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Agency News

National Correctional Officers' Week begins May 3

The Texas Department of Criminal Justice will observe National Correctional Officers' Week from May 3 through 9 by honoring the dedicated men and women who have chosen a professional career in corrections and who work every day to protect the citizens of Texas, rehabilitate offenders and help crime victims.

Since 1984, the first week in May has been set aside to recognize officers for their hard work and commitment to creating a safe and effective corrections environment. As in the past, individual units throughout the state have organized events in honor of their service. For more information about National Correctional Officers' Week activities in your area, contact your regional CID director's office.

Memorial ceremonies will also be held in honor of those who made the ultimate sac-

rifice. Christopher Davis and Eligio Garcia Jr., TDCJ correctional officers who lost their lives in the line of duty on January 14, 2015, will be honored.

The Fallen Officers' Memorial Ceremony in Huntsville will take place on May 8 at the



Texas Prison Museum and will begin at 10:30 a.m. in front of the Sesquicentennial Plaza. This year's keynote speaker will be TDCJ Executive Director Brad Livingston, and Texas Board of Criminal Justice Chairman Oliver Bell will present the Living Memorial. Coverage will be included in the next issue of the *Connections* newsletter.

Commenting on the significance of this year's ceremony, TDCJ Correctional Institutions Division Director Bill Stephens said, "Obviously, this year's fallen officers' ceremony will have a greater tone of sorrow as we recognize Officer Davis and Officer Garcia, and let us not forget Officer Jason Self who continues to recover from the injuries suffered from this tragic accident. Our TDCJ family suffered a great blow on January 14th. However, our resolve and support for each other have been impressive. In addition, the support from around the nation has been remarkable." ●