

Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum Educational Resources



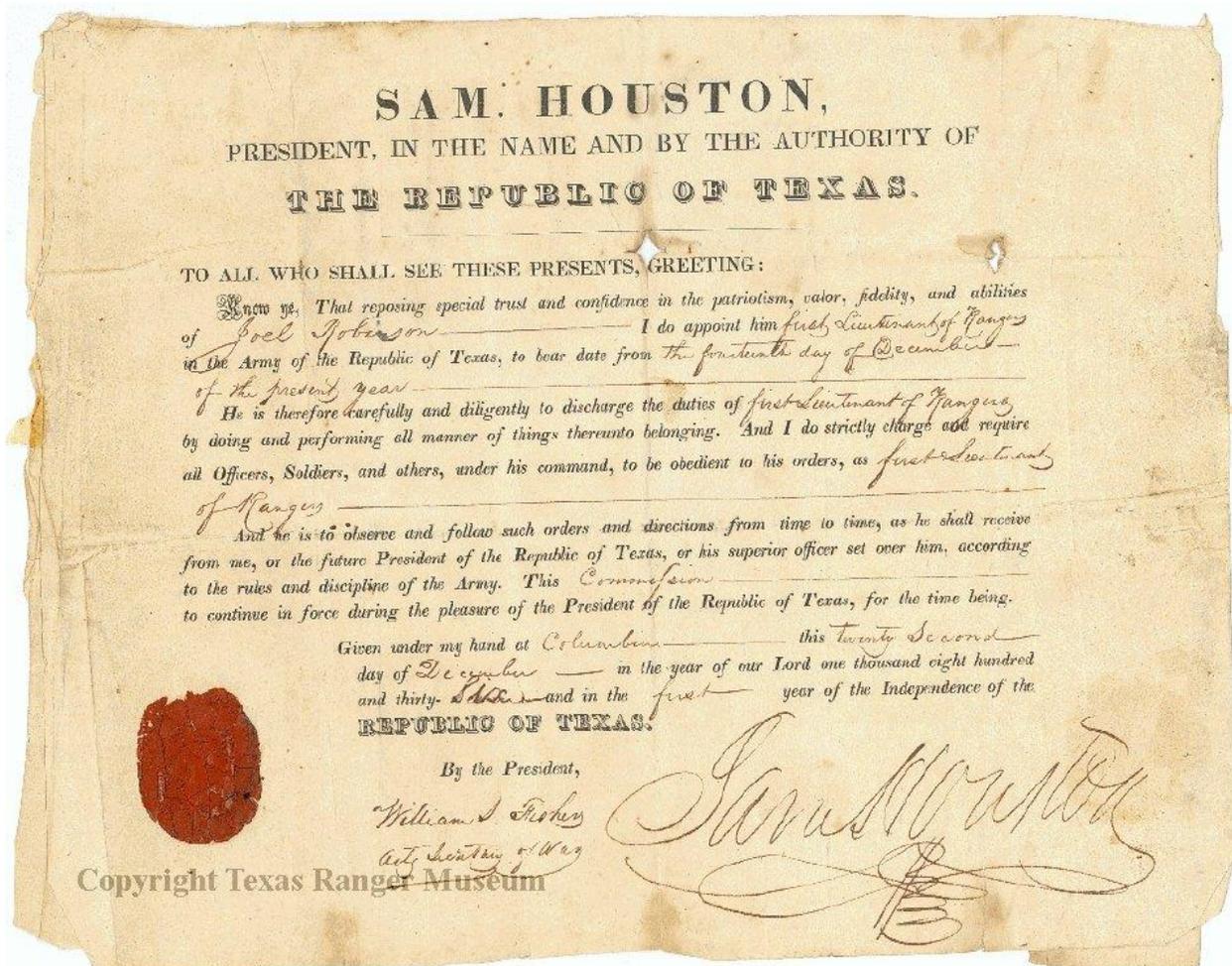
Artifact Spotlight: Ranger Commission for Joel Robison

Written by TRHFM Staff

The following article has been adapted from the former website of the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum.

Artifact Spotlight

Ranger Commission for Joel Robison



Ranger Commission for First Lieutenant Joel Robison
Signed by President Sam Houston, The Republic of Texas, December 22, 1836
Promotion for participating in the capture of General Antonio López de Santa Anna, following the
Battle of San Jacinto.
Gift of Margaret Hickman / Catalog# 2013.022

In May of 2013, the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum's Tobin and Anne Armstrong Texas Ranger Research Center received a generous gift from Margaret Hickman. Mrs. Hickman, of Maryland, donated a Ranger Commission for First Lieutenant Joel Robison signed by President Sam Houston, The Republic of Texas on December 22, 1836. Joel Robison moved to Texas with his parents and sister in 1831 and settled first near Columbia in Brazoria County. With his father, he served in Captain Henry Stevenson Brown's company at the Battle of Velasco on June 26, 1832. Later, Robison would become a volunteer Indian fighter in the company of Captain John York. Robison is purportedly the last messenger from the Alamo; he bore a dispatch dated February 24, 1836. At the Battle of San Jacinto, he was a private in Captain William Jones Elliot Heard's Company

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F of Colonel Edward Burleson's First Regiment, Texas Volunteers, and was one of the party that captured Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna.

Mrs. Hickman, the great-great-great granddaughter of Robison, was accompanied on the trip to Waco by her husband Martin and her mother Ms. Charlotte Lloyd who is the great-great granddaughter of Robison. The Ranger Commission was formally presented to the Museum on May 3, 2013. The text of this important historic document follows.

SAM HOUSTON,

*PRESIDENT, IN THE NAME AND BY THE AUTHORITY OF
THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS.*

TO ALL WHO SHALL SEE THESE PRESENTS, GREETING:

Know ye, that reposing special trust and confidence in the patriotism, valor, fidelity, and abilities of Joel Robison I do appoint him first Lieutenant of Rangers in the Army of the Republic of Texas, to bear date from the fourteenth of December of the present year.

He is therefore carefully and diligently to discharge the duties of first Lieutenant of Rangers by doing and performing all manner of things thereunto belonging. And I do strictly charge and require all Officers, Soldiers, and others, under his command, to be obedient to his orders, as first Lieutenant of Rangers.

And he is to observe and follow such orders and directions from time to time, as he shall receive from me, or the future President of the Republic of Texas, or his superior officer set over him, according to the rules and discipline of the Army. This Commission to continue in force during the pleasure of the President of the Republic of Texas, for the time being.

*Given under my hand at Columbia this twenty-second day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-six and in the first year of the Independence of the
REPUBLIC OF TEXAS.*

By the President,

Sam Houston

William S. Fisher

Acting Secretary of War

