

FORT BEND COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

ORAL HISTORY COMMITTEE



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Abstract: **John Placette**

With over 41 years in law enforcement, Mr. Placette shares a wide range of experience beginning at age 19 as a court bailiff, then as a communication dispatcher before 9-1-1 and eventually working his way to Patrol Sergeant. He left and spent 20 years with the Texas Alcohol Beverage Commission until retirement. After retiring from the TABC, John worked for Harris County in various law enforcement positions. Now he is employed as an Investigator by the Office of County Attorney in Fort Bend County.

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Interview Summary

People (in alphabetical order)

Roger Boyd – patrol supervisor/investigator

Roy Cordes – County Attorney

Al Dobson – deputy sheriff

Gus George – County Sheriff

Ervin Hurta – County Sheriff

Danny Jan – deputy sheriff

Hal Knight – deputy sheriff

Harvey Kramer – patrol supervisor/
investigator

Larry Spillers – deputy sheriff

Joe Thorpe – deputy sheriff

Places / Businesses

Ben Taub Hospital

City of Abilene, Texas

City of Corpus Christi, Texas

City of Houston, Texas

City of Needville, Texas

City of Richmond, Texas

City of Rosenberg, Texas

City of Stafford, Texas

City of Sugar Land, Texas

City of Tyler, Texas

City of Wharton, Texas

Fort Bend County, Texas

Fort Bend County Historical Courthouse

Fort Bend County Emergency
Management

Fort Bend Sheriff's Office

Harris County Constable 1 Office

Harris County Sheriff's Office

Houston Police Department

Office of the FBC County Attorney

Sugar Land Police Department

Texas Alcohol Beverage Commission

Events

Beginning at age 19, John was old enough to work in law enforcement as a court bailiff but not old enough to purchase ammunition in Texas.

He spent 8 years with the Fort Bend County Sheriff's office as a bailiff, communication dispatcher and patrol Sergeant before resigning to work for the City of Sugar Land Police Department. Later, he spent 20 years with Texas Alcohol Beverage Commission assigned to a variety of locations in Texas before retiring.

After retirement, he joined the Harris County Constable, Precinct 1 Office in the mental health division. He left that position to become an Investigator with the County Attorney's office in Fort Bend. A position he still hold and enjoys today.

John shares many stories of law enforcement before computers, cell phones, 9-1-1 system, DNA and other modern enhancements.