

# Texas Education Agency



## SCHOOL SAFETY AND SECURITY

UT Law Conference  
February 15, 2023



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## 88<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session



- TEC Sec. 37.1083 (b) -The agency shall establish an office of school safety and security within the agency **that consists of individuals with substantial expertise and experience in school or law enforcement safety and security operations and oversight at the local, state, or federal level** to coordinate the agency 's monitoring of school district safety and security requirements under this section. The director of the office is appointed by the governor and confirmed by the senate and must report directly to the commissioner.
- TEC Sec. 37.1084 (b) - The office shall establish a school safety review team in each region served by a regional education service center. A team shall annually conduct on-site general intruder detection audits of school district campuses in the team 's region.

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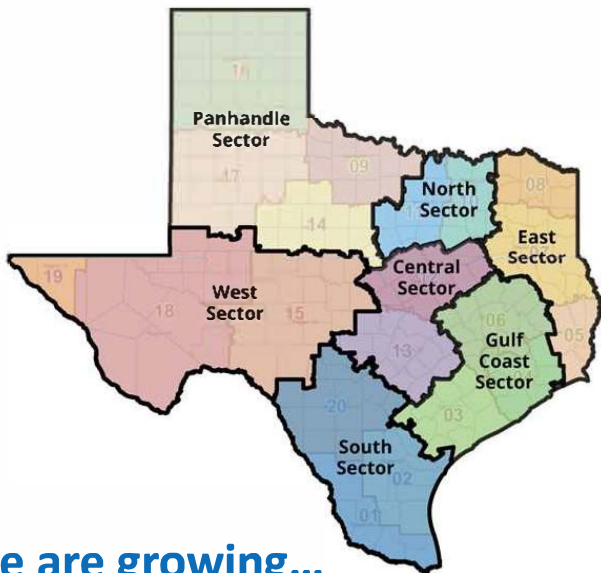
# Mission Statement and Key Objectives

## Mission Statement:

The goal of the Office of School Safety and Security is to build the capacity of the regional education service centers (ESCs) and local education agencies (LEAs) to promote the physical and psychological well-being of students and staff - recognizing that safer schools positively impact student outcomes. We align school safety and security expertise with guidance provided through technical assistance to ensure effective best practices are implemented across the state.

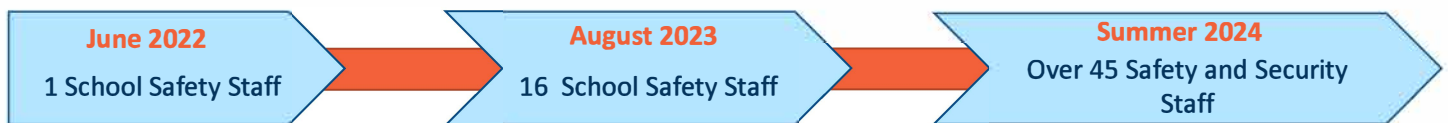
## Key Objectives:

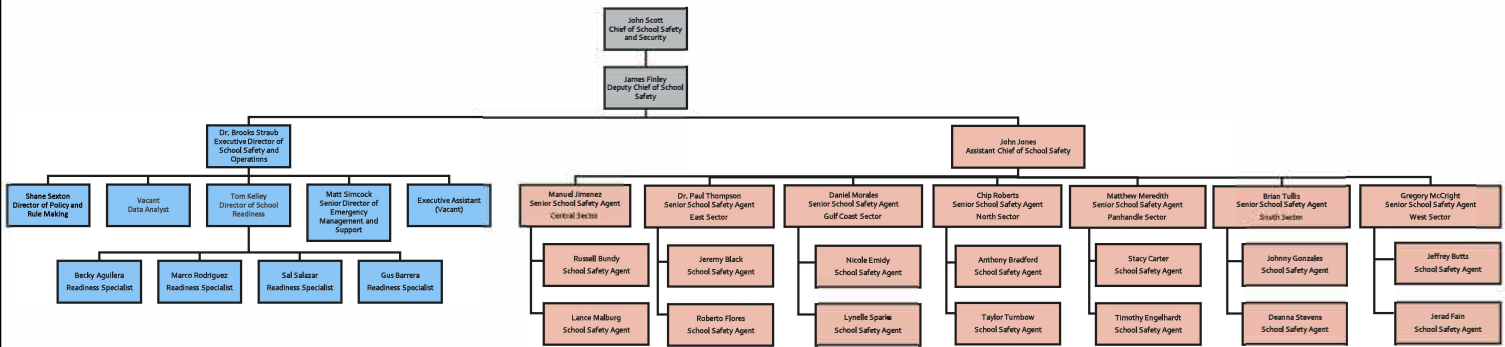
- ESC and LEA On-site Technical Assistance
- Lead/Assist LEAs in Sector-wide / ESC-regional Tabletop Exercises and Trainings
- Coordinate with Emergency Management Entities
- Liaison with Local, County, State and Federal Law Enforcement Partners
- Safe and Supportive Schools Program
- Mental Health Guidance and Supports
- Restorative Discipline, Discipline Guidance and Best Practices
- Conduct Intruder Detection Audits
- Conduct District Vulnerability Assessments
- School Safety Grants



School Safety Areas	TEA Regions	Number of Districts	Total Campuses
West Sector	18,19,15	99	612
Panhandle Sector	16,17,9,14	202	730
North Sector	10, 11	211	2453
East Sector	8,7,5	185	739
Gulf Coast Sector	3,4,6	188	2180
South Sector	1,2,20	180	1868
Central Sector	12, 13	157	1074
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7 Areas</b>	<b>1222</b>	<b>9656</b>

## We are growing...

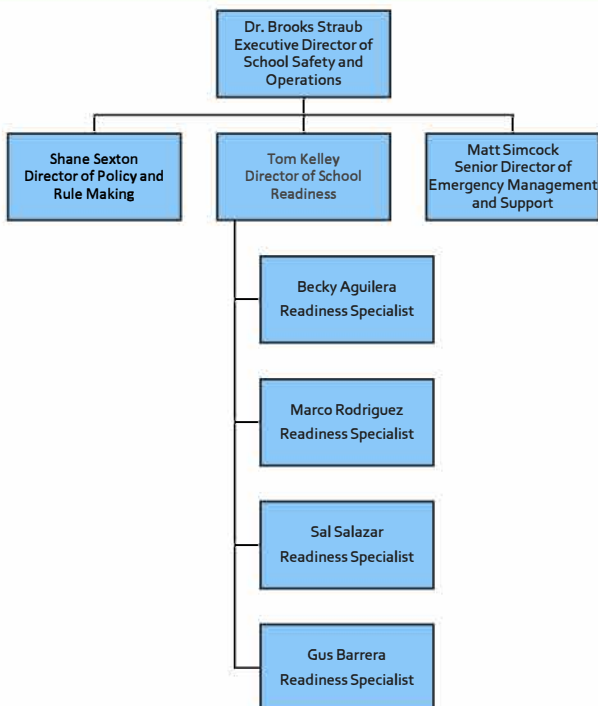




TEC Sec. 37.1084  
(88<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session)

TEC Sec. 37.1083  
(88<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session)

## Division of Safe Schools and Operations



### Key Responsibilities

Safe School Programs

Policy and Rulemaking

Emergency Management

School Safety Grants

School Readiness

School Safety Online System

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Title search: School Safety and Security

Also available as part of the eCourse

[School Safety in a New World](#)

First appeared as part of the conference materials for the  
39<sup>th</sup> Annual School Law Conference session

"Safety and Texas Schools: Their Future Depends on What We Do Today"