



Robert Rankin Chapter #62 Public Service Awards

*Cy-Fair Houston Chamber of Commerce
First Responder Honoree of the Month*

March 17, 2026

Texas Dept. of Public Safety



L-R Compatriot Allen Perkins, Corporal Caleb Rozypal, Sergeant Manuel Gracia, Trooper Lucia Gracia, Honoree Trooper Lavan Shaanah, Sergeant Michael Aftosmes, and Compatriot Tom Jackson.

Trooper Shaanah received the SAR Law Enforcement Medal and Certificate and all members of the Texas DPS pictured above received a Certificate of Appreciation for Covid Heroic Service.

Submitted by Captain Carl Currie:

On May 9, 2025, Trooper Lavan Shaanah was assigned to a special security detail in North Harris County when he became aware of an active pursuit involving a stolen vehicle whose driver was operating in an extremely reckless manner by driving into oncoming traffic, forcing motorists off the roadway, and colliding with another vehicle while fleeing law enforcement.

As the pursuit approached an area near two elementary schools during afternoon dismissal, Trooper Shaanah quickly recognized the heightened danger to school buses, pedestrians, and the surrounding community. When the suspect slowed behind a school bus, Trooper Shaanah identified a critical opportunity to intervene and prevent further harm.

Demonstrating decisive action and sound judgment, Trooper Shaanah used his patrol vehicle to make controlled contact with the suspect vehicle, safely bringing the pursuit to an end.

Trooper Shaanah's swift actions prevented further risk to the public and exemplify the highest standards of professionalism, courage, and commitment to protecting the citizens of Texas.