



# OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

TEXAS JUVENILE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT

## **PUBLIC INFORMATION ARREST NOTIFICATION**

On August 29, 2022, Former Juvenile Supervision Officer Michael Leopold Richards, Jr., 49, surrendered himself to the Dallas County Sheriff's Office and was booked into the Dallas County Jail under an arrest warrant obtained by the Office of Inspector General. The arrest warrant for Richards was issued for the offense of Official Oppression. Official Oppression is a Class A Misdemeanor under Texas Penal Code Section 39.03, which if convicted is punishable by confinement in the Dallas County Jail for a term not to exceed one year and/or a fine up to \$4,000.

This arrest emanated from an investigation conducted by inspectors with the Office of Inspector General of an incident which occurred in July 2022. It was alleged Richards used excessive force against a juvenile in custody resulting in bodily injury, while employed at the Henry Wade Juvenile Justice Center, in Dallas County, Texas. This case will be prosecuted by the Dallas County District Attorney's Office.

The Office of Inspector General is the independent law enforcement agency that is statutorily responsible for investigating criminal allegations involving TJJD juveniles, TJJD employees, TJJD facilities, contractors, or programs of the Texas juvenile justice system. Anyone can report allegations of misconduct to the Incident Reporting Center by emailing a complaint to [TJJD.IRC@tjjd.texas.gov](mailto:TJJD.IRC@tjjd.texas.gov), or finally by calling a 24-hour-a-day toll free hotline 1-866-477-8354. Historical TJJD incident data can be found on the Open Data Portal of Texas.gov [https://data.texas.gov/dataset/Incident\\_Reporting/d5x8-xxfd](https://data.texas.gov/dataset/Incident_Reporting/d5x8-xxfd)



Booking Photograph