ed me to build leadership capacity in others while meeting our daily operational responsibilities. This leadership team operates with a strong sense of professionalism, business integrity and ethics that will continue serving Texas well.”

Livingston will retire at the end of August.

The nine-member Texas Board of Criminal Justice is appointed by the governor to oversee the Texas Department of Criminal Justice and is responsible for hiring the executive director. TBCJ Chairman Wainwright stated, “The board will initiate the process of appointing an executive director in the near future.” ●