

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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## 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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