



TEXAS CRIMINAL
JUSTICE COALITION

SHARE YOUR STORY

PARTICIPATE IN THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SUNSET REVIEW PROCESS!

WHAT IS SUNSET?

The Texas Legislature created the Sunset Advisory Commission in 1977 to identify and eliminate waste, duplication, and inefficient government agencies. The Sunset process provides a unique opportunity for the Legislature, and the public, to meticulously review government agencies, such as the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ), and to make fundamental modifications to the agencies' mission or operations as necessary. Sunset staff invites input from outside organizations and members of the public when evaluating these agencies.

It is imperative that community members and practitioners voice their opinions on issues that need to be changed, and now is the time to let your voice be heard! We need your help to provide information about real-life experiences from individuals impacted by Texas' criminal justice system. We want to know your perspective about what needs the most attention in TDCJ – what is working and what is not. If you or someone you know has something to share about an experience with TDCJ, please contact us! We realize that not every solution or story is the same, but all are significant. Importantly, these stories will be kept strictly confidential at your request.

**Sunset asks the
basic question:
Should a state
agency be
continued?**

~ Sunset Advisory Commission

WHAT KIND OF INFORMATION ARE WE LOOKING FOR?

- Personal testimonies about your experience(s) or challenges while involved with TDCJ.
- Testimonies about the programs, treatment, or education provided by TDCJ.
- Challenges you faced as a family member or friend of someone involved with TDCJ.
- Suggestions about the most important opportunities for improvement in TDCJ.

WHY ARE WE COLLECTING THESE STORIES?

We are collecting these stories to learn more about how well TDCJ satisfies its mandate to 1) protect the public, 2) provide rehabilitation and opportunities for behavioral transformation, and 3) promote reintegration back into society. This is a rare opportunity to be involved in shaping recommendations about TDCJ, and we want your voice to be heard on the important issues that need to be examined.

HOW WILL WE COLLECT THESE STORIES?

We will provide you with a questionnaire that you can complete, in writing or electronically, and return to us for compilation with other stories and inclusion in our policy recommendations for the Sunset Commission. We will not share your personal information in any of our communications or publications, unless we receive your permission. To request a questionnaire or for more information, please contact Travis Leete, J.D. by email at tleete@criminaljusticecoalition.org, or at (512) 441-8123, ext. 106; or contact Ana Yáñez-Correa, Ph.D. at acorrea@criminaljusticecoalition.org, or at (512) 441-8123, ext. 109.

CONTACT US TO BE A PART OF THIS RARE OPPORTUNITY!