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## *Agency News*



**TDCJ General Counsel  
Sharon Howell**

### **Howell named new general counsel**

In August, Executive Director Brad Livingston appointed Sharon Howell general counsel for the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ). Howell began her law career in 1985 as a legal secretary for the Attorney General's office and attended The University of Texas School of Law from 1987 through 1990. After receiving her law license in 1990, Howell worked as assistant attorney general and was involved with all TDCJ class action litigation, including the Ruiz prison reform lawsuit. She began working for the TDCJ Office of the General Counsel in 2002 as director of preventive law, later becoming the director of legal affairs.

Announcing the appointment, Executive Director Brad Livingston stated, "Sharon's wealth of experience, combined with her strong leadership skills will serve TDCJ well as she assumes her new role as general counsel."

Howell replaced Melinda Bozarth, who retired after having served 29 years with the state of Texas. ●