



## WALTER A. BILLINGSLEY

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Walter Billingsley is currently serving as a Commissioner and Treasurer of the Airborne Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission, dba: **Public Safety Aviation Accreditation Commission**. Walter was selected to membership on the Commission at its inception to represent the interests of agencies operating small aviation units. Walter assisted in the development of operational standards for law enforcement aviation units that were ultimately adopted by the Airborne Law Enforcement Association (ALEA) and have been recognized by the National Transportation and Safety Board (NTSB) as best practices for all law enforcement aviation units. Upon the adoption of the Standards, Walter assisted in the development of the Accreditation Program and continues to serve on the Commission to award accreditation to those agencies in compliance with the Standards. As the goals of the Commission have expanded Walter has assisted in the development and review of operational standards for agencies whose operations include Aerial Fire Fighting, Light Sport Aircraft, and soon to be completed Search and Rescue.

Walter's career in law enforcement began in 1968 at the Beaumont, TX Police Department where for 20 years he worked in all facets of law enforcement including patrol, patrol supervisor, communications, criminal investigations, undercover narcotics, police canine trainer and handler, crime scene investigations, fingerprint examiner, and many more. In 1989 he joined the Jefferson County, TX Sheriff's Department where he rose through the ranks commanding all areas of law enforcement and managed a budget of over \$34M.

Walter's aviation experience began at the Sheriff's Department when he developed an aviation unit which ultimately was in service with 2 military surplus OH58s, a Bell 407, and a cabin class turboprop fixed wing used for transfer of prisoners from across the U.S. back to Jefferson County for trial. The unit operates out of Jack Brooks Regional Airport from a secure hanger with flight personnel and mechanics on duty. Membership in ALEA and assistance provided by its membership was instrumental in developing safe operating procedures for the new unit. Walter is a commercial helicopter and single engine airplane pilot and holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice. Walter retired from full time law enforcement as Chief Deputy with a total of 41 years of service to the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department and Beaumont Police.