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Texas Department of Motor Vehicles names new directors

AUSTIN – The Texas Department of Motor Vehicles (TxDMV) announces the appointment of four new directors to assist the state's motor vehicle-related businesses and consumers.

Randy Elliston, Vehicle Titles and Registration Division Director

Randy Elliston is director of the Vehicle Titles and Registration Division. Elliston is responsible for registering and titling motor vehicles in the state of Texas, and partnering with the state's 254 county tax assessor-collectors to provide motor vehicle services to Texans.

Elliston has a law enforcement background and spent more than 30 years at the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) where his last position was Chief of the Texas Highway Patrol before he retired in August 2008. During his tenure at DPS he served in various locations across the state. He also has served as a commissioner for the Texas Commission on State Emergency Communications.

Elliston received his bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Baylor University in Waco.

Molly Cost, Motor Vehicle Division Director

Molly Cost is director of the Motor Vehicle Division where she oversees the licensing of more than 23,000 businesses engaged in the sale and distribution of motor vehicles in Texas.

Cost has worked for the division since October 1995 as an administrative law judge in the licensing section and most recently as the licensing director. She also has worked as an assistant public interest counsel at the then-Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission.

Cost is a certified mediator. She is secretary of the National Association of Motor Vehicle Boards and Commissions and program co-chairwoman for the Austin Bar Association's Administrative Law Section.

She is a graduate of the University of Texas School of Law, and has a finance degree from the University of Texas at Austin.

William P. Harbeson, Enforcement Division Director

Bill Harbeson is director of the Enforcement Division that ensures motor vehicle, motor carrier and other TxDMV licensees follow state laws regulating those industries. The division also trains licensees, law enforcement and the public in those laws. Since 2004, Harbeson has worked for the Motor Vehicle Division where his positions included managing attorney and enforcement attorney.

Harbeson was a private practice attorney for nine years at Babb and Harbeson in Austin where he specialized in complex commercial litigation involving state and federal workers compensation. He has also held positions with the Texas Workers' Compensation Insurance Facility; the Texas Department of Insurance; and the Nueces County attorney's office. He served for 30 years as a U.S. Navy judge advocate on active duty and in the Navy Reserve, retiring with the rank of captain in February 2010.

Harbeson holds a law degree from South Texas College of Law; a master's in education from the University of Houston; and bachelor's degree from Tulane University in New Orleans, La.

Ginny Booton, Consumer Relations Director

Ginny Booton is director of the Consumer Relations Division where she oversees the TxDMV's customer call center and correspondence. Previously, she worked for two years as the customer services director for the Vehicle Titles and Registration Division.

Booton has more than 17 years experience leading projects for various state agencies and institutions, including the Texas Health and Human Services Commission; Texas Department of Agriculture; and the Comptroller of Public Accounts. She helped found the Center for Professional Excellence at the University of Texas in San Antonio. She is the past chairwoman of the State Electronic Benefits Task Force, and the State Medicaid and Public Assistance Fraud Task Force.

Booton holds a masters of business administration from the University of Akron, Ohio, and a bachelor's degree from Southwest Texas State.

The Texas Department of Motor Vehicles (TxDMV) is charged with overseeing the state's motor vehicle services that provide consumer protection, assist motor vehicle-related businesses and raise revenue for the state. For every \$1 it spends, the TxDMV returns \$10 to build and maintain highways, roads and bridges and provide needed services to Texans. Each year the agency registers more than 21 million vehicles; regulates more than 23,000 vehicle dealers; credentials buses and big trucks for intrastate and interstate commerce; and awards grants to law enforcement agencies to reduce vehicle burglaries and thefts. Learn more at www.TxDMV.gov.

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