



# TEXAS TIDBITS

TEXAS ABATE CONFEDERATION, INC

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## Upcoming Events

### STATE:

- **11/02/19 MEETING**, 1 pm  
Mr. Porky's, Denton

### ARLINGTON:

- **3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday at 12 noon**  
VFW Post 6111  
1200 W Harris Street  
Arlington 76018
- **10/05/19 [1<sup>st</sup> Responder Appreciation Lunch](#)**
- **11/17/19 [Bikers Giving Back](#)**
- **12/07/19 [Christmas Party & Raffle](#)**

### DENTON:

- **4<sup>th</sup> Sunday at 2:00 pm**  
Mr. Porky's  
8430 W University Drive  
Denton 76207
- All 2019 Events Cancelled

### LAKE CITIES:

- **2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday at 1:00 pm**  
VFW Post 10460  
501 Thompson Drive  
Lake Dallas 75065
- **12/08/19 [Raffle](#)**

### TEXOMA:

- **3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday at 1:00 pm**  
American Legion Post 62  
419 Crawford Street  
Denison 75020
- **10/4-10/6/19 [Real Fun Poker Run](#)**
- **Nov (TBD) [Freedom Run](#)**
- **Dec (TBD) [Christmas Party](#)**

*current topics >>>*

## MEMBERSHIP...

As your State Membership Officer, I am looking forward to working with every Chapter and every ABATE member in the state of Texas. My motto is the three (3) C's – "Communications, Collaboration, and Cooperation". I believe we have to practice all three (3) C's to build our membership and make Texas ABATE the strong organization as it has been in the past.

I cannot do this by myself, but I am certainly going to do the best I can to promote Texas ABATE every chance I get. Through communications, we can keep our members better informed; through collaboration, we can work together towards a common goal; and with everyone's cooperation and participation Texas ABATE will once again be a strong MRO in the State of Texas.

Below is how Texas ABATE has grown, so far this year:

### 2019 NEW ABATE MEMBERS

Total Number of New Members by Chapter & Independents

CHAPTER	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL
ARLINGTON	2	4	1	1
DENTON	0	0	0	0
LAKE CITIES	3	6	4	7
TEXOMA	2	2	13	2
INDEPENDENTS	0	1	0	3
CHAPTER	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST
ARLINGTON	0	5	2	2
DENTON	0	0	1	1
LAKE CITIES	2	7	6	2
TEXOMA	2	8	1	2
INDEPENDENTS	3	0	5	1

**"Thank You and Welcome to ABATE"**  
Robber Crowdis, State Membership Officer





# Legislative Report Skee Dodson, State Legislative Officer, Texas Abate Confederation, Inc.

The Texas 86<sup>th</sup> legislative session is now history, and as noted in previous articles.... We overwhelmingly defeated the mandatory helmet bill – HB 748, filed by Rep. Neave of D-107. What most riders didn't realize, was that if this bill had passed, it would have set Texas back at least 40 years in motorcycle rights legislation! Texas ABATE considers our last legislative session a success, and we remain a "freedom of choice state"!

Unfortunately, Texas bikers had little luck introducing a motorcycle profiling bill this legislative session. Motorcycle profiling in Texas, since May 2015 (Waco massacre) has reached epidemic levels (Motorcycle Profiling Project - MPP). Texas is #2 in the Nation for reported motorcycle profiling (2018 MPP survey). Many legislators tend to agree that profiling is going on, and many argue that profiling is unconstitutional; however, a vast majority of lawmakers are concerned that bringing awareness to profiling would take away some of the "tools" that law enforcement have available to them (wait, what?). It is time for a different mindset in our judicial system, and it is time for Texas to come up with some legislative relief! This legislative session may be over, but Texas freedom fighters are already looking forward to the 87<sup>th</sup> legislative session in 2021!

Talk about bringing awareness to Texas profiling, did you hear that the San Antonio police were citing individuals for wearing MC colors in public –stating that it is a crime? I'm embarrassed that this happened in Texas, but I'm not surprised. In July of 2019, members of a local motorcycle club were cited for "disturbing the peace" – only for displaying their cuts in public (public display of "gang" colors). I can't make this stuff up; read about it here:

[https://www.motorcycleprofilingproject.com/san-antonio-police-say-wearing-mc-colors-in-public-is-crime/?fbclid=IwAR2nZpw2AdJ-W\\_yhEOf231ihzrh9zPJ7uG2l-7QSfiGu022g-xC1Cl1qyAQ](https://www.motorcycleprofilingproject.com/san-antonio-police-say-wearing-mc-colors-in-public-is-crime/?fbclid=IwAR2nZpw2AdJ-W_yhEOf231ihzrh9zPJ7uG2l-7QSfiGu022g-xC1Cl1qyAQ)



The courts already recognize that our 1st amendment rights protect freedom of expression. Moreover, as Double D points out in the article above, "wearing motorcycle club colors is not reasonable suspicion of a traffic infraction or criminal activity, which is the minimal threshold for a seizure under the 4<sup>th</sup> Amendment". The **Texas Council of Clubs & Independents (COC&I)** urges all bikers to report any violations, or motorcycle profiling, that you may encounter - preferably with videos (which can be critical to cases like the one above). **Ride, Record, Report!** Texas ABATE also has a Facebook link to report mc profiling at <https://www.facebook.com/TexasABATELegislative>.

On, or about, August 24<sup>th</sup> of 2019 the "disturbing the peace" case was dismissed. As defense attorney Milly Thompson stated in a letter addressed to San Antonio law enforcement: "Someone needed to explain the First Amendment to the officer that issued the citation." The First Amendment protects our freedom to associate, regardless how popular it is with law enforcement. Presently, we have a federal bipartisan house resolution, H.Res. 255, that addresses motorcycle profiling. This Motorcycle Anti-Profilng Resolution will promote awareness of profiling and encourage communication between law enforcement and the motorcycling community. The US Senate passed an identical resolution last session - by unanimous consent! Contact your U.S. house representatives, and ask them to support this bill by co-sponsoring it. The Motorcycle Riders Foundation (MRF) makes it easy to take action with a link on the MRF website - and it only take a minute. Take action here:

<https://mrf.org/federal-legislative-issues/>

As I'm writing this, I am getting ready for my trip to attend the 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Motorcycle Riders Foundation' Meeting of the Minds in Minneapolis, Minnesota. This promises to be an awesome event, and 5 Texas ABATE members are going to Minnesota to participate in the event! It will be great to be in the same room with so many like-minded freedom fighters again! Stay tuned... Ride safe, ride free. *Skeedaddy*

## All Politics are Local (continued from previous publication) Nasty, Asst. Coordinator, Arlington

Let's see, in local education they are picking the Superintendent, local bond committee, boundary committee, and, my personal favorite, The Financial Futures Committee. Money, taxes, those who have the gold – make the rules. I did them all. As a member of the financial committee, we were tasked with advising how to make up a 25-million-dollar gap in the following year's budget. This is in a very austere district. I, personally, made successful initiatives to defer a half million dollars in Football uniform purchases. With another member and the Transportation Director, devised a way to hold off millions of needed bus purchases by offsetting School starting times to utilize the existing fleet more efficiently. We managed to reduce the shortfall, as a group, to about ten million. That exhausted all our options, which was 6 cents per thousand-dollar assessment. That was the most we could raise it without triggering putting it on the local ballot. Not popular. Remember, I did this myself. Talk about personal impact.

This is just one of the many examples I can give you. You can do so much as an individual, that impacts all of us directly, with little time commitment. Most of us, thanks to our training and support of ABATE, are ready. In addition, what does it look like if a bunch of Bikers show to a meeting of suits? An army. Bum rush them. It works! When they need experts on our issues, guess who they go to? US! That's who. Real power, folks.

I, along with some others, have successfully used Ol' Tip's words, and made it work for us. Even if issues don't go our way, we go on record in dissent. That's influence, too. But that's another article.

Submitted with much Respect, Nasty.

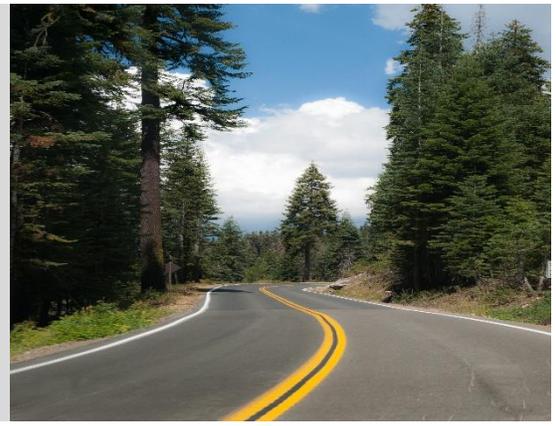




# *final*thoughts...

Do you know what is going on in your community? How do you find out? Volunteer. Talk to leaders in your community. What are the “hot” topics of conversation? Do your leaders roll up their sleeves and get in the trenches? Or do they like their “suit and tie” along with their corner office? Ask questions! Give them your input. Let them know where you stand on certain agendas. Will they support what you believe is important? They represent YOU! **Find out who they are...**

<https://fyi.capitol.texas.gov/Home.aspx>



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Texas Abate Confederation, Inc, is a not-for-profit, motorcycle rights organization. An alliance dedicated to the protection of the individual rights of motorcyclists through political change and awareness, charitable works, public education and the promotion of motorcycling.

***Dedicated to Freedom of the Road***

***In Hope of Promoting a Better Relationship with the Public for Motorcycle Awareness.***