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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **CHIEF PUBLIC DEFENDER RE-APPOINTED TO TIDC GOVERNING BOARD**

*Alexander Bunin, Chief Public Defender of Harris County, re-appointed*

AUSTIN, TEXAS, April 25, 2019 – Chief Public Defender Alexander Bunin was unanimously confirmed by the Senate on April 24<sup>th</sup> to serve on the Governing Board of the Texas Indigent Defense Commission (TIDC). He was reappointed to the Commission on May 20<sup>th</sup> by Governor Greg Abbott.

A public defense attorney for over 30 years, Mr. Bunin has led the Harris County Public Defender Office for the last nine. He was first appointed to TIDC in 2017.

“We’re grateful to have Mr. Bunin’s leadership in the field, as well as at the Commission,” Executive Director Geoff Burkhardt said. “We look forward to working with Chief Bunin for years to come.”

During his confirmation hearing, Mr. Bunin stressed the importance of investing resources in rural areas. In response, Senator Lois Kolkhorst stated, “I want to thank you for your statement on public defender offices in rural areas. It’s something we’ve been working on to look to control costs for indigent defense. But more importantly, some of the studies that are coming out [show] that they actually are more effective.”

The Texas Indigent Defense Commission provides financial and technical support to counties to develop and maintain quality, cost-effective indigent defense systems that meet the needs of local communities and the requirements of the Constitution and state law. More information is available at [www.tidc.texas.gov](http://www.tidc.texas.gov). For more information about the Harris County Public Defender’s Office, please visit: <http://harriscountypublicdefender.org/>.