

Jack L. Ryle Scholastic Scholarship Recipients



Pictured left to right: Erwin Ballarta, TPA Executive Director, TPA Past President Paul Thompson, Kaylee Fite, Carli Fite, and TPA Member Sergeant Keven Fite from the Tyler Police Department



Pictured left to right: Erwin Ballarta, TPA Executive Director, TPA Past President Paul Thompson, Caroline Tandy, TPA Member Captain Rodney Tandy from Texas DPS, Emily Tandy, and Stacie Tandy

Jack L. Ryle served as the Executive Director of the Texas Police Association from 1992 until 1998. Jack began his law enforcement career in 1954 as a police officer with the McAllen, Texas Police Department. He moved to Abilene, Texas Police Department in 1959 and served with that agency until 1970. During his tenure there, he earned a Bachelor's Degree from Hardin-Simmons University and was an instructor and coordinator in their Criminal Justice Program.

He then accepted a position with the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education (TCLEOSE) in 1970 where he performed many valuable services, including the development of recommended curricula for College and University Criminal Justice Programs. When the State Legislature created the Law Enforcement Management Institute of Texas (LEMIT) as a function of TCLEOSE, Jack was selected to head the program. He was instrumental in structuring the program and served as manager of the Institute until it was transferred to Sam Houston State University.

In his honor, the Texas Police Association created the Jack L. Ryle Scholastic Scholarship to assist TPA Members' children who are embarking on a college, university, or trade school educational program.

We are pleased to announce the following recipients for the first presentation of this Scholarship:

Elijah Usher – Parent – April Galvan, Texas DPS, Retired

Elijah plans to attend Texas Luther University in Seguin, Texas beginning August 2025. Major Field of Study – Business

Aidan Barnhill – Parent – Terry Barnhill, Texas DPS, Sergeant

Aidan plans to attend the University of Texas in San Antonio in San Antonio, Texas beginning September 2025. Major Field of Study – Cybersecurity

Karlee Shay Fite – Parent – Keven Fite, Tyler Police Department, Sergeant

Karlee plans to attend Tyler Junior College in Tyler, Texas beginning in the Fall of 2025. Major Field of Study – Journalism

Caroline Tandy – Parent – Rodney Tandy, Texas DPS, Captain

Caroline plans to attend the University of Texas at Tyler in Tyler, Texas beginning in August 2025. Major Field of Study – Biochemistry