

Dr. Richard Watkins
Texas Department of Criminal Justice
Huntsville, TX

Dr. Richard Kimball Watkins was the senior warden of a 2000-bed correctional facility where he was responsible for the conduct of 500 employees and the annual budget of \$9.3 million until his retirement in 2005. Dr. Watkins is a decorated Vietnam veteran pilot who received the Purple Heart Medal and the Air Medal. As a Captain, Watkins' helicopter was shot down, and he was listed as missing in action for a short time.

In 1984, the executive director of the Texas prison system recruited Dr. Watkins to re-design the correctional officer's training program to make it comply with a federal court order. For the last ten years of his career in corrections, he served as a senior prison warden.

Watkins and his wife operate a training and management consulting firm. He is currently Criminal Justice Committee Chair for the Texas State Conference of the N.A.A.C.P. and Chair and co-founder of the Windsor Village United Methodist Church's Veterans Support and Assistance Program.

Watkins received his doctorate in educational leadership from Nova Southeastern University in 1995, his master's degree in business administration from Texas Southern University in 1975, and his B.S. in Animal Science from Prairie View A&M University in 1965.

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