



## Rawhide Ranger, IRA Aten: Enforcing Law on the Texas Frontier

By Bob Alexander

University of North Texas Press, U.S. Hardback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Rawhide Ranger, IRA Aten: Enforcing Law on the Texas Frontier, Bob Alexander, Winner of the Best Book Award from the Wild West History Association, 2012. Ira Aten (1862-1953) was the epitome of a frontier lawman. When as a youth he heard of the killing by Rangers of the notorious outlaw Sam Bass at Round Rock, Aten's neighborhood, he altered his plans of being a cowboy and instead set his sights on becoming a Texas Ranger. At age twenty he enrolled in Company D during the transition of the Rangers from Indian fighters to topnotch peace officers. This unit--and Aten--would have a lively time making their mark in nineteenth-century Texas. The preponderance of Texas Ranger treatments center on the outfit as an institution or spotlight the narratives of specific captains. Bob Alexander aptly demonstrated in "Winchester Warriors: Texas Rangers of Company D, 1874-1901" that there is merit in probing the lives of everyday working Rangers. Aten is an ideal example. The years Ira spent as a Ranger are jam-packed with adventure, border troubles, shoot-outs, solving major crimes--a quadruple homicide--and manhunts. Aten's role in these and epochal Texas events such as...



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