

**TRAVIS COUNTY SHERIFF
LAW ENFORCEMENT
ASSOCIATION**



August 25, 2011

The TCSLEA Board of Directors has been approached by the Travis County United Officers Association about a possible merger under the TCSLEA. If you don't know this is the Association that split from TCSOA late last year. The TCSLEA leadership has opened talks about the possibility with their leadership. It should be noted that their leadership has worked closely with us from their inception and have helped us out on a few issues since that time.

This would mean they would join the TCSLEA. The obvious advantage to this would mean overnight the TCSLEA would become the largest Association in Travis County. As a result if we ever pursued Collective Bargaining or Meet and Confer we would be in the driver's seat for that. Of course there is more to getting Collective Bargaining than just numbers but it would allow us the chance to bargain for our own rights under TCSLEA if it happened. We would also be adding 250 members right away and the dues and PAC money that comes with that. They would add their funds into our General Fund and PAC. So over a year's time we would be doubling our yearly intake of dues.

There are many questions that would have to be answered. Here are only a few:

Would Corrections get even representation and leadership of the Association?

How do you keep Corrections from taking over the Association with the eventual larger membership?

If we got Collective Bargaining and disagree can they just leave, reform and effectively become the bigger Association. Then have the Collective Bargaining contract. Don't forget the TCSOA has never been successful in getting Collective Bargaining without us.

Do we maintain 51 % control of the Board of Directors and the President always be L.E.? Is that fair if we did even when their numbers grow larger?

Do you want a Corrections Officer voting for who your President is even if it is from L.E.?

There are more questions that can be asked but these are just some samples. Some good ideas and safeguards have already been thought of however your input is needed. This will be the topic of discussion at Monday's meeting. I encourage a strong showing to voice your opinions. Your Board of Directors are looking to you to shape this debate. Please let us know. There is a lot of opportunity being presented with this offer/proposal but also a lot of risk. We hope you can show up and give us guidance. Thank you.

Sidney Parker
TCSLEA President
Cell #512-914-7996
Ofc #854-7434