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Agency News

CID Director Stephens announces retirement

After 35 years of TDCJ service, Correctional Institution Division Director William “Bill” Stephens will retire at the end of May. TDCJ Executive Director Brad Livingston commented on Stephens’ successful career, saying, “Bill has provided exceptional leadership and strong operational oversight to the agency during his tenure. His commitment and dedication to our agency will have a positive lasting impact.”

Director Stephens began his career with TDCJ in 1981 as a correctional officer at the Wynne Unit in Huntsville. While with the agency, he has worked in every security position and earned his bachelor’s degree in Criminology and Corrections from Sam Houston State University in Huntsville. In 2009 he was selected as deputy director of the CID’s Prison and Jail Operations Division and advanced to CID director in June 2013.

Under Stephens’ leadership, Correctional Training and Staff Development implemented significant curriculum enhancements for correctional officer pre-ser-

vice and in-service training, including core values, mental health first responder and crisis intervention training. With his help, the agency was able to create a successful correctional officer recruitment and retention campaign and implement a recognition program for correctional officers who assume additional duties. During his tenure, the agency’s CO vacancy rate has been significantly reduced.



Bill Stephens

Stephens is a member of the American Correctional Association and past president of the Texas Corrections Association. In August 2013, the American Correctional Association honored his work by naming him “Best in the Business.”

When asked what lies ahead, Stephens said that he and his wife will travel and spend time with family and friends, although Mrs. Stephens added that, at some point, “he will need dancing lessons.”

Lorie Davis, who had been the deputy director of CID’s Support Operations, has assumed the duties of CID Director. ●