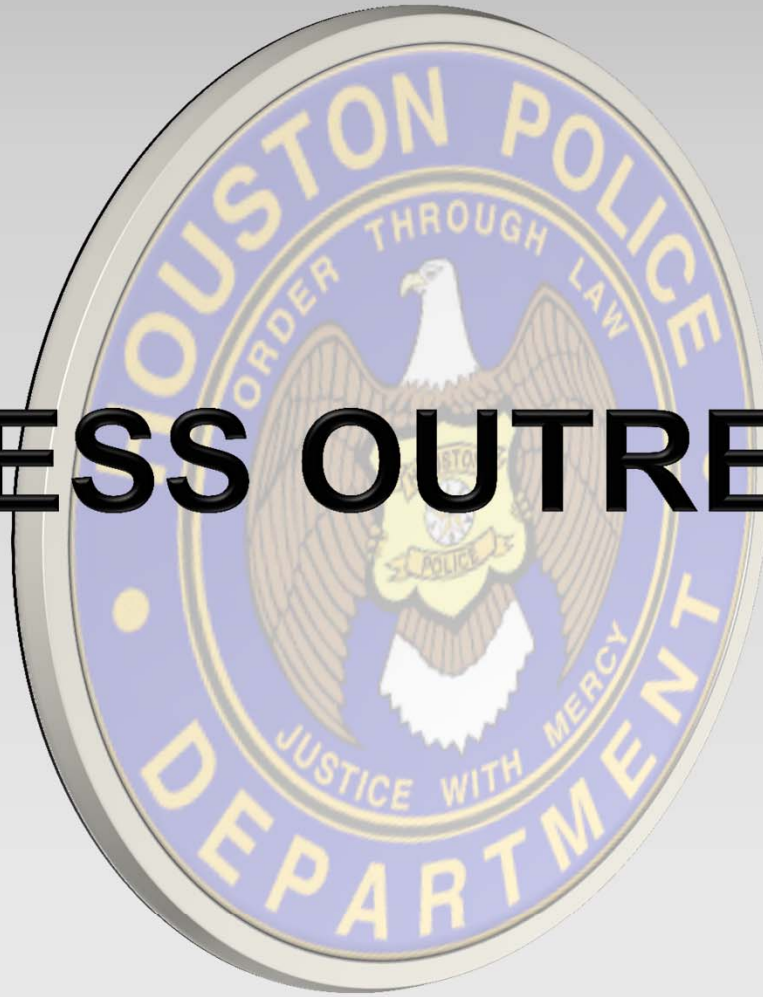


MENTAL HEALTH DIVISION

HOMELESS OUTREACH TEAM



*Presented by
Sergeant Steve Wick*



Homeless Outreach Team





Homeless Outreach Team

- <http://nationswell.com/houston-homeless-outreach-team-community-oriented-policing/>



HOMELESS OUTREACH TEAM

Mission Statement

To improve the quality of life for all Houstonians by combining police and community resources in an effort to reduce the number of people who are living on the streets.



HOMELESS OUTREACH TEAM

Defined

- ❖ Specialized team of Houston police officers and mental health caseworkers
- ❖ Engage in street outreach to homeless community
- ❖ Relationship focused
- ❖ Goal to reduce number of people living on streets by helping them overcome personal obstacles
- ❖ Working relationship with homeless, government agencies and provider community



HOMELESS OUTREACH TEAM

Sergeant Stephen F. Wick

Senior Police Officer Colin Mansfield

Senior Police Officer Gerardo Alaniz

Officer Janice Terry

Officer Karan Dhooper

Officer John Vogelsang

Officer Sheldon Theragood

Metro Officer Theresa Guerrero

**The Harris Center for Mental Health and IDD
/PATH**

Case Manager Deirdre Kimble-Charles

Case Manager Cami West-Puentes

Case Manager Ashley Mullins



HOMELESS OUTREACH TEAM



The Harris Center for Mental Health and IDD Partnership



HOMELESS OUTREACH TEAM



How we help?

- ❖ **Bridge the divide between the homeless and help.**
- ❖ **Figure out the why of a person's homelessness.**
- ❖ **Works with agencies to remove barriers and help homeless re-integrate into society.**
- ❖ **"Shepherding them through the system"**



HOMELESS OUTREACH TEAM


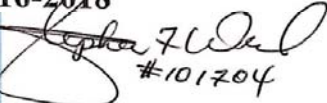
IDENTIFICATION LETTERS

 From the desk of
Stephen F. Wick
Tuesday, October 11, 2016 



To: **Whom it may concern**
Subject: **Identification of Terry Lamonte [REDACTED]**

The listed identification on this document was obtained from the Houston Police Department's Records Management System.

Terry Lamonte [REDACTED]
B/M 08-16-1963, 5'06, 150 lbs., Blk/Brn
Texas Identification Card #227[REDACTED]
Expires: 08-16-2018

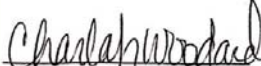
 
#101704

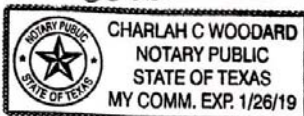
HOUSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

 Sergeant
Stephen F. Wick
Homeless Outreach Team
Mental Health Division 

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me. My e-mail at work is Steve.Wick@HoustonPolice.org

This document has been subscribed and affirmed before me in the County of **Harris, State of Texas**, this 14th day of October, 2016.


Notary's Signature & Seal
200/10.10.F02 Rev 1 (2-18-2015)

 **CHARLAH C WOODARD**
NOTARY PUBLIC
STATE OF TEXAS
MY COMM. EXP. 1/26/19



HOMELESS OUTREACH TEAM

Who we work with:

- ❖ SEARCH Homeless Services
- ❖ Lords of the Street
- ❖ Star of Hope
- ❖ Salvation Army
- ❖ Healthcare for the Homeless
- ❖ Beacon
- ❖ Downtown Business District
- ❖ Open Door Mission
- ❖ U.S. Vets
- ❖ Coalition of the Homeless
- ❖ Area churches





HOMELESS OUTREACH TEAM

Government Agencies :

- ❖ Houston Police Department
- ❖ Harris County Sheriff
- ❖ Veterans Affairs
- ❖ Department of Public Safety
- ❖ Harris County District Attorney
- ❖ Bureau of Vital Statistics





HOMELESS OUTREACH TEAM

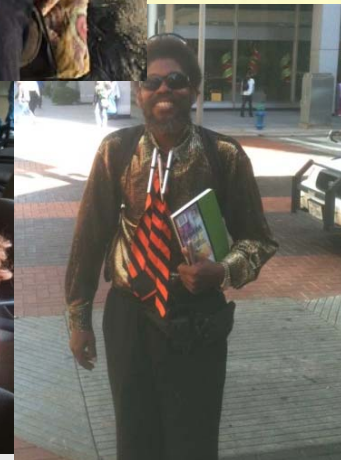
Camps





HOMELESS OUTREACH TEAM

Challenges







KUSH



Use of synthetic cannabinoids

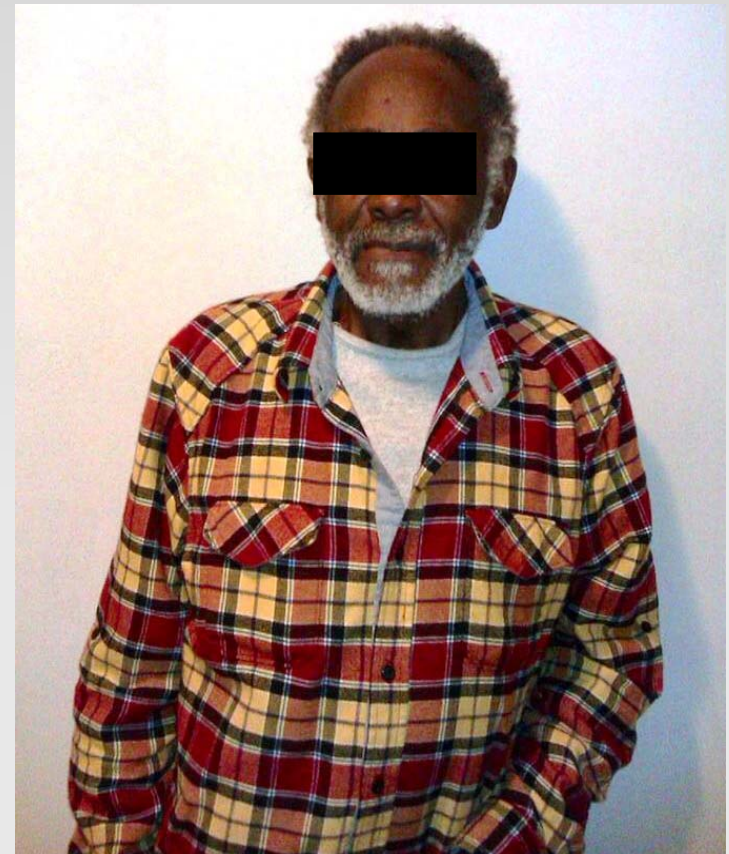




HOMELESS OUTREACH TEAM

Curtis H.

- ❖ Works for handouts
- ❖ Delusional
- ❖ Real identity unknown
- ❖ Team developed relationship with Curtis
- ❖ Health declined
- ❖ Hospital transports as “John Doe”
- ❖ Finally learned his identity
- ❖ Enable Curtis to be placed in personal care home
- ❖ Social Security benefits
- ❖ Curtis is now happy, reasonably healthy and productive



Felicia

- T.B.I because of auto/pedestrian. Accident
- Incontinent and wheel chair bound.
- History of mental illness, labile affect, no insight into need for treatment
- Dozens of hospitalizations and A.P.S. referrals through the years
- Referred to Harris County Guardianship but needed capacity assessment.
- Transported to Ben Taub Hospital on an E.D.O., officer spent 13 hrs. only to release her when officer left.
- Found her again and able to get her to voluntary go to a new psychiatric facility.
- Had a melt down at facility and had to be rerouted to Houston N/W medical center stabilized and sent back to Cypress Creek Hospital.
- Dr. Brooker from Cypress Creek did a capacity assessment and referred her for guardianship.
- Transferred to assisted living facility.





HOMELESS OUTREACH TEAM

Teresa

- Amputee confined to a wheel chair
- Fiercely independent but paranoid
- Refuses to acknowledge her mental illness
- The team gradually built a relationship in order to help her overcome her barriers
- Because of her paranoia she is difficult to help
- Housed on two occasions but she moves out
- Currently living on the streets but we will to continue to try to help her.

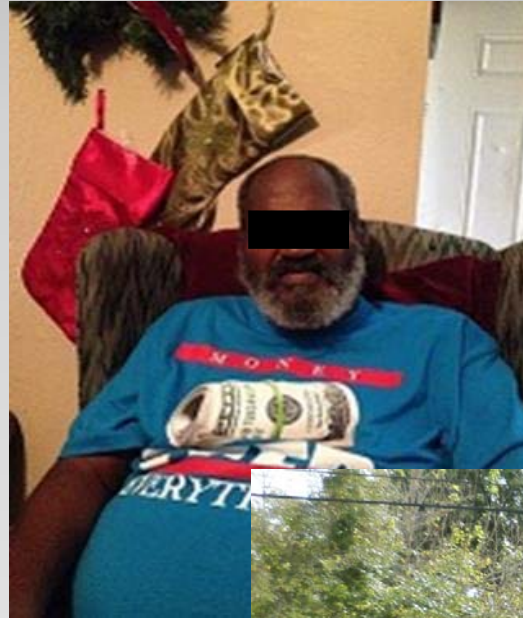




Homeless Outreach Team

Robert

- ❑ Living under bridge next to bayou for decades.
- ❑ Delusional-waiting on McDonalds millions
- ❑ Treated infected foot wound with Preparation H. No insight
- ❑ Positive TB test, H.H.H. said he needed to be hospitalized.
- ❑ Emergency Room for 5 hrs., HOT advocated, ER tried to send home thrice, Eventually admitted.
- ❑ HOT worked with hospital so Robert wouldn't be discharged to streets.
- ❑ HOT assisted with move to personal care home.





Homeless Outreach Team

Quintus

- ❑ Quintus is 75 years old, going blind, and living under the bridge.
- ❑ Got sick, eye sight deteriorating, unable to maintain hygiene.
- ❑ Helped with ID, SSI, Medical Issues, Banking
- ❑ Finally able to get him housed.





■ HOMELESS OUTREACH TEAM

Darlene

- ❑ HOT received report of lady living in a shopping cart.
- ❑ Anxious and difficult to engage.
- ❑ Depression with psychosis, delusional issues
- ❑ HOT advocated
- ❑ Turning Point but mental health issues made situation challenging
- ❑ Mental health issues stabilized
- ❑ Personal care home
- ❑ Stable/Apt./Car





HOMELESS OUTREACH TEAM

Matthew C.

- Thought to be intoxicated and transported to the Sobering Center
- Mental illness recognized by HOT and diverted to NPC
- Approximately a month later, a smiling Matthew approached officers
- His old boss in Indiana was sending him a bus ticket and said that he could have his old job back
- Thanked HOT for intervening and helping him turn his life around



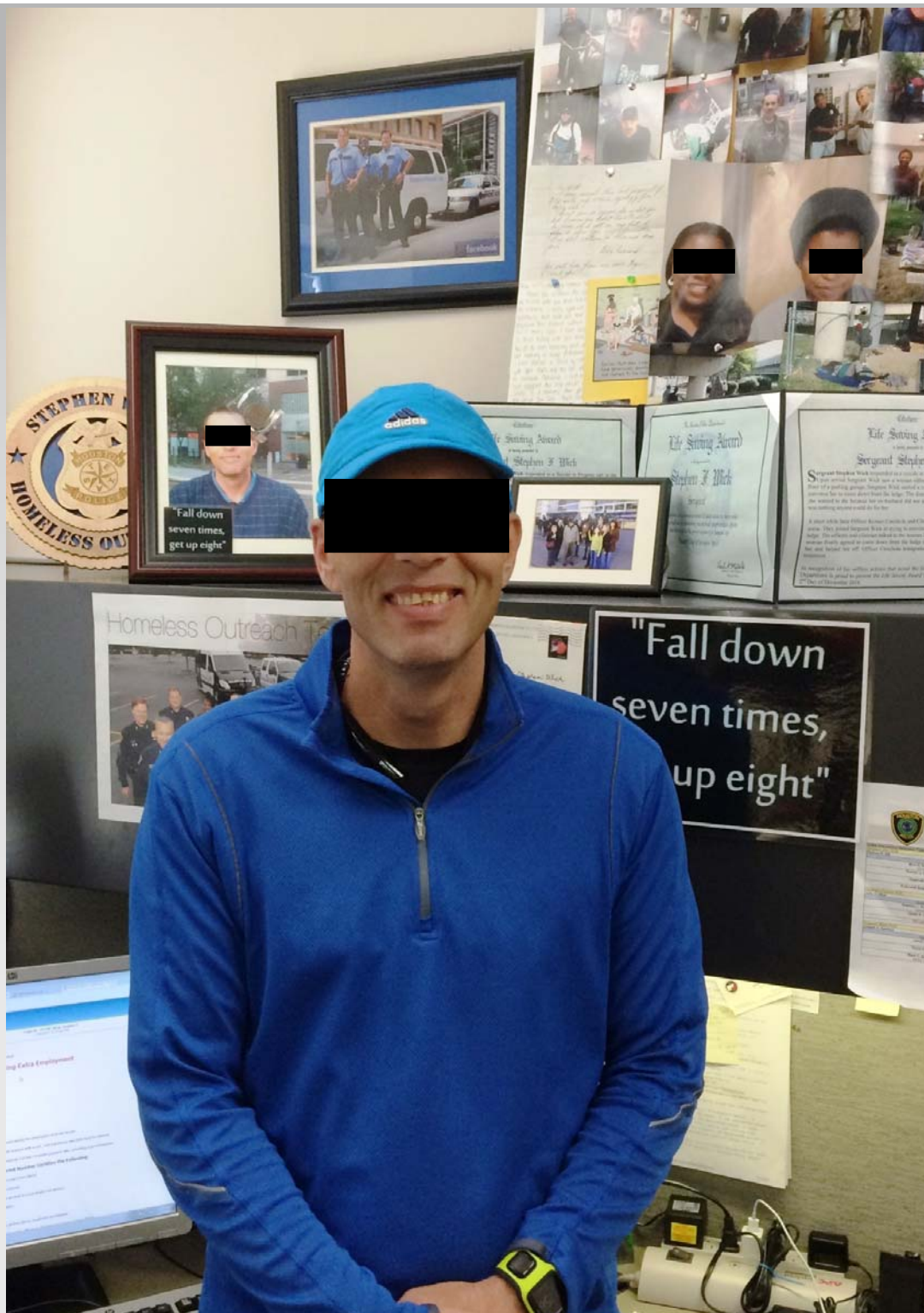


Homeless Outreach Team

Bob

- ❑ Honorably discharged veteran
- ❑ Chronic alcoholic for more than ten years
- ❑ HOT began working with Bob on his issues
- ❑ Bob decided that he was ready to change his life.
- ❑ Detoxing so bad unable to do paperwork at VA
- ❑ Traded unhealthy addiction for healthy.
- ❑ Started to run, fun runs first, then marathons. Ran six last year, including Boston and Woodland's Ironman.
- ❑ Three years, clean and sober







HOMELESS OUTREACH TEAM

How to Contact Us

**Mental Health Division / Homeless
Outreach Team**

150 N. Chenevert Suite 200

Houston, Texas 77002

832-394-4200 (Office)

832-394-4202 (Fax)

HPD.HOT@Houstonpolice.org



QUESTIONS?

