

FORT BEND COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

ORAL HISTORY COMMITTEE



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Abstract: **Robert Newton Baker**

Mr. Baker was employed in 1998 as an Arson Investigator for the Fire Marshall's department for Fort Bend County. The building at 307 Fort Street has served many purposes over the years, including as a county jail. His office was in a corner on the second floor of the building, inside what was a former jail cell. He and the other staff swear the building is haunted because of footstep noises on the stairs, heavy doors opening and slamming shut and lights turning on/off in the middle of the night.

5 Pages

∥ *Scroll down for Key Words from the Interview.* ∥

Interview Summary

People (in order mentioned in interview)

Jeff Braun — FBC Emergency Management Coordinator

Linda Barnes — Secretary

Curtis Brown — FBC Deputy Fire Marshall, Jailer

Vance Cooper — FBC Fire Marshall & Arson Investigator

Mark Flathouse — FBC Fire Marshall

Office of Emergency Management (OEM)

Kathy Renfrow — FBC OEM

Mel Speed — FBC OEM

Gary Tilton — FBC Fire Marshall

Places / Businesses

Fort Bend County (FBC) Jail

FBC Detention Center

FBC Office of Emergency Management

FBC Fire Marshalls Office

FBC Fire Marshall

Richmond, Texas

Pecan Grove, Texas

Events

Baker hired as an arson investigator in FBC Fire Marshall's Office (1998).

His office was located in a former jail cell. He and staff became accustomed to strange noises at all hours of the day and night including several hundred pound doors opening and slamming shut.

Robert is still employed as a fire investigator but works in another building.