



*The official monthly publication of the Alabama Department of Public Safety*

# THE BLUE LIGHT

## May 2008

THE HONORABLE BOB RILEY  
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COLONEL J. CHRISTOPHER MURPHY  
*Director*

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

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*ABI Division*

MAJOR JAMES LYONS  
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MAJOR HUGH MCCALL  
*Driver License Division*

MAJOR ROSCOE HOWELL  
*Highway Patrol Division*

MAJOR HERMAN WRIGHT  
*Protective Services Division*

MAJOR CHARLES ANDREWS  
*Service Division*



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# The Colonel's Corner



Col. J. Christopher Murphy, Director

As I write this column, the 2008 Regular Session of the Legislature is winding down, with very promising late developments. I am extremely pleased to report that the Senate has passed our Motor Carrier Safety bill without a single dissenting vote. We are tremendously grateful to Alabama's representatives and senators for recognizing the importance of this legislation, which must be signed into law by the governor prior to June 1 to avoid losing all federal funding and federal authority for the Motor Carrier Safety Unit. We engaged in intense negotiations with our most significant opposition, ALFA, and conducted an educational campaign for our legislators and members of ALFA alike. I personally met with Administrator John Hill of the Motor Carrier Safety Administration in Washington, D.C., and then with Mr. Jerry Newby and a large group of farmers, including several ALFA

board members. Our presence in the Legislature was so notable that some dubbed it "Take Back Our Hallways." The honest dialog and positive negotiation worked, ALFA withdrew its opposition, and the bill passed 97-0 in the House and 31-0 in the Senate. Now the bill will go back to the House for a vote by that body and, if approved, will be submitted to the governor. I appreciate the honest dialog and compromise by ALFA, the diligence and support of the Governor's Office, and the cooperative attitude and spirit of accommodation by all in DPS, including the men and women of the Motor Carrier Safety Unit. I am proud of the work of Lt. Col. Bubba Bingham, Executive Counsel Michael Robinson, and many uniformed troopers as we have strived to remedy this situation. And I know I speak for every member of DPS in expressing our profound thanks to our senators and representatives.

During this session, through a great deal of effort, we have established unprecedented relationships with the Alabama Legislature. The entire command staff, including the three newest majors, has met with the Republican, Democratic, and Black caucuses in both chambers. This occasioned the Democratic Caucus to note that this had never happened in the institutional memory of that body. All three caucuses have applauded the improvements in customer service in driver licensing and the significant decreases in rural crashes, injuries, and fatalities in the state. At last count, 53 fewer fatalities so far this year! We have established very helpful dialog and are building and strengthening relationships with our legislators. We have continued to build on our legislative liaison program, through the many contributions of then-Capt. Jerry Conner and, following his promotion to major, the very capable work of Executive Counsel Robinson, who took the lead, particularly as we addressed the Motor Carrier Safety legislation. As we move forward, Lt. Kevin Wright of Protective Services and Lt. Guy Rush of Driver License have been selected to transition into and take over these responsibilities. In addition to our work with the Legislature and Lt. Gov. Jim Folsom, I also am very pleased with the open relationship DPS has with Gov. Bob Riley and his staff. We remain appreciative of Gov. Riley's support of Take Back Our Highways

and the construction of our new academy and, in fact, the governor has agreed to spend time with us during the first-ever professional development retreat for command staff and their spouses the first weekend in May.

As far as the DPS budget for 2009, the bill passed by the House includes a supplemental appropriation that would provide, in essence, level funding for 2009, with release of the supplemental dependent upon state revenues. The budget legislation also allows a carryover of 2008 monies that, instead of reverting to the General Fund, could be used to supplement DPS's 2009 budget. That means that any money we can save now, is money we would have available next year, according to the House budget. Lt. Col. Bingham, Major James Lyons, Fran Copeland and Jack McDaniel are observing developments very closely; and at this point, we are challenging each division to conserve. We expect department-wide conservation and money-saving measures to ensue as we accommodate rising gasoline prices and a fluid budget.

In such a challenging budget year, DPS has one primary asset in the budgetary process, and that asset is your hard work. I may often be the "mouthpiece" for DPS, but it is each of you that gives Public Safety the equity and the facts to support our progress. I am firmly convinced that it is sound policy to inform the Legislature about your successes and request funding to continue that success. That makes much more sense than to simply beg for money and make promises about what we will do with that money. You are the Department of Public Safety, not me. Each time you answer the telephone in a positive and helpful manner, you add to that equity. Each time you go a little further to assist a citizen with an issue, you add to that equity. Each time you spend government funds wisely, each time you explore ways to be more efficient and more effective, each time you hold yourself to a higher standard because you work at DPS, each time you are a true professional, you add to that equity. It is you who have made the issuing of a driver license more efficient and more positive. It is you who have gradually changed from escort to true protection. It is you who have worked those extra hours and gone that extra mile to solve a case, to make a fingerprint match, or to locate a sex offender. It is you who have represented us so well in the media or detected the signs of embezzlement or fraud in our financial actions. It is you who have embraced the changes in training and set the bar high. It is you who have flown countless missions with the utmost skill and dedication, and repaired those aircraft and vehicles to ensure tip-top operating. It is you who work a crash in the rain, change a flat tire for a motorist, write citations and patrol our highways with care and diligence to make this state safe every day and every shift. It is you who work behind the scenes, at your desk, with paperwork, computers, wires and pliers, and you may not get the pat on the back enough, but you come in



***Murphy presents a coin to Tpr. Stephen Langham in the director's office.***

tomorrow and do it again. You are the one who builds that equity, and I thank you!

Since my last column, I have awarded quite a few "Director's Commendation Coins." These coins have been given in recognition of exceptional investigations by ABI, outstanding response by radio technicians, excellence by financial analysts, and remarkable work by members of the Highway Patrol Felony Apprehension Program relative to drug and money seizures, stolen vehicles, and evidence of identity theft cases on a national level. In these and other areas, I have been proud to see first-hand how many of our specialty groups work. I have been to the scenes of two traffic homicides to observe the work of THI troopers. I have ridden with an FAP trooper and watched as a



drug dog “hit” on marijuana in a suitcase in my office (no, it was not my suitcase). Throughout DPS we have many specialized units whose members take on these extra assignments with no extra pay, but with great dedication, hard training, and pride. I am very appreciative of each of you who take on extra duties based on sheer drive and dedication.

I also am very appreciative of the many troopers who do their jobs every day with pride and excellence, who may not always receive the recognition they so richly deserve. The reality is that highway safety was our original mission, and it remains our most basic mission. There are hundreds of “road troopers” who are not part of any specialized unit, but they are the Alabama Department of Public Safety for thousands of Alabama residents and visitors every year. They work hard every day, and they take pride in their uniform, their patrol car, and their service to Alabama.

One day last week I left my office — after a couple of hard weeks consumed with the legislative process — put on my uniform, and surprised Capt. Neil Tew by asking to ride with a trooper for the morning. I was assigned to Tpr. Sam Rowlin, who has fulfilled 23 years of dedicated service. It may have been all in a

day’s work for Tpr. Rowlin, but I learned the ins and outs of the Montgomery Post, what it’s like for field training officers, an insider’s view of traffic enforcement, along with some surprising bits of information, such as the difference between Maryland crabs and Mobile Bay crabs. I was amused following one stop, when the motorist made clear he was not feeling particularly blessed at being stopped for a seatbelt violation. The driver began with hand gestures right after the blue lights were activated, and he expressed his frustration throughout the stop. As Tpr. Rowlin, who handled the stop with great professionalism, returned to the patrol car, the driver ordered him back and demanded his name. Tpr. Rowlin advised that his name was on the citation and pointed it out. I thought he used great restraint in not simply telling the driver he could streamline the complaint process by walking to the rear of his vehicle and discussing it with the director of Public Safety right then and there. Later, as we gassed up at an Autauga County gas station and convenience store, I went in for a couple of soft drinks. A local resident, who obviously was familiar with the Autauga County troopers, asked Tpr. Rowlin if I were new. Without missing a beat he told the man, “Yeah, he’s pretty new.”

I also participated in a LIDAR detail with about 10 Montgomery Post troopers and supervisors. We all ate lunch together, and I heard the story of a new trooper and his FTO, who were late for lunch when a driver they had stopped reached for his registration in the glove box, at which time the rookie spotted a handgun in the glove box. The understandable result was a sudden rush of adrenalin for the driver, the rookie and the FTO. Another trooper had worked up quite a sweat changing a tire for a woman and her young child. And, oh yeah, one trooper avoids using silverware at restaurants, and insists on the sealed packets containing a plastic knife, fork, and spoon. The things you learn on patrol! All of these troopers did a great job in serving the public and putting up with their uninvited guest. For me, spending time on the road reinforced the importance of your job as troopers, the risks involved, the pride you take in your performance, and how well you do it. Thanks to each of you who do your job and do it well, day in and day out. You make it my pleasure and honor to serve as director.

# 50/4

## Take Back Our Highways Takes on Cullman County

“Take Back Our Highways: 50/4” took on Cullman County April 16–20 to generate a highly visible traffic enforcement presence on roadways to reduce traffic crashes and resulting deaths and injuries. For the third time this year, 50 additional troopers from throughout the state were specifically assigned to a targeted area to supplement area troopers for the four-day saturation program.

“We are bringing awareness, not just to Cullman County, but to the entire state of Alabama,” said Tpr. Curtis Summerville. With the help of targeted blitzes in Cullman, Chilton, Mobile, and Baldwin counties, traffic fatalities are down by more than 50 statewide compared with last year. “It is apparent the blitzes have a significant impact,” said Summerville. “Our goal is to target bad driver behavior and to promote safe driving.”

During Cullman’s saturation, troopers wrote 1,254 speeding tickets, issued 847 seatbelt/child restraint citations, made 18 DUI arrests, cited 53 for following too closely, and made 21 stops for illegal lane changes. In addition to these 2,193 hazardous arrests, troopers also made 1,341 non-hazardous arrests, including driver license and insurance violations, other traffic violations and non-traffic arrests.





## *Kelley Acknowledged for Going That Extra Mile*

Tpr. Steven Kelley of the Evergreen Post responded to a crash in Covington County where the at-fault vehicle had left the scene of the crash Jan. 29. The victim of the crash, a neighbor of Kelley's, suffered serious injuries, including a broken neck. Empathizing with his neighbor, Kelley set out to track down the vehicle. So, armed with the information gathered at the scene, including a portion of the bumper, Kelley set out in his personal vehicle while off duty to attempt to locate the LSA vehicle.

Two days later, he found his vehicle. Kelley spotted a vehicle that matched the description of the LSA vehicle in Coffee County, outside his assigned post, and followed this discovery by completing appropriate paperwork to obtain a search warrant. After Kelley was able to seize the vehicle, he determined that this was indeed the LSA vehicle he was searching for. Kelley immediately began interviewing persons associated with the

suspected driver and gathered enough incriminating evidence to make a felony case.

"I was at home when I first got word there was a wreck on U.S. 331 near my home," said Kelley. "When I looked at my watch, my gut told me it was my neighbor. She's a nurse, and I knew she would probably be heading home from her shift at that time, and when I arrived at the scene my gut feeling was right. Sometimes when presented with a challenge, you just know that you need to step up and do what needs to be done, and in this instance, I felt like this was my job to do."

Kelley went on to thank Sgt. Jimmy Ward and Cpls. David Turman and Derek Gessner for their guidance and support. "I want to thank them 110 percent. They knew this hit too close to home for me, they were there to back me up, and I appreciate everything they do."

### **Every 15 Minutes...**

On April 10, Tpr. John Reese joined local law enforcement and emergency response officials in a mock crash scene at Prattville High School as part of the "Every 15 Minutes" program. Every 15 minutes, someone in the United States dies in an alcohol-involved crash. Designed to dramatically convey the tragic consequences of impaired driving, the program challenges teens to consider drinking, personal safety and their responsibility to make mature decisions. Spot a familiar face participating in the drama? That's Kasi Stephens, Prattville High sophomore and daughter of her proud parents, retired Lt. Tony Stephens and wife Jackie (Service Division).





## State Trooper Burns Plans of Local Fuel Thief

In the early morning hours of April 22, Tpr. G.W. Parker noticed a white Chevrolet pickup truck connected to a utility trailer parked at a closed service station on U.S. Highway 69 in Joppa. After further inspection, Parker noticed suspicious behavior from the individual parked at the station. After calling the Cullman County Sheriff's Office for backup, Parker determined that Billy Wayne Collier was stealing diesel fuel, using an electric pump to draw the fuel directly from the underground tanks at the service station.

*Above, Collier's trailer appears ordinary at first glance; however, right, its contents clearly indicate otherwise.*



Two 55-gallon drums and a single 250-gallon storage container were found inside the trailer, and a hole was cut in the bottom of the trailer to discretely pump fuel to the containers inside the trailer. The electric pump was attached to the 250-gallon storage container. When Parker detained Collier, 33 gallons of diesel fuel worth more than \$130 had been drawn into the storage tank inside the trailer. With the price of diesel climbing, the trailer was equipped to transport nearly \$1,500 in fuel.

## Second DPS Fishing Tourney a Success

The second DPS fishing tournament took place April 19 at Lake Guntersville near Scottsboro. The anglers were faced with a windy, cool 40-degree blast off, and returned a bit wind-burned for the weigh-in. Cpl. Robert Heeschen and tournament partner Paul Ciesla won the tournament with a catch weighing in at 20.22 pounds. They also claimed the big fish with a 6.31 pound catch. A total of nine teams fished the 10-hour tournament, with six teams bringing in a total of 79.66 pounds of fish to the scales for weigh-in.



*Above, Heeschen and Ciesla proudly display their winning catch. Left, Tpr. Richard Johnson with his wife at weigh-in.*

# ABI, ATFE Recover Stolen High Explosives

The Bomb Squad was requested to assist the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives April 7 in Cullman County with an investigation of stolen explosives. ABI Cpl. Robert Heeschen responded. ATFE agents and Heeschen carried out a search based on consent of the suspect's residence and located two electric blasting caps and some time fuse. As the investigation continued, agents searched three more locations. A total of eight blasting caps, 10 feet of time fuse and 54.5 pounds of high explosives were recovered.

Agents learned through investigation that several years ago, a contractor hired a commercial blaster to assist in a project. After the job ended, the blaster left. The contractor took the remaining explosives and put them into a barn, improperly stored and not secured. As time passed, the explosives were eventually discovered and stolen. The thief traded the stolen high explosives for drugs and guns.

Thanks to good police work, these explosives are off the streets and out of the hands of criminals.



*Above, photos of the high explosives recovered in Cullman County.*



## *Service Awards Presented in ABI*

*Maj. Jerry Conner handed out service awards April 4 to dedicated staff in recognition of many years of service. From left, Sue Chandler, Angela Knight, Gary Meeks, Laurie Evans, Harriet Godwin, and Robert Clark all received certificates of appreciation for their hard work.*

# DPS Employees on the Run

On Friday, April 25, personnel from the Huntsville Highway Patrol Post and the Decatur Driver License District participated in the Marshall County Law Enforcement Torch Run for the Special Olympics. Of the 28 runners, 14 were DPS Personnel. Each division also provided one marked patrol car to assist with escorting the runners. Participating in the run were: Lt. Brant Barnett, Sgt. Darrell Campbell, Cpls. Gary Hicks, Chris Hall, and Michael McBrayer, Tprs. Ronnie Johnston, Josh Colquitt, Billy Pruitt, Billy Randall, Jonathan Gregg, Thomas Underwood, Chuck Ellis, and Scott Beard, and PCO Robin Borland. Providing the escort were Tprs. Rob Rosser and Seth Hannah. The torch was carried approximately 5.5 miles from Guntersville to the Albertville recreation center where the Special Olympics were being held.



Also, in the southern portion of the state, several members of the Mobile and Grove Hill posts participated in the 31st annual Azalea Trail run in Mobile March 29. Participating in the run were Sgt. Brian McGill, Cpls. Clifford Bergerson, Roy B. Napp, and Joe Figgott, Tprs. Gerald Deas, Randy Johnson, Steve Smith, James Strickland, and Lester Thomas.



## *Morris Selected as Recipient of Government Finance Officers Association Scholarship*



Accounting Manager Shaundra Morris was selected as the 2008 recipient of the Government Finance Officers Association's Frank L. Greathouse Government Accounting Scholarship. The award will be presented to Morris in Fort Lauderdale in June.

"I have known and employed Shaundra for the past 10 years. She is an exemplary employee who epitomizes the best qualities in a person and an employee," said Chief Financial Officer Fran Copeland.

Morris will graduate from Alabama State University May 10 with a Master of Accountancy degree, after maintaining a 4.0 GPA while working full-time and caring for her family. Quoting Philippians 4:13, Morris said, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

## *Whitten, Smith Presented with DPS Life Saving Award*



***Above, Whitten with Maj. Jerry Conner, and below, Smith with Maj. Roscoe Howell proudly accept life saving awards, presented by Bingham in the director's office.***



Tprs. Thomas A. Whitten and Kent Smith have been presented the Department of Public Safety Life Saving Award for their actions in successfully negotiating with and recovering a man threatening suicide.

The incident began Sunday, Jan. 13, at approximately 5 p.m., as Whitten, then assigned to ABI, was en route to Mobile to observe a training session the next day. With Whitten were Cpl. Chris Woodard and Tprs. Kent Smith and Howard Fells. While crossing the Cochran Bridge in Mobile, Whitten observed that three Mobile Police Department vehicles had shut down the east-bound side of the bridge. Whitten stopped, exited the patrol car and observed a white male standing on the side of the bridge. The MPD officers advised that the male was threatening to jump if police approached and he had a rope tied around his neck. Whitten advised that he was trained in crisis negotiations and could assist. The MPD officers advised that their negotiation team was en route, but would not arrive for about 20 minutes.

Whitten decided to approach the subject. He took off his duty weapon and approached the subject slowly. Whitten began to communicate with the subject and attempted to get closer to talk without yelling, approaching to within about 25 feet. The

subject advised that his wife was going to divorce him and take away his children. He wanted to talk with his wife and said he would surrender if he could.

The subject continued to talk about his family, saying that he had two children, one was seven months and the other 19 months. The subject said he had gone to church earlier in the day and that God told him that this is what he needed to do. The subject continued talking and began to quote scriptures from the Bible. Whitten had received a phone number for his wife and attempted to call her. When he was unable to reach the wife, Whitten asked Smith to contact the subject's pastor in an attempt to reach the wife. The pastor notified the officers that he was attempting to contact the wife, who was in a safe house, and that he would be en route to the scene.

Whitten and Smith continued to talk to the subject, who allowed the two to approach to within about 15 feet and agreed to remove the rope from his neck. They shortly were joined by the MPD negotiator and pastor, whom the subject also allowed to approach. After continued conversation, the subject agreed to sit in Smith's patrol vehicle, and the trooper drove him to the Mobile Infirmity Medical Center, where the man admitted himself for mental evaluation. During the negotiations, Woodard and Fells remained at the scene, communicating with the Mobile Post and Marine Police.

Lt. Col. F.A. Bingham presented awards to Whitten and Smith during an April 24 ceremony at Headquarters, honoring "their dedication to duty and professionalism" in responding to this critical situation.



# People You Know!

## *New Employees*

Rebekah Arrington	4/01/08	ASA I	ABI/Identification
John Forbus	4/01/08	DL Examiner I	DL/Opelika
Terry Franklin	3/17/08	PCO I	HP/Tucaloosa
Ruthie Franks	4/01/08	ASA I	DL/Medical Unit
James Johnson	3/17/08	Custodial Worker	ADM/ACJTC
Lameeka Marshall	4/01/08	DL Examiner I	DL/Sheffield
James Morrow	3/16/08	SCPO	PS/Capitol Police
Frances Oates	3/17/08	Retired Clerical	HP/MCSU
Louis Rushton	3/16/08	SCPO	PS/Capitol Police
Jason Sassin	4/01/08	PCO I	HP/Quad Cities
Deborah Stearns	3/17/08	PCO I	HP/Tuscaloosa
Katherine Tornow	3/17/08	PCO I	PS/Capitol Police
Rhonda Williams	4/01/08	ASA I	DL/Medical Unit

## *Promotions*

Hyndrich Bartle	3/16/08	Sergeant	ABI/Investigative Operations
Lonnie Burns	4/01/08	Trooper Pilot I	SER/Aviation
Robert Burroughs	4/01/08	Corporal	HP/Opelika
Russell Foshee	3/16/08	Sergeant	ABI/EOD Technical Unit
Joseph Lee	3/16/08	Corporal	ABI/Investigative Operations
Shaundra Morris	3/16/08	Accounting Manager	ADM/Financial Services
Joe Penn	4/01/08	Equipment Operator II	SER/Fleet Maintenance
Diana Perdue	4/01/08	Criminal Intelligence Analyst	ABI/Fusion Center
William Price	3/16/08	Sergeant	ABI/Investigative Operations
Timothy Rodgers	3/16/08	Corporal	ABI/Investigative Operations
Pamela Smith	4/01/08	ASA II	ABI/Identification Unit
Kenny Waldrop	4/01/08	Sergeant	HP/Quad Cities

## *Transfers*

<b>All ACJTC Staff</b>	<b>4/01/08</b>		<b>Administrative Division</b>
Brandon Bailey	4/01/08	Trooper	HP/Decatur
Bobby Baker	4/01/08	Trooper	HP/Decatur
Stephen Bearden	4/01/08	Corporal	HP/Gadsden
Chadwick Bright	4/01/08	Trooper	HP/Montgomery
Donald Butler	4/01/08	Trooper	HP/Birmingham
Joshua Cox	4/01/08	Trooper	HP/Decatur
Kenneth Day	4/01/08	Trooper	HP/Montgomery
Teddy Denson	4/01/08	Trooper	HP/Decatur
Howard Fells	3/16/08	Trooper	HP/Autauga County
Nicholas Gist	4/01/08	Trooper	HP/Tuscaloosa
Kenneth Grissett	4/01/08	Trooper	ABI/Tuscaloosa
Jeffrey Grizzard	4/01/08	Trooper	HP/Gadsden



# People You Know!

## *Transfers (continued)*

Brett Himes	4/01/08	Trooper	HP/Dothan
Thomas Hutton	4/01/08	Trooper	HP/Montgomery
Sandra Johnson	4/01/08	Criminal Analyst	ABI/Fusion Center
John Jones	4/01/08	Trooper	HP/Tuscaloosa
Pricilla Jones	4/01/08	DL Specialist	DL/Driver Improvement
Christopher Joy	4/01/08	Trooper	HP/Montgomery
Mary Ann King	4/01/08	Trooper	HP/Montgomery
Reginal King	4/01/08	Trooper	HP/Tuscaloosa
Jimmy Lancaster	4/01/08	Trooper	HP/Gadsden
Stephen Langham	4/01/08	Trooper	HP/Evergreen
Lee Millergreen	4/01/08	Trooper	HP/Montgomery
Carl Mitchell	4/01/08	Trooper	HP/Quad Cities
James Moore	4/01/08	Trooper	HP/Birmingham
Justin O'Neal	4/01/08	Trooper	HP/Tuscaloosa
Jonathan Ryan	4/01/08	Trooper	HP/Decatur
Ronald Short Jr.	4/01/08	Lieutenant	ABI/Investigative Operations
Terry Sims	4/01/08	Trooper	HP/MCSU Weight Detail
Rafael Thomas	4/01/08	Trooper	HP/Opelika
Terry Thomas	3/16/08	Trooper	ABI/Investigative Operations
Eric Tucker	4/01/08	Trooper	HP/Decatur
Rodney Wallace	4/01/08	Trooper	HP/Decatur
Jerry Walls Jr.	4/01/08	Trooper	HP/Montgomery
James Williams	4/01/08	Trooper	HP/Dothan
Joshua Woods	4/01/08	Trooper	HP/Gadsden

## *Resignations*

Kathryn Patrick	3/31/08	ASA I	DL/Mobile
Melissa Payne	3/14/08	ASA I	DL/Huntsville

## *Retirements*

Bruce Calloway	3/31/08	Trooper	HP/MCSU
William McKnight	3/31/08	Deputy Attorney General	ADM/Legal
William Parker	3/31/08	DL Examiner I	DL/Tuscaloosa
Millie Turner	3/31/08	DL Examiner II	DL/Quad Cities

Alabama Department of



Public Safety

# RSA Criminal Justice Center Montgomery, Ala.



## CONTRIBUTING:

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

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Ryan Godfrey

## WE'RE ON THE WEB!

DPS.ALABAMA.GOV

## Questions? Comments? Concerns?

STAY IN TOUCH WITH *THE BLUE LIGHT*.  
PLEASE E-MAIL ALL REQUESTS TO:

RYAN.GODFREY@DPS.ALABAMA.GOV

## Training Schedule for ACJTC for May 2008

Date	Event
May 2	Risk Management Driving
5	Region Basic Police Session 132 Begins
5-8	Dignitary Protection Training
5-16	Traffic Homicide Investigation Training
6-8	Trooper In-service Training
12-23	Commercial Vehicle Enforcement
13-15	Trooper In-service Training
20-22	Trooper In-service Training
27-29	Trooper In-service Training

## On Your Calendar

Monday, May 26

*Memorial Day*

Monday, June 2

*Jefferson Davis' Birthday*

Friday, July 4

*Independence Day*

Monday, September 1

*Labor Day*

## To Whom it May Concern:

I will probably never know the name of the Trooper who more than likely prevented a major accident or fatality on I-65 North today. This morning around 9:30am between Evergreen and Greenville, I was passed on the right by a black convertible (top down) driven by a white male. He came within an inch of hitting two vehicles and a semi-truck. His speed was at least 90 mph while he continued to weave in and out of traffic until I lost sight of him. I did see him again, however, this time he was in handcuffs standing on the side of I-65 North near the Montgomery airport ramp. I am sure there is a way to identify the trooper. Please convey my thanks for taking that idiot off the road. I travel between Birmingham and Mobile each week and I thought I had seen all the nuts, but this guy was going to kill someone today.

-Phil Marlar

Mobile, AL