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## Agency News

# Governor Abbott appoints three to TBCJ, names chairman

In August, Texas Governor Greg Abbott named the Honorable Dale Wainwright chairman of the Texas Board of Criminal Justice and appointed Tom G. Fordyce and Derrelynn Perryman as TBCJ members, with terms scheduled to expire on February 1, 2021. The TBCJ is responsible for hiring the executive director of the department and setting rules and policies which guide the agency. TBCJ members also serve as the Board of Trustees for the Windham School District within the TDCJ.

Wainwright is managing partner of the Austin office of the international law firm Bracewell & Giuliani LLP. He is an appellate lawyer representing clients in appeals of complex commercial disputes of all types in state and federal courts and administrative appeals of oil and gas and electric utility disputes. Prior to joining Bracewell, Wainwright served on the Texas Supreme Court for 10 years, authoring more than 125 opinions.



**TBCJ Chairman**  
**Dale Wainwright**

He began his judicial career in 1999 when he was appointed by Governor George W. Bush to preside over the 334th Civil District Court in Houston, Texas. Prior to becoming a jurist, he represented clients at trial and in appeals for more than a decade.

Wainwright is the first African American to be elected to the Texas Supreme Court and has been recognized with numerous awards including the 2008 National Bar Association Humanitarian Award, 2006 National Black Prosecutors Association Trail Blazer Award and the 2000 NAACP Legal Excellence Award. Wainwright graduated summa cum laude from Howard University with a bachelor's degree in economics. He studied abroad at the London School of Economics as the Lucy Dalbiac Luard Scholar and earned his Juris Doctor from the University of Chicago Law School.

Tom Fordyce is a rancher, cow and calf operator and hay producer, and recently served as a commissioner for the Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles. Prior to that assignment, Fordyce was director of TDCJ's Agribusiness, Land and Minerals Department. Fordyce has also been appointed to serve on

the Trinity River Authority and Texas Assistive and Rehabilitative Services Council.

Fordyce served in the United States Marines during the Vietnam conflict, retiring in March 1968 due to combat injuries. He currently serves as a board member for the Military Order of the Purple Heart, Lone Survivor Foundation and Huntsville Veterans' Affairs Advisory Board. He previously served on the Texas Veterans Commission advisory board, Huntsville Economic Development Council, Brownfield Memorial Hospital Board and KickStart for Kids program board. Fordyce holds a bachelor's degree in agriculture from Sam Houston State University.



**Tom G. Fordyce**  
**Member**

Derrelynn Perryman is Victim Services Coordinator for the Arlington Police Department, a position she has held since 1994. During Perryman's term of service, the APD has been twice recognized by the International Association of Chiefs of Police for excellence in pro-

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viding victim services. She also serves as an adjunct instructor for the School of Social Work and the Criminal Justice and Criminology Department at The University of Texas at Arlington. Prior to



**Derrelynn Perryman**  
**Member**

that, she served as a therapist at Family Assessment, Consultation and Therapy Service, where she developed programs for court-ordered offenders. She is a certified peace officer instructor, trains officers and first responders, and is a member of the Critical Incident Team with Arlington Police Department.

Perryman has counseled children who have lost a parent in the line of duty and has held leadership positions with the Texas Victim Services Association and the Tarrant County Criminal Justice Plan Committee. Perryman earned her bachelor's and master's degrees in social work from The University of Texas at Arlington.

Dale Wainwright replaces TBCJ Chairman Oliver J. Bell, Tom Fordyce replaces Carmen Villanueva-Hiles and Derrelynn Perryman replaces Janice Harris Lord. The terms of all departing board members expired February 1 of this year. ●