

Texas Department of Family
and Protective Services

Special Investigations Division



Our Agency Mission

We promote safe and healthy families
and protect children and vulnerable adults
from abuse, neglect, and exploitation.



Scan to learn more
about DFPS Special Investigators

Special Investigations Division

4900 N. Lamar Blvd.
Austin, Texas 78751



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**DFPS
Regions**

Who We Are

Special Investigators are DFPS staff members with a law enforcement background and experience in criminal investigations.

Special Investigator jobs are very challenging and can be stressful at times – but there are few jobs that offer more opportunities to learn new things about Texas families, your community, and yourself.



What We Do

Special Investigators are an important part of our agency who work as a team to protect children.

Special investigators offer advice on high-profile or high-risk cases that may require joint investigation with law enforcement. They have a specialized set of skills in order to do their job. Special investigator duties may include:

- Helping with complex investigations.
- Using forensic investigation techniques.
- School investigations.
- Assisting with human trafficking investigations.
- Responding to drug-endangered children cases.



- Acting as department liaisons to local law enforcement agencies.
- Searching for missing families and children in foster care using databases and other resources.
- Submitting requests to the Department of Public Safety to place a missing family on the Child Safety Check Alert List.



- Mentoring DFPS investigators and caseworkers, and training them on child abuse issues.
- Participating on local boards and multi-disciplinary teams.



Qualifications

Required:

- Graduation from an accredited high school or equivalent.
- Five years as a Peace Officer with two years as a Detective/Investigator assigned to property crimes and or crimes against persons.
- TCOLE Intermediate License, Out of state Peace Officer license, or Military experience comparable to Texas Peace Officer.
- Experience involving the use of forensic investigation skills is a must. Some training certifications may be substituted for two years of experience as a Detective/ Investigator.

Preferred:

- TCOLE Advance or Master Peace Officer License or equivalent from an out of state law enforcement agency or the United States Military.
- Two years' experience as a Detective/ Investigator investigating and working with multidisciplinary teams on the investigation of child abuse and neglect or other crimes against persons.
- Sixty hours college credit from an accredited college or university.



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