



Texas Board of Criminal Justice

Fiscal Year 2022

**Office of Inspector General
Annual Report**

Texas Board of Criminal Justice

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Cris W. Love, Sr., Inspector General

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Overview

The Office of the Inspector General (OIG) is the law enforcement and investigative agency for the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ). The OIG is an operationally independent office accountable to the Texas Board of Criminal Justice (TBCJ). The Inspector General reports directly to the TBCJ chairman.

All OIG investigators are certified peace officers, as authorized by Texas Code of Criminal Procedures, Article 2.12 and licensed by the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (TCOLE).

Inspector General's Message

This fiscal year, OIG continued to manage growing workload while continuing to deliver law enforcement and investigative services.

FY22 Highlights:

- The deployment in April of an information management system permitted the largest real time multi-agency collaborative system during a major crime event which facilitated awareness, tracking, assignment, and other response needs.
- OIG worked aggressively on the Texas Police Chiefs Association (TPCA) accreditation process. The first phase, policy development and modification, is **89%** complete. During this time in addition to required training on the process, over **58** policies were developed or modified to meet the required standards. This will permit OIG to focus on the next phase of self-assessment and proofs of compliance. Once this phase is complete, the independent assessment teams will conduct an onsite audit.
- Development and deployment of additional less lethal tools to provide investigators with options during arrest situations in lieu of the lethal use of force.
- Deployment of the new mobile field audio/video interview recording equipment.
- Deployment of new interoperable radios to improve communication capabilities during multi-agency operations.
- Completed the internal workforce and structure assessment which provided the blueprint for the organization's legislative appropriations request.
- Staffed the TDCJ multi-divisional joint information center to enhance the ability to share information more effectively and rapidly.
- Deployed the 24/7 confidential mental health services for commissioned staff.
- Received the virtual training equipment to enhance the Training Sections ability to reinforce tactical, less lethal, and de-escalation training.

Looking forward during FY23, OIG will continue the accreditation process with the goal of completion and designation as an accredited law enforcement agency. OIG will be fielding the virtual training system throughout the state to achieve the decision-making training objectives.

Organization

In FY22, OIG continued to see significant workload growth in contraband investigations. Investigations have identified several criminal enterprises involving inmates and others introducing a variety of controlled substances to county, state, and federal facilities across multiple states. The size and complexity of these criminal enterprises involves long term multi-agency approaches to disrupt and dismantle. Controlled substances and cellular phone introduction to prison units over the fiscal year has occurred through use of drone drops, mail, smuggling either by visitor or employee, and other means.

Criminal Investigations Division

This division consists of two area commands, each led by a Commander. Currently each area command consists of two regional commands, each led by a Captain. The Northern Area consists of Regions A and C while the Southern Area consists of Regions B and D. Each region staffs prison units on a full time or part time basis and are responsive to all units, Parole Division offices, and outside law enforcement agencies throughout the day or through on-call investigators.

Special Operations Division

This division consists of investigators assigned to multi-agency task forces focused on the anti-gang and fugitive programs targeting parole absconders, violent fugitives, and gang members with a nexus to the department; electronic surveillance and UAS flight operations; protective operations; Correctional Intelligence/Joint Terrorism Task Force, and cellular digital forensic examinations. Additionally, this division is staffed with crime analysts providing tactical and strategic analytical support to OIG criminal investigations as well as other law enforcement organization's criminal investigations. OIG crime analysts support the Crime Stoppers program, Waste-Fraud-Abuse tip line, TDCJ Fusion Center, and the FUGINET public safety database programs enhancing the organizations mission and capabilities.

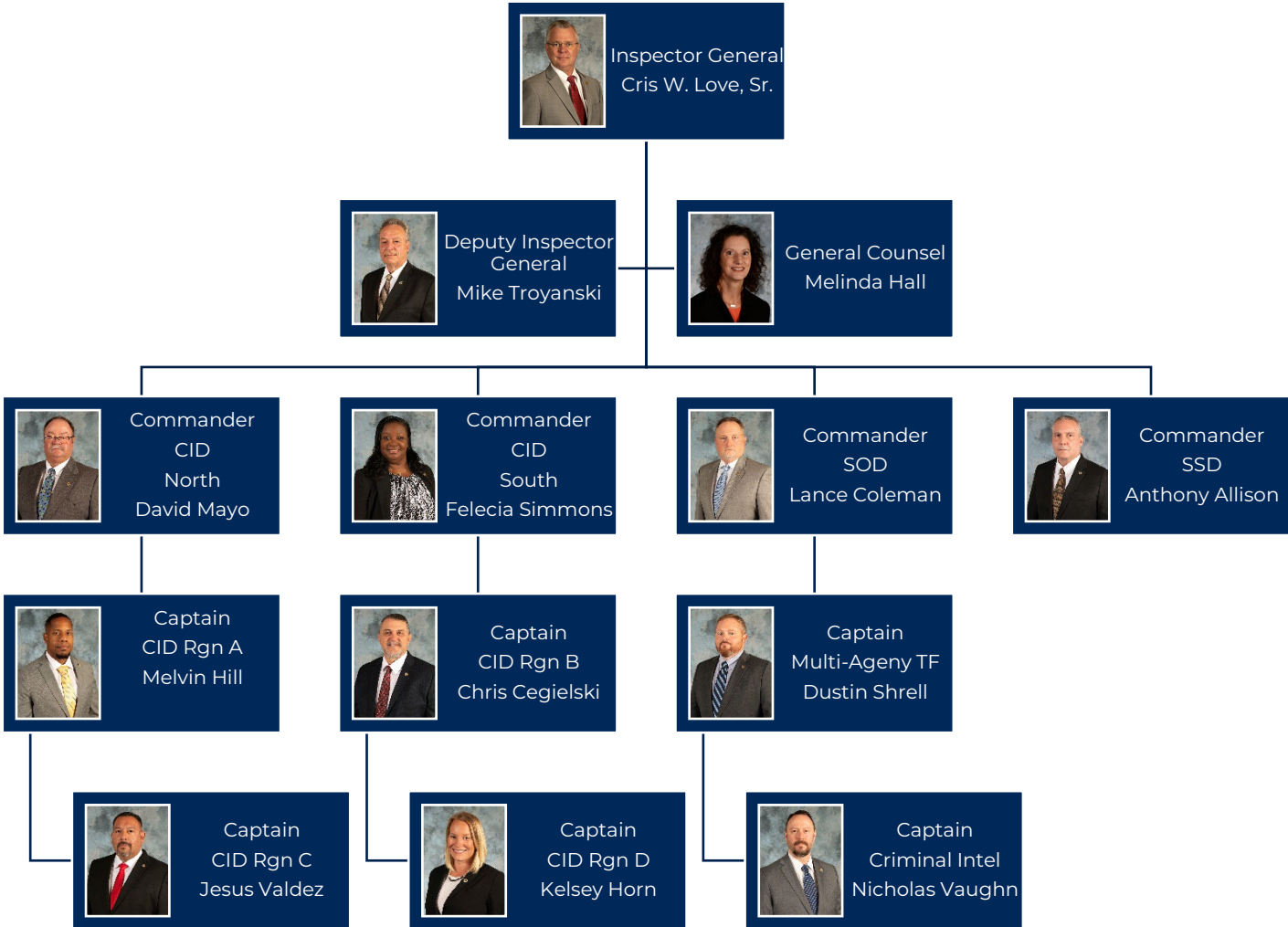
Support Services Division

This division consists of Armory/Fleet Operations; Records Section; Information Technology; and Professional Standards. Within these work groups, functions support agency fleet operations; firearms maintenance and repair; complaint intake and review; custodial death reporting; court ordered record expungement; warrant management; investigative case file review and retention; coordination and tracking of cases being prosecuted; information security; network and database support; hardware support; development and coordination of training; internal affairs investigations; compliance audits; policy development and accreditation.

Executive and Administrative Support Functions

Reporting directly to the Inspector General, these sections encompass all other organizational functions including financial management; purchasing; accountable property management; executive support services; human resources; open records requests; and litigation.

Leadership



Leadership Retirement

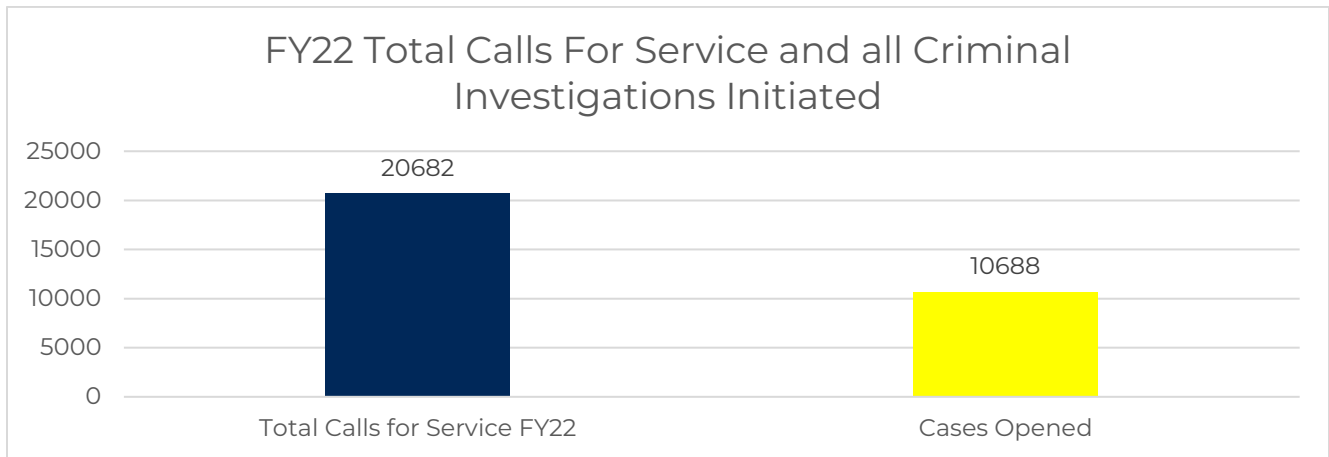
General Counsel John West retired August 31st, after 45 years of public service.



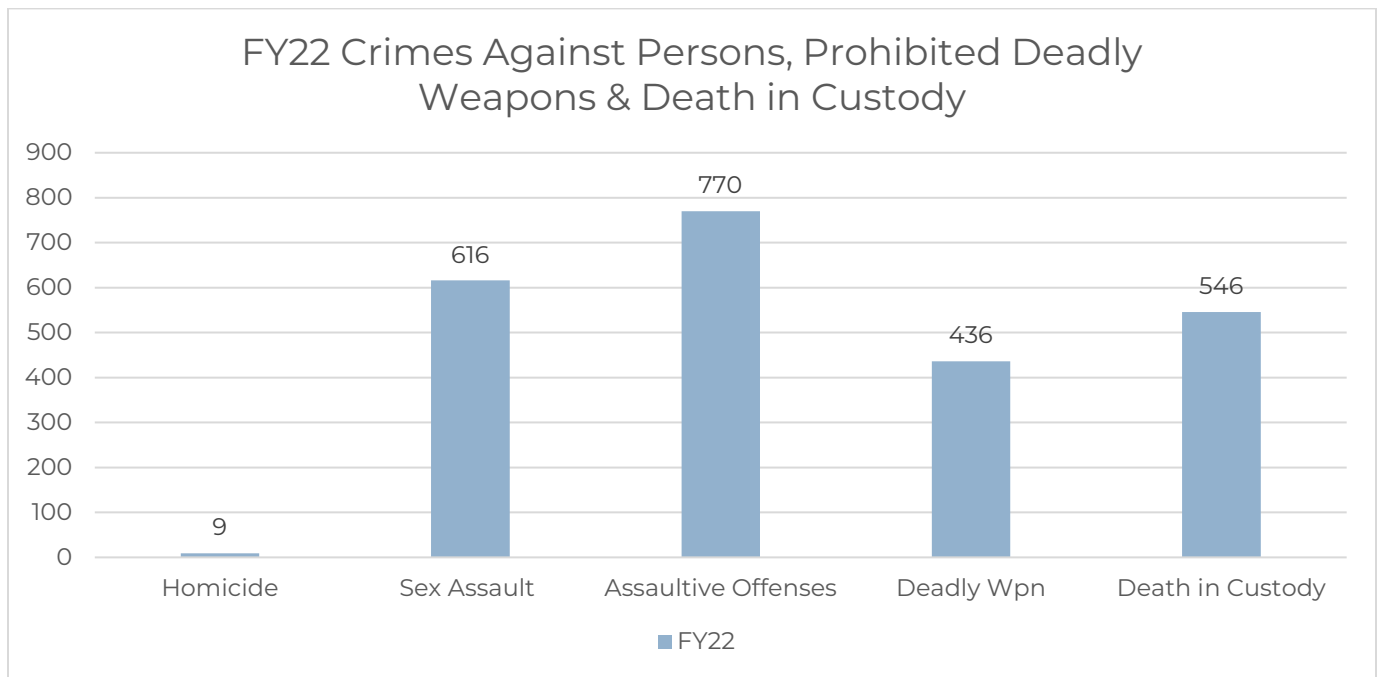
Calls for Service and Criminal Investigations

OIG receives and responds to a broad array of complaints received as well as investigators self-initiated activity. Calls for Service generally refers to assignments distributed to staff which require they resolve, assist, or investigate the matter. It also reflects self-initiated activity by staff which includes arrests made, criminal intelligence developed and disseminated, or other activity initiated directly by staff.

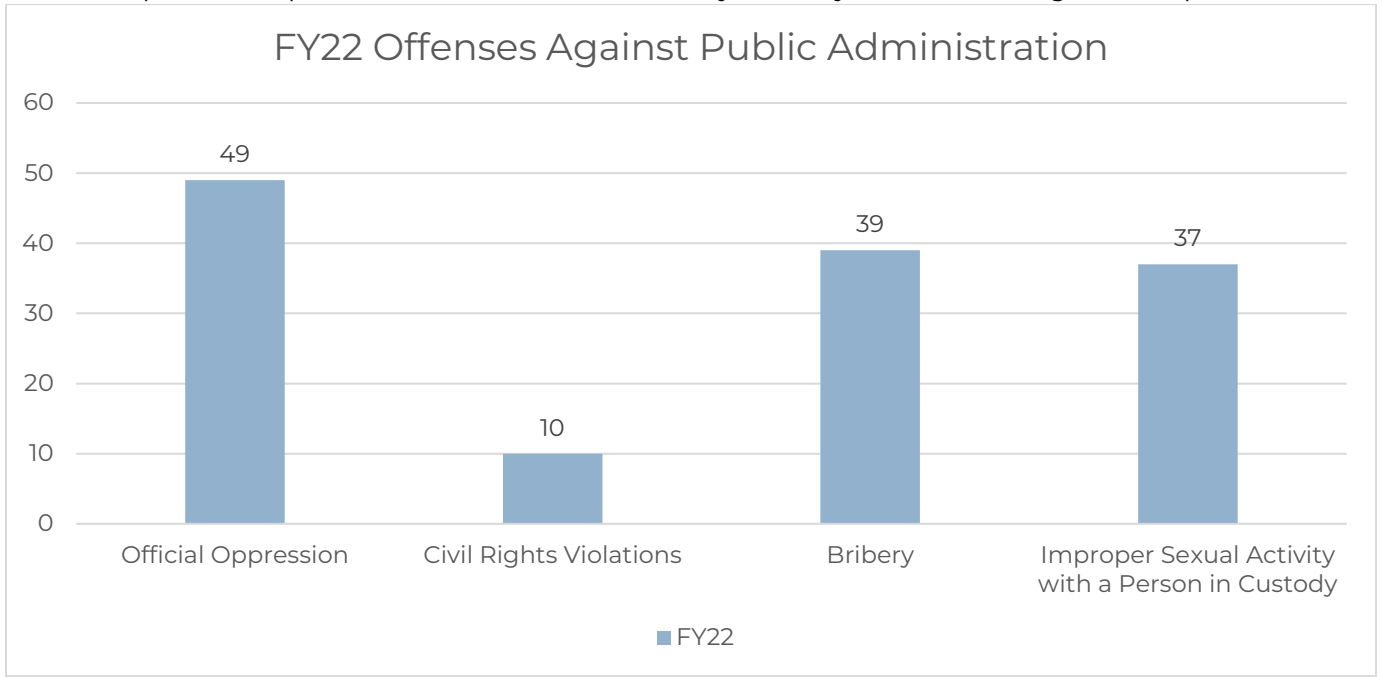
The below table represents Calls for Service as a total workload measurement of all types. Not all Calls for Service require follow up or full criminal investigation as they are resolved within the same workday. Cases Opened refers to full criminal investigations requiring additional work to bring to a conclusion. This includes but is not limited to subpoenas, search warrants, autopsies, surveillance, laboratory examination, and other investigative techniques to conclude.



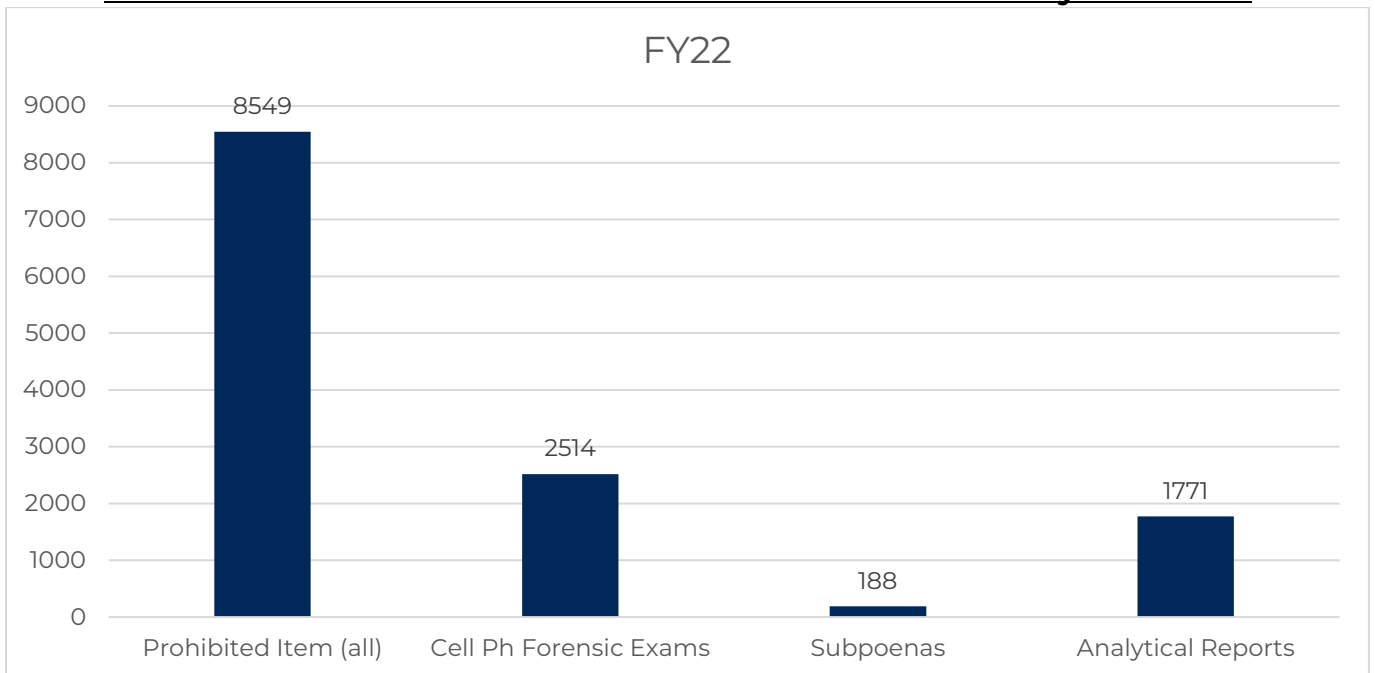
Criminal Investigations Division FY Comparison



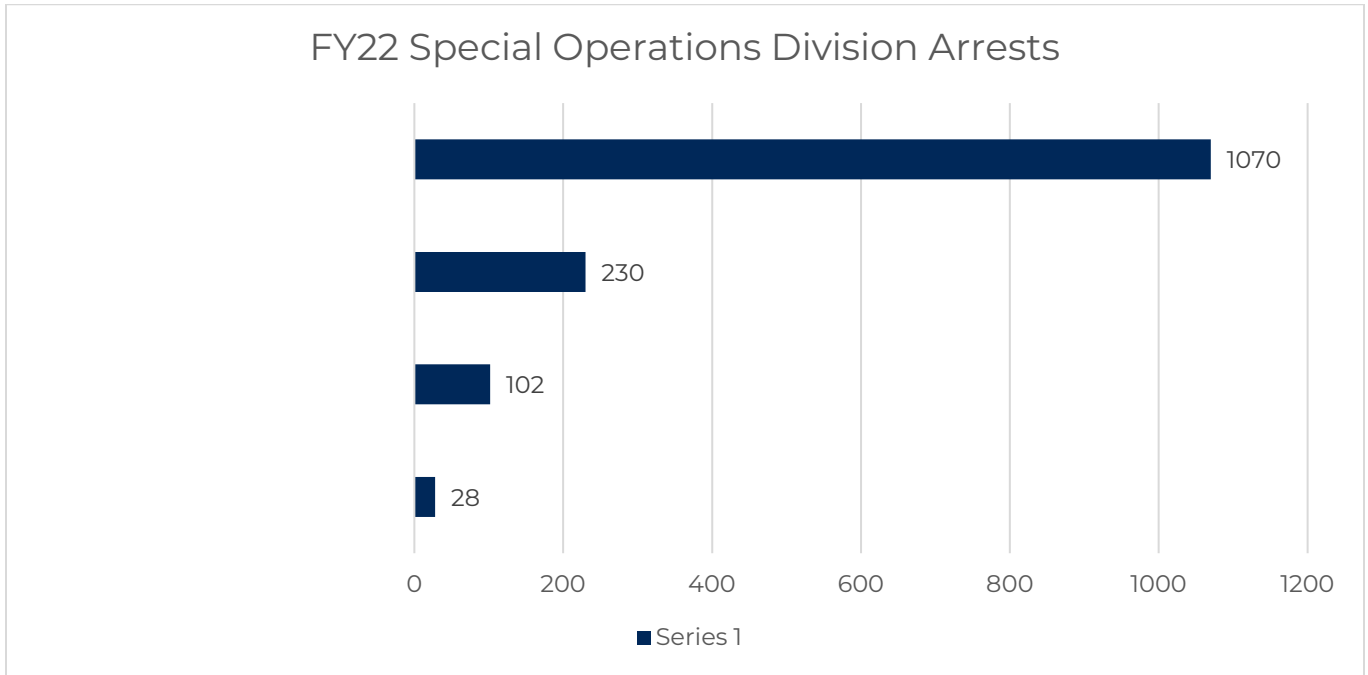
*OIG is required to report on inmate deaths in custody not only those occurring in TDCJ prison units.



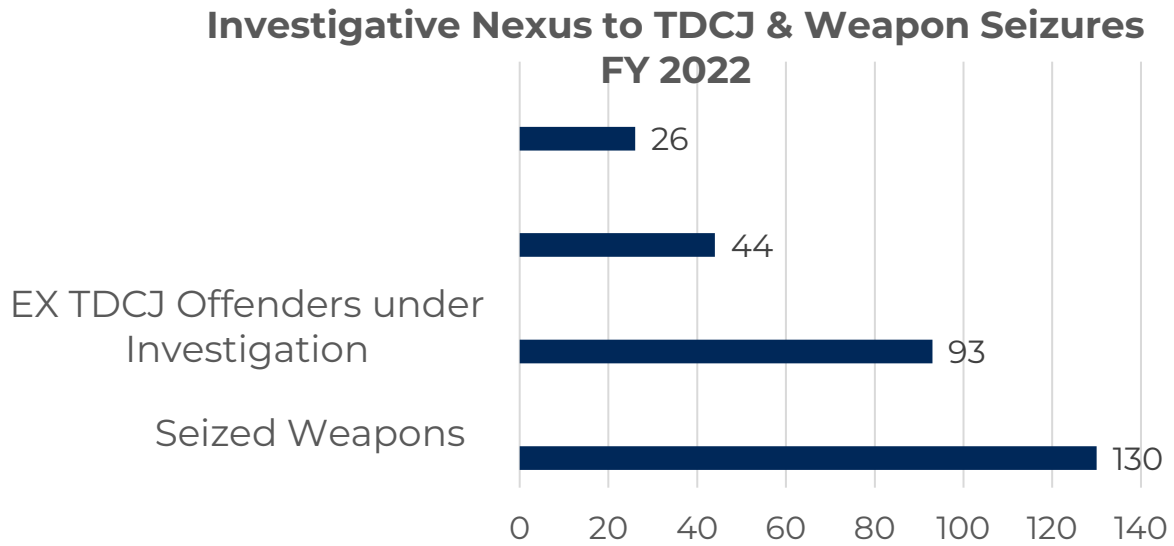
Contraband Cases – Forensic Exams – Criminal Case Analytical Work



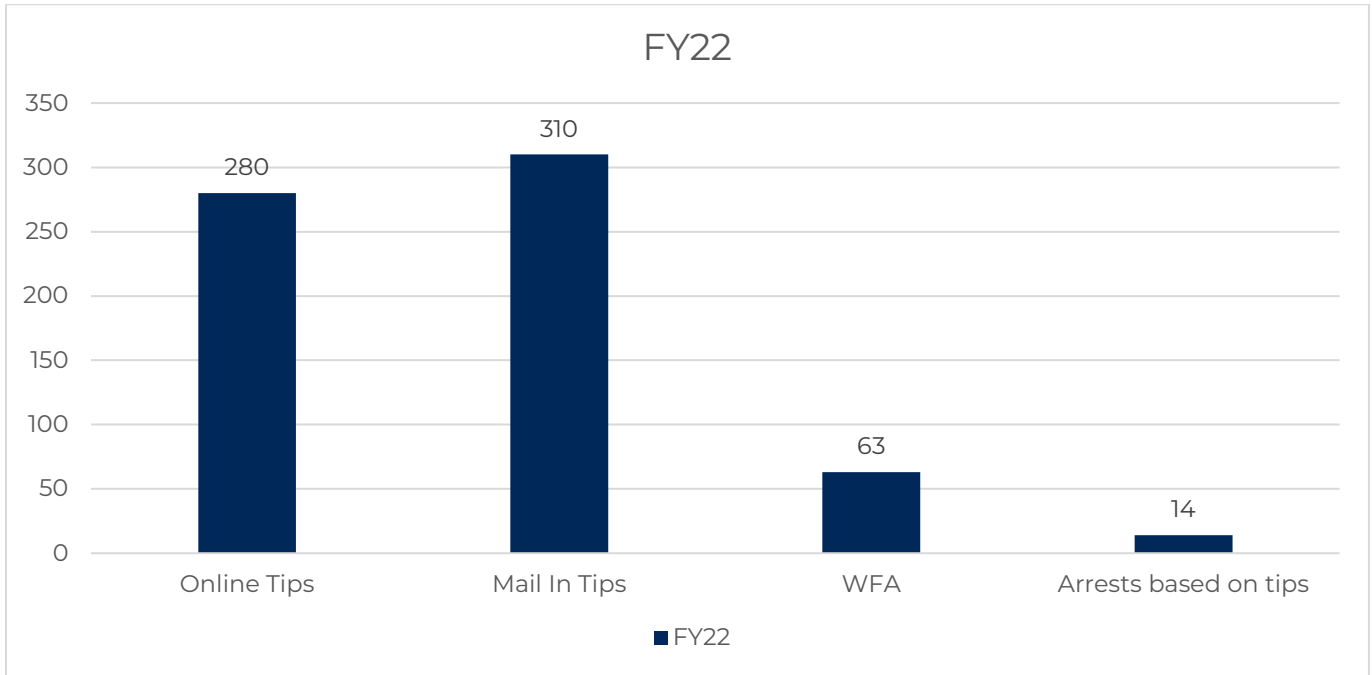
Special Operations Division



Special Operations Division Anti-Gang Program

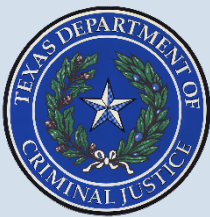


Crime Stoppers and Waste-Fraud-Abuse Tip Line



Conclusion

Over the past fiscal year, OIG has seen continued workload growth and complexity of the investigations in cases involving the distribution, introduction, and/or possession of prohibited items. Regardless of the workload demands, OIG will continue to be responsive to the needs of the TBCJ, the TDCJ, other law enforcement agencies, and the people of Texas.



THE BOARD OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

OIG FY22 Annual Report