



The official monthly publication of the Alabama Department of Public Safety

# THE BLUE LIGHT



## March 2008

THE HONORABLE BOB RILEY  
*Governor*

COLONEL J. CHRISTOPHER MURPHY  
*Director*

LT. COLONEL F.A. BINGHAM  
*Assistant Director*

MAJOR JERRY CONNER  
*ABI Division*

MAJOR JAMES LYONS  
*Administrative Division*

MAJOR HUGH MCCALL  
*Driver License Division*

MAJOR ROSCOE HOWELL  
*Highway Patrol Division*

MAJOR HERMAN WRIGHT  
*Protective Services Division*

MAJOR CHARLES ANDREWS  
*Service Division*

# Restoring Order



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# The Colonel's Corner

Col. J. Christopher Murphy, Director



**A**s I write for the March edition of *The Blue Light*, the response to the tornado in Prattville is fresh on my mind. Five of our DPS families were directly touched by this devastating storm. Lt. Karl Wade, ESO Eddie Rushton and Forensic Technology Examiner Laurie Evans had the most significant losses. Lt. Tim Pullin had substantial damage, and Tpr. Sam Rowlin and Lt. Col. Bubba Bingham had damage to the exteriors of their homes and out-buildings. We all thank the Lord for their safety. It is a miracle that there was no loss of life, particularly as you see the destruction to both commercial and residential property.

I want to take this opportunity to publicly commend the phenomenal DPS response. Maj. Roscoe Howell and his staff, as well as Capt. Neil Tew, led the response effort and did a wonderful job. The professional and timely response from DPS — nearly 100 strong — was complimented by Gov. Bob Riley, Speaker Seth Hammett, and many other state and local officials. One of the most significant comments came from Prattville Mayor Jim Byard. The mayor personally told me that he had never experienced a tornado, and in those first moments after the storm passed, it was bedlam. But within the hour, the mayor saw troopers arrive and the DPS command post, and he said he knew everything was going to be OK. And on the last page of *The Blue Light*, you'll see a letter from a resident of Prattville, who makes clear what the DPS response meant to her. Folks, this was one of our finest hours. You responded quickly, you worked long hours, you brought security and comfort to your fellow citizens, and you never once complained. This is how the people of Alabama should see us. You are the guys in the white hats, the heroes, and I am so very proud of you. You make it such an honor to serve as the director of the Alabama Department of Public Safety. Thank you!



***Byard with Murphy and Howell at mobile command, following the tornado in Prattville.***

# The Colonel's Corner (CONTINUED)

As you all know, we have announced that as of March 1, Capt. Jerry Conner will be Maj. Conner, division chief of ABI. Capt. Herman Wright will be Maj. Wright and division chief of Protective Services. Capt. James Lyons will leave the Mobile Troop and become Maj. Lyons, division chief of the Administrative Division. I am very excited that these gentlemen will be joining my command staff and believe they will be excellent leaders. I appreciate all who competed and have committed themselves to leading.

The 2008 legislative session is now under way, and there are several issues that will have a significant impact on DPS. First is our 2009 budget. As you know, the financial forecast is very, very bleak for 2009. Gov. Riley has submitted a good, solid budget for us that will allow us to be slightly above level funding. That is very positive, with the prediction of budget cuts looming. It also includes a generous transfer of funds from ALDOT, and I am very appreciative of Director Joe McInnes. We both understand our jobs as keeping our roadways safe: ALDOT's, in road design and construction; ours, in enforcement. With the reduction of crashes, injuries, and fatalities, we are being successful in this mission; and I appreciate our partnership with ALDOT. This budget still has to pass in the House and Senate, however, and it will be something we will have to work on constantly until passed.

Second, we must repeal the Motor Carrier Safety law passed with ALFA's urging last year. We have received official notification that we will lose all federal FMC funding this summer if the law is not changed. Gov. Riley, Executive Counsel Michael Robinson, MCSU troopers, the lieutenant colonel and I have all worked very hard this entire last year to secure as many exemptions as possible and still remain in compliance with federal regulations. The Motor Carrier Safety Administration — from Division Administrator Judy Van Luchene here in Montgomery, all the way to Administrator John Hill in Washington, D.C. — has worked strongly and cooperatively with us. Gov. Riley has communicated with the U.S. secretary of Transportation on this issue, and many in the Legislature are working with us. They fully understand the negative impact to this state both financially and, even more importantly, in terms of safety if this law is not overturned and replaced with legislation that is compliant. We believe we have such a bill and are working hard to fully educate our legislators about this matter. Although there is still a great deal of misinformation to combat, we are cautiously optimistic that the new, compliant legislation will gain passage.

Additional issues on the legislative front include several versions of "interlock" bills that would apply to DUI offenders. We have worked with Forensic Sciences, the Chiefs of Police Association, the Sheriffs Association, and the District Attorney's Association to try to provide legislators with a good, workable bill; and it appears that some form of an interlock bill will pass. Other proposed legislation that will affect us and that we support includes bills that address attempting to elude, hidden compartments in motor vehicles, and explosives and explosive devices. My thanks and appreciation go to Andre Reid, Capt. Conner, and Michael Robinson for their work with our Legislature; and special kudos to Fran Copeland for monitoring legislation with a fiscal impact on DPS.

As we begin the third month of the new year, I believe DPS is off to a very promising start. We have leadership in place, we are building on the successes of 2007, and there is progress and new ideas in every division. From one end of our state to the other, your work to make Alabama safer is what continues to move Public Safety forward. Lt. Col. Bingham and I are very appreciative of all that you do.

# DPS PROVIDES AID, SUPPORT TO A HURTING COMMUNITY



**F**or the hundreds of people directly affected by the EF-3 tornado that hit Prattville Feb. 17, it is the generosity and the outpouring of support from others that heals the many wounds caused by such a disaster.

*Above, an aerial photo taken of the swath carved by the EF-3 tornado. Below, Sgt. Tracy Nelson talks to media about DPS involvement in responding to assist the city of Prattville.*

Thankfully, DPS responders were on site within minutes, and as many as 100 troopers, along with PCO's, mechanics and other civilian personnel representing all divisions, were on scene within hours of the tornado to help secure and protect the affected areas.

As the extent of the damage became known, the DPS family breathed a collective sigh of relief to learn that no Public Safety employees had been injured, although several lost their homes and experienced significant damage. The homes of Lt. Karl Wade, ESO Eddie Rushton and Forensic Technology Examiner Laurie Evans were virtually destroyed by the tornado. Lt. Tim Pullin's home received substantial damage, while Tpr. Sam Rowlin and Lt. Col. Bubba Bingham both sustained exterior damage to their homes.

As DPS responded, Maj. Roscoe Howell moved the Mobile Command Post to Prattville, established command by 4 p.m. Sunday, and operated a grueling



shift at mobile command until 1 p.m. the following day. After Howell's long stint at command, on-site duties were taken over first by Maj. Hugh McCall and later by Maj. Charles Andrews. Troopers were stationed at crucial areas of the devastated area. Responding to the scene were troopers from Montgomery, Opelika, Selma, and Alexander City posts. While all divisions responded, those most heavily represented were Highway Patrol and ABI divisions.

Through the early chaos, DPS acted swiftly and absolutely to help restore order to the community. Remarkably, the outpouring of support within the department was so immense that several responders were turned away to assume regular duties, as the extra personnel were simply not needed.

"Our role in the tornado's aftermath is crucial," said Sgt. Brent McElvaine, Montgomery Post sergeant. "We first identify the damaged areas and control access in and out of affected areas, but even more crucial is the constant patrol of affected areas to prevent theft and looting."

While looting was an initial concern from the public following the damaging tornado, there were no reports of occurrences. As McElvaine put it, "Our heavy presence never would have allowed that temptation to even arise."



Even though official operations on site ended at 9 a.m., Tuesday, the Montgomery Post provided the Prattville Police Department and the Autauga County Sheriff's Department with additional assistance in securing and protecting the devastated area.

"The most important thing is that everyone was safe," said McElvaine. "With a disaster so great, I am truly thankful that no one was killed in that tornado. Everyone's safety is the most important thing, and it's no wonder that everyone's safety is precisely our mission at DPS. I'm glad to have been a part of restoring the peace in the aftermath of the storm. All that was lost can be rebuilt, and I'm thankful that was all that was lost."



*Above, the interior of what little remains of Wade's home following the tornado. Below, the exterior of Pullin's home, showing substantial damage to the roof, windows, and landscape.*





## *Take Back Our Highways: 50/4 Takes on Mobile and Baldwin Counties*

“Take Back Our Highways” has taken on several forms since its introduction in August 2007. The latest, “Take Back Our Highways: 50/4,” is a highly strategic, localized effort concentrating on areas recording the greatest numbers of rural traffic deaths in 2007.

“TBOH: 50/4” debuted in February in Mobile and Baldwin counties, which saw a total of 90 rural traffic fatalities last year. The four-day blitz specifically focused on efforts designed to change driving behavior, with the goal of bringing about a reduction in crashes, injuries and fatalities.

During the Feb. 20-24 campaign, troopers made 57 DUI arrests and wrote 1,021 speeding tickets and 601 seat belt violations in Mobile and Baldwin counties. More important, however, is the number of traffic fatalities: Zero.

This next generation of the campaign picks up precisely where the last campaign left off last November. The previous campaigns helped spearhead Public Safety’s work to reverse an escalating statewide fatality rate. At year’s end, Alabama saw 61 fewer rural traffic deaths than the previous year, a decrease in rural crashes of 4 percent, and 10 percent fewer injuries.

Although crash statistics point to safer roadways statewide, DPS is committed to strategically addressing areas with the greatest numbers of rural traffic deaths. In addition to Mobile and Baldwin counties, Chilton, Cullman and Tuscaloosa counties are all on tap for “TBOH: 50/4” campaigns.

“The purpose of ‘Take Back Our Highways’ has always been to save lives,” said Public Safety Director Col. J. Christopher Murphy. “We are trying to get more creative to do just that.”

Whereas previous campaigns focused troopers’ efforts statewide, “TBOH: 50/4” sends 50 additional troopers from throughout the state to supplement area troopers in working a four-day intensive saturation program. Also a first for “TBOH: 50/4” is the incorporation of 24-hour patrols.

The four-day blitz works by specifically targeting driver behavior that leads to crashes. This, coupled with the high visibility of trooper patrols, should have a lasting impact on the focused region to reduce crashes, injuries and fatalities.

In addition to “TBOH: 50/4,” Murphy said Alabama can expect at least one more statewide week-long campaign during 2008. “We have seen a decrease of about 30 rural traffic deaths so far this year, and we will be pulling out all the stops to continue that trend,” he said.



## DPS Legislative Package Update: '08

Outgoing DPS Legislative Liaison and incoming ABI Division Chief Jerry Conner said he hopes the groundwork laid last year in getting to know and working with Alabama's legislators will prove helpful in the 2008 Regular Session.

"When talking to the Legislature, it is my duty to brag about the department, promote it, and pray and hope that good deeds come full circle," said Conner. "I'm hoping this year will be a good one for us, because we are reinforcing the relationships we've had to build from scratch. Of course, the biggest help to us is Col. Chris Murphy. His visibility as chief of the department is unparalleled, and the Legislature obviously responds positively to that."

This year, DPS has seven bills on the agenda to specifically address, two of which affect driver license directly. The first would define what a foreign national is more precisely, and the second would permit the recovery of costs incurred in driver license production.

"Most people don't realize that any change to your license incurs costs, and the measures implemented to offer a more secure document aren't exactly cheap," said Conner.

Another bill of interest to DPS is one that would make illegal the creation of a hidden compartment with intent to conceal.

House Bill 411 specifically addresses explosives, and changes in the technology of bomb production post-9/11. The bill also addresses hoax devices and would offer additional clarification in state law for explosive devices. Right now, Alabama is solely dependant upon federal law in handling issues with explosives.

Another proposed amendment would close a loophole for motorcycle riders, requiring an endorsement specific to motorcycles. Likewise, DPS seeks closure of a loophole disallowing operation of personal transport devices on sidewalks for law enforcement use.

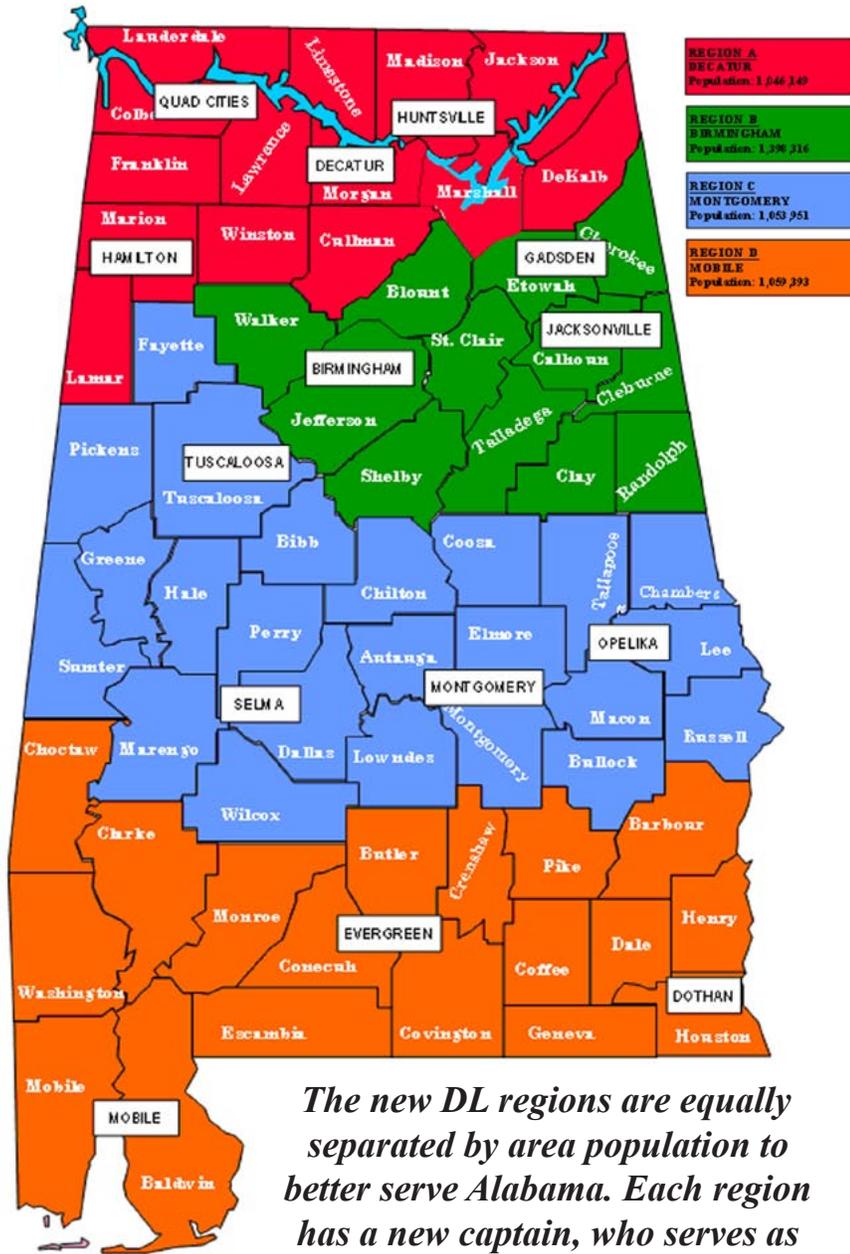
Two additional pieces of legislation of interest to DPS are House Bill 47, which would require all occupants (not just those in the front seat) to wear a seat belt, and House Bill 17, which would make it illegal for teenagers to use cell phones while driving.

Another issue receiving a lot of attention this session is the campaign proposed by Mothers Against Drunk Driving to place ignition interlock devices in cars of DUI offenders. Interlock legislation has been enacted in several states previously, with varying degrees of success, and DPS has worked closely with bill sponsors to construct the best possible solution to implementing such a system in Alabama.

Connor said many other bills may have an impact — positive or negative — on Public Safety, and the department must continually review and monitor proposed legislation.

"Any bill that is passed can have negative repercussions for us, even unknowingly," he said. "We constantly look at the impact of things on DPS and the budget. Twenty-four hour surveillance initiatives may look good on paper, for example, but if no additional funding is provided, you have to ask the question, 'How are we going to pay for it?'"

Conner acknowledged that DPS's fate in this legislative session largely depends on the department's performance and reputation. "It's difficult when the first thing a representative says to you when you approach him is, 'I don't care much for DPS.' Sometimes these people have had a bad run-in with a trooper, or have heard people complain about bad experiences acquiring a driver license. It's hard to overturn the negative, but luckily, complaints with driver license have fallen to almost nothing, and our image is definitely improving. Clearly, what we are doing is working, and I hope better things result."



## New DL Regions Work to Provide Improved Customer Service; New Region Commanders to Assist Chief Examiner

*The new DL regions are equally separated by area population to better serve Alabama. Each region has a new captain, who serves as region commander.*

In a continuing effort to provide better customer service and streamline operations, the Driver License Division reorganized its seven field districts into four new regions effective Feb. 16. The four regions are equally divided by area population, with each region having just more than 1 million residents. Region A is operated out of Decatur, region B out of Birmingham, region C out of Montgomery, and region D out of Mobile.

Perhaps most notable in the transition is the addition of four new captains, in the form of Driver License regional commanders. These new captains occupy highly responsible administrative and supervisory positions, assisting Chief Examiner Capt. Steve Dixon with the command of all 89 Driver License offices statewide.

Named commander of Region A is Capt. Phillip Pettus. Capt. Rufus Washington is the new regional commander for Birmingham, Region B; and Region C is commanded by Capt. Terry Tate. Capt. Thomas Ford was named regional commander for Mobile, Region D.

“Before this reorganization, our highest ranking officer in the field was a lieutenant,” said Maj. Hugh McCall, chief of the Driver License Division. “Now, we have a captain in each region to place command-level officers in the field. This positions us to better serve the public, deal with issues in the field, and answer the difficult questions we must respond to.”

Assistant Division Chief Capt. Terry Chapman said, “We are working hard to better serve the public, and this is just the latest of several measures taken to more effectively respond to the requirements of driver licensing today.

“No longer are we closing at lunch. We’ve also extended hours,” said Chapman. “These efforts have been implemented to reduce lines, and by scheduling road test appointments in Birmingham, Huntsville, and Mobile, the wait time is even further reduced in those high traffic areas.”

McCall said these advancements are made possible by the dedication and efforts of the employees of the Driver License Division. “We really appreciate the hard work of all our driver license employees, and we feel this new step will only make us better,” said McCall.

# financial Services

## in the spotlight

Last April, within a week of assuming responsibility for funds received by 10 Driver License Reinstatement offices, the Financial Services Unit noticed a discrepancy in the timing of deposits made by the Dothan office.

Cathy Jones of Accounts Receivable first noted the discrepancy, and the entire unit closely monitored the timing of deposits during the next week. After determining that the problem was continuing, Shelia Hatcher and Diane Walker traveled to Dothan at the direction of Maj. Roscoe Howell, then-chief of the Administrative Division, to help the office bring its paperwork up to date.

Hatcher said it quickly became clear that they had uncovered more than an instance of out-of-date paperwork. Hatcher and Walker's trip to Dothan resulted in the discovery of a 12-year embezzlement of funds totaling approximately \$58,000, and led to the dismissal, criminal indictment and conviction of a long-term Driver License employee.

This episode provides just one example of the increase in duties and the level of responsibility for Financial Services during the past few years. Financial Services has expanded, too, to meet the department's growing need for its services. What was once an outfit made up of just a handful of people has seen every section grow in the last decade, with the exception of perhaps the most visible sections, Payroll and Purchasing.

The largest responsibility of Financial Services is the departmental budget, which is formulated to meet the financial needs of the entire department for the fiscal year. In addition, throughout the year, the budget must be analyzed and modified as necessary to meet the department's changing obligations.

"What you need to realize is there's a finite amount of money, and you have to be able to adjust," said Accounting Manager Jack McDaniel, who serves as assistant unit supervisor. "For instance, we burn through 1.25 million gallons of fuel a year, and the price of gas constantly fluctuates."

Accounting Director Fran Copeland added, "Gasoline could realistically hit \$4 per gallon in the near future. If it does, something has to cover that added cost."

This likely scenario is one which Financial Services dealt with most recently following the impact of Hurricane Katrina on the price of gas. Still, it doesn't make coping with escalating gas prices any easier.

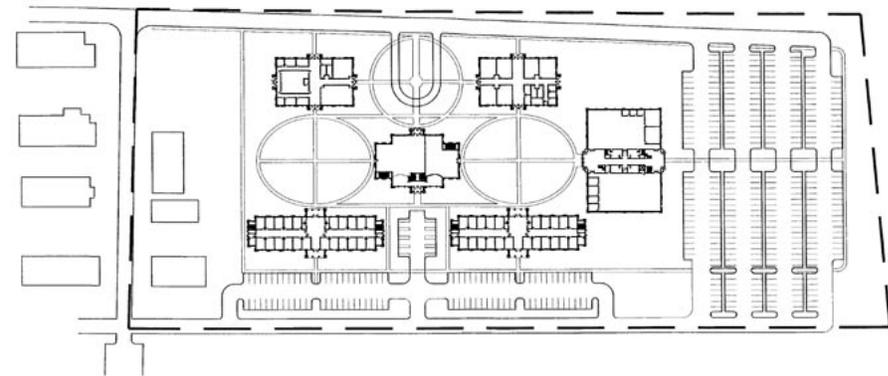
Taking all of the difficulties presented by managing the budget in stride, both Copeland and McDaniel point to numerous elements of the unit they are extremely proud of. For instance, of the 20,000 payment vouchers handled in one year, McDaniel said that only about 2 percent are returned by the comptroller for further verification. Of those that are returned, there is usually some mere oversight, such as exclusion of a travel itinerary, and not an error on behalf of Financial Services.

McDaniel said one of the biggest challenges facing Financial Services today is gaining employee understanding of and compliance with required financial procedures. "Our biggest challenges are getting time sheets filled out correctly, with 82's that match, and people buying things without proper authorization. People need to submit their PUR-10s and PUR-1000s before buying anything," McDaniel said.



The architectural firm Seay, Seay, & Litchfield has been chosen for the new academy project. Currently, the project is in the design phase, which should take six to nine months. During this developmental phase, the building layout is fleshed out in preparation to break ground on the new academy. The academy tentatively will consist of six buildings: two administration and academic buildings, two dormitories, a cafeteria, and a gymnasium.

These images are artists' interpretations of what the final project may look like upon completion. The new academy is still on target for a grand opening in 2010.



# REAL ID on Horizon

## *Final Regulations Set, Deadline for Compliance Extended*

**T**he final regulations for Real ID compliance were set by the Department of Homeland Security Jan. 11, offering two deadlines for securing Real ID-compliant documents. The deadline is Dec. 1, 2014, for people born on or after Dec. 1, 1964. For people born before that date, the deadline is Dec. 1, 2017. DHS has formulated the age-based approach to enrolling individuals in Real ID to decrease costs and to decrease the processing time for applicants.

In addition to this change from the proposed rule to the final rule, privacy and security protections have been enhanced to protect personally identifiable information, as well as the addresses of certain groups of individuals. Also included in the final rule are commenter recommendations to significantly reduce fraud, improve security, and protect privacy.

Alabama, with its aggressive approach to the security and integrity of driver licensing, largely complies with the core requirements of the act. For instance, all licenses issued in Alabama already contain all information and Level I, II, and III security features required. Additionally, Alabama driver license offices make reasonable checks to verify the identity of individuals prior to issuance by checking and verifying Social Security and consulting both the National Driver Register and National Crime Information Center. Facial recognition verification also is performed on all applicants.

“We have one of the most secure driver licenses and identification cards in the country,” said Capt. Terry Chapman, assistant chief of the Driver License Division. “Several background checks are performed before each document is issued. A digital photograph is taken at the beginning of each application.”

Despite the advances of Alabama’s licensing system, Driver License Division Chief Maj. Hugh McCall said there are several obstacles to overcome in seeking Real ID compliance. “It’s hard to provide a percentage of compliance with respect to Real ID,” said McCall, “when the software that enables certain security features outlined by the program has yet to be invented.”

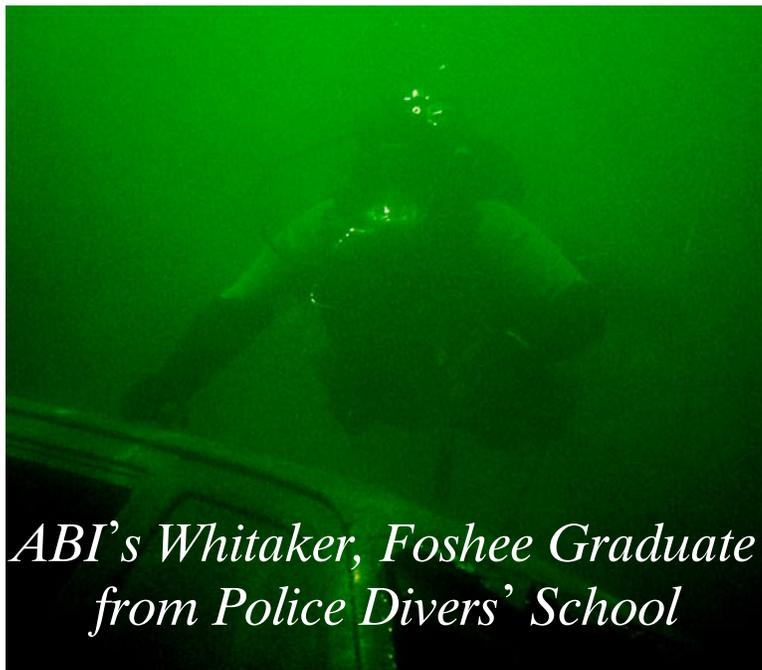
Chapman added, “One of the core components of Real ID, the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements, or SAVE program, is, unfortunately, not even operational at this time. When it is, however, we will participate.”

These issues with Real ID forced DPS to ask for an extension of the original — and rapidly approaching — May 11 deadline for compliance. An extension was granted by DHS, pushing the new deadline for compliance out to Dec. 31, 2009.

Real ID originated when the 9/11 Commission recommended that the United States improve its system for issuing identification documents. The commission specifically urged the federal government to set standards for the issuance of identification, and Congress responded by passing the Real ID Act of 2005.

In addition to being a license to drive, state-issued identification serves multiple purposes in today’s society, including being the primary identifier for individuals attempting to access federal facilities, board commercial aircraft, and enter nuclear power plants.

In addition to tightening homeland security, Real ID also aims to greatly reduce identity theft through increased physical security features of the document itself, tightening procedures for the production and issuance of documents, and verifying the information presented on source documents at the time of application. In addition, Real ID mandates that a state cannot issue a Real ID-compliant license to a person who already holds a license issued by another state, or to an individual who already has a Real ID card.



## *ABI's Whitaker, Foshee Graduate from Police Divers' School*



**O**n Feb. 15, 2008, ABI's Sgt. Gary Whitaker and Cpl. Russell Foshee graduated from the National Academy of Police Divers, moving the Department of Public Safety one step closer to forming an official DPS dive team. Thanks to a grant from the Department of Homeland Security, DPS was able to purchase dive equipment to outfit three divers and to pay for training.

The equipment purchased is first-rate, according to Foshee, who was responsible for researching and identifying the necessary equipment. Foshee said he began researching equipment in June 2007, when he and then-Sgt. Clay Barnes met with Bill Woodail, the supervisor for the Department of Transportation Bridge Inspection Dive Team. Foshee and Barnes learned that the quality of the equipment is paramount, because the divers' lives literally depend on it. DPS took delivery of equipment from Aqualung, Suunto and OceanReef in late January, just days before their training would start in south Georgia.

Foshee and Whitaker found themselves in St. Mary's, Ga., on Feb. 4, and by the next day, they were submerged in zero-visibility, 51-degree water. St. Mary's is near the Florida/Georgia line just off the Atlantic coastline and is home to The Divers' Den, where Rusty Whiting trains police officers for the National Academy of Police Diving. St. Mary's also is well known for its abundance and variety of water, including an intracoastal waterway, marshes and blackwater.

It was in that blackwater of lakes and marshes that these two DPS divers spent most of their 80 hours of training. After showing proof of prerequisite training and demonstrating their swimming skills in a swim test of 1,225 total yards and 20 minutes of treading water, the training began.

The intense training program consisted of search and recovery of evidence and vehicles, bridge and boat inspections for improvised devices, underwater navigation skills, lifting and towing using rigging and lift bags, practicing multiple search techniques, zero-visibility diving, and water survival and panic training. Students dove during both day and night to expose them to as many diving conditions as possible.

Many times Foshee and Whitaker found themselves in two feet of mud and underneath grass and weeds as they scoured the bottom of marshes conducting searches. Foshee said, "Law enforcement diving is not at all what some people think it is. It's hard work and it's dirty. You've got to keep a level head on these kinds of dives."

Whitaker added, "If you can't handle zero visibility, 30 feet underwater, feeling around old stumps and trees while large fish bump in to you that you can't see, it's probably not for you."

Congratulations to both Whitaker and Foshee for meeting the challenge of becoming certified police divers. Thanks also to the Department of Homeland Security for the resources that help DPS better serve Alabama.



# People You Know!

## *New Employees*

James Brown	1/02/08	PCO I	HP/Mobile
Linda Brown	1/16/08	Retired State Employee	DL/Records
Carl Coleman	1/16/08	Service Patrol Operator	HP/Birmingham
Rebekah Formby	1/02/08	PCO I	HP/Mobile
Kyle Moore	1/16/08	Clerical Aide	DL/Safety Responsibility
Melissa Payne	1/02/08	ASA I	DL/Huntsville
Benjamin Walker	1/16/08	Service Patrol Operator	HP/Birmingham

## *Promotions*

Linda Andrews	1/16/08	ASA II	DL/Hearing Unit
Randy Byrd	1/01/08	Captain	SER/ACJTC
Sue Chandler	1/16/08	ASA II	ABI/Birmingham
Teresa Farley	1/16/08	ASA II	HP/Birmingham
John Hall	1/01/08	Corporal	DL/Safety Responsibility
Catherine Hollon	1/16/08	ASA II	ABI/Identification
Bryan Selix	1/16/08	IT Systems Specialist	DL/Information Services
Antrencia Summers	1/01/08	ASA III	DL/Montgomery

## *Transfers*

Aubrey Bishop	1/01/08	Trooper	HP/HQ-FAP
Debbie Elrod	1/01/08	DL Examiner I	DL/Huntsville
Reginald Harkins	1/01/08	Trooper	PS/Advance
Jason Harris	1/01/08	Trooper	HP/MCSU
Randy Jenkins	1/01/08	DL Examiner I	DL/Jacksonville
Howard Krauss	1/01/08	Trooper	HP/MCSU
David Lawson	1/16/08	DL Examiner II	DL/Birmingham
Terry McFall	1/01/08	DL Examiner I	DL/Jacksonville
Christopher McNatt	1/01/08	Trooper	HP/MCSU
Judy Osborne	1/16/08	DL Examiner II	DL/Birmingham
Charles Rogers	1/01/08	Trooper	HP/MCSU
Carrie Rowser	1/16/08	PCO I	HP/Selma
Donald Shepard	1/01/08	Trooper	HP/MCSU
Avery Smith	1/01/08	Trooper	HP/MCSU
Christopher Stanton	1/01/08	Trooper	HP/MCSU
Cary Stratton	1/01/08	Trooper	HP/MCSU
Neil Tew	1/01/08	Captain	HP/Montgomery
Tisha Tyrus	1/01/08	Account Technician	HP/Headquarters

## *Resignations*

Chastity Barren	1/22/08	PCO I	HP/Mobile
Clifton Dunsford	1/11/08	Trooper	HP/Mobile
Christopher Hopkins	12/31/07	DL Examiner I	DL/Opelika
Marlo Smith	1/07/08	ASA I	DL/Safety Responsibility

Alabama Department of



Public Safety

**CONTRIBUTING:**

Capt. Marc McHenry, HP  
Lt. Clay Barnes, ABI  
Lt. Karl Youngblood, ABI  
Tpr. John Reese, ADM  
Tommy Giles, Photography

**EDITOR:**

Ryan Godfrey

# RSA Criminal Justice Center Montgomery, Ala.



February 19, 2008

Dear Col. Chris Murphy,

Please accept this note of tremendous appreciation for the way the Alabama State Troopers were on immediate duty after the tornado hit Prattville. It was great the way they were everywhere assisting this community during a most trying time, protecting our streets, homes, businesses, and checking IDs to be sure we were all safe. The team did a great job. I live in Highland Lakes Apartments behind the Super Wal-Mart, and it was very comforting seeing the many trooper cars at different points throughout the areas of destruction.

Thank you so much for all the hard work. We are truly blessed to have the Alabama State Troopers' services here in Prattville, Ala.

Please extend my gratitude to all. I am sure I speak for many in our community. I must add, during this time, they were all very pleasant and helpful even at all hours during duty.

Thanks Again!!!

Sincerely,  
Debbly Barker  
Prattville, Ala.

## WE'RE ON THE WEB!

DPS.ALABAMA.GOV

## Questions? Comments? Concerns?

STAY IN TOUCH WITH *THE BLUE LIGHT*.

PLEASE EMAIL ALL REQUESTS TO:

RYAN.GODFREY@DPS.ALABAMA.GOV

## On Your Calendar

Saturday, April 19

*Fishing Tournament at Lake Guntersville*

Monday, April 28

*Confederate Memorial Day*

Monday, May 26

*Memorial Day*

Monday, June 2

*Jefferson Davis' Birthday*