

PRESS RELEASE

Fort Bend County Sheriff's Office
Sheriff Milton Wright

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Fort Bend County Jail – “Yesterday and Today” (Brochure Included)

For Immediate Release

Expansion of the New Ft. Bend County Jail Completed; Open House Planned

The expansion of the new 249,186 square foot Fort Bend County Jail is near completion and ready for law enforcement officials to take possession. Before the transfer of prisoners in late September, Fort Bend County Officials will host a ribbon cutting ceremony and an open house from 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 15, 2009.

Interested individuals are invited to join Sheriff Milton Wright and members of the Fort Bend County Commissioners Court in a ribbon cutting ceremony, which will begin promptly at 3:00 p.m. Adan Munoz Jr., executive director of the Texas Commission on Jails Standards, will be a guest speaker along with several others. Following the ribbon cutting ceremony refreshments and tours to the new jail facility will be available.

County Judge Bob Hebert stated, “I am delighted that this expansion is complete. With the county’s growing population, shortages in jail bed space have resulted in a strong need to expand the current Fort Bend County Jail. With the additional space the once overpopulated jail can be used to house inmates from other agencies and reduce the cost of operating the expanded jail for some time.” This expansion has added an additional 1,008 beds to the existing facility, resulting in an overall housing capacity of over 1,700 inmates.

The expansion was built to a similar format of the existing jail meaning that it is built around the “pod” concept; however it will be managed and staffed as a full direct supervision jail. In “Direct Supervision” an officer is assigned inside the housing unit with the offenders. In the United States, direct supervision has proven to be safe, secure and cost effective. The jail addition was designed and built to be in compliance with all appropriate guidelines and standards of the Texas Commission on Jail Standards.

Sheriff Milton Wright stated, "This expansion will be a great improvement to our day to day operation primarily because we will no longer be transporting inmates all over the state in order to comply with court appearances, attorney requests and jail standards requirements."