



The official monthly publication of the Alabama Department of Public Safety

THE BLUE LIGHT



THE HONORABLE BOB RILEY
Governor

COLONEL J. CHRISTOPHER MURPHY
Director

LT. COLONEL F.A. BINGHAM
Assistant Director

MAJOR JERRY CONNER
ABI Division

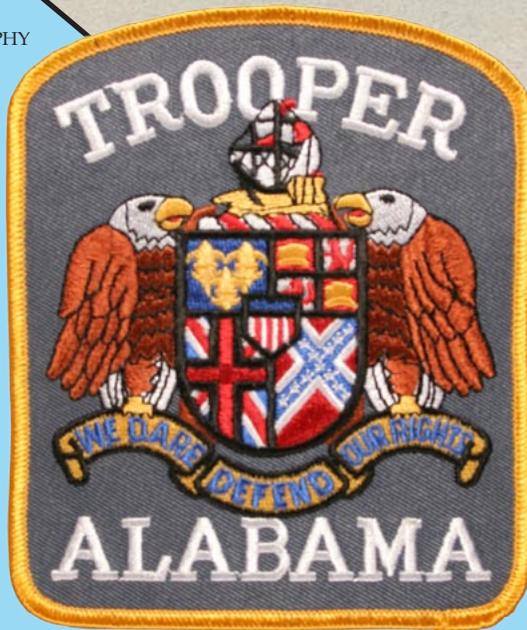
CAPTAIN R.T. FULMER
Administrative Division

MAJOR HUGH McCALL
Driver License Division

MAJOR ROSCOE HOWELL
Highway Patrol Division

MAJOR HERMAN WRIGHT
Protective Services Division

MAJOR CHARLES ANDREWS
Service Division



AUGUST 2009

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Graduation

2009-A

Alabama's roadways are now a little safer, thanks to the addition of 38 new troopers comprising Class 2009-A, who graduated and were sworn in July 10.



Family, friends, and colleagues packed the Alcazar Shrine Temple to share in their excitement, as the day was marked as one of tremendous accomplishment for the class members.

Capt. Randy Byrd, commander of the Alabama Criminal Justice Training Center, greeted those in attendance, including proud family members and friends, DPS directors and staff, and the instructors at the academy.

Former Alabama Gov. John Patterson addressed the trooper class members in a speech outlining the historical importance of the department, while commending their decision to represent Alabama and serve the public.

“In my service of the state of Alabama, DPS was the department I enjoyed working with the most,” said Patterson. “I worked closely with the department as governor, and I understand the dangers of the profession. This is not a job, it is a calling, and I envy you, as you embark on a noble and essential journey. Be cautious, and be careful. Always take pride in being a state trooper, and I wish you all Godspeed in your work.”



Following the graduation address, Byrd presented the awards recognizing outstanding achievement in Class 2009-A. Juddston Bowers received the Marksmanship Award for exhibiting the highest level of knowledge, skill and safety in firearms training. Bowers also earned the Academic Award for achieving the highest overall grade point average. Robert C. Green received the Highway Response and Driving Award for demonstrating a high level of knowledge and ability in defensive and pursuit driving. The Fitness Award went to Randy D. McBrayer for attaining the highest level of physical fitness.



Byrd presents McBrayer the Commander's Award.

McBrayer also was selected as the class's top performer overall, receiving the Commander's Award for exhibiting exceptional leadership, professionalism and dedication to Class 2009-A and the Department of Public Safety, while maintaining a high academic average.



Before administering the oath of office to commission the new troopers, Col. J. Christopher Murphy congratulated the class for its hard work and commitment in completing an arduous 22-week training regimen.

“It is my greatest honor to swear you in today,” said Murphy. “Success is a three-way partnership between God, family, and career, and I wish you all the very best.”

Following graduation, the new troopers reported to their initial assignments in Highway Patrol, where they are currently undergoing 10 weeks of additional field training under close supervision of veteran state troopers.



Alabama Leads Southeast Region to Take Back Our Highways

Following seven days of intensive patrol activity, Alabama state troopers wrapped up an aggressive highway safety campaign aimed at saving lives on state roadways. This latest iteration of “Take Back Our Highways,” which concluded July 31, saw Alabama partner with four other Southeastern states for the crackdown on driver behavior contributing to traffic crashes.

Nearing the end of the campaign, troopers had worked 11 fewer fatalities, 17 fewer injuries, and 42 fewer crashes than in 2008. Through July 30, troopers had made 144 DUI arrests, written 6,674 speeding tickets, and issued 2,026 safety restraint violations.

Take Back Our Highways premiered in August 2007, as an innovative statewide blitz to reduce crashes and save lives. The unprecedented campaign not only captured the attention of the media, it did what it set out to do. Drivers in the state became more aware, slowed down, buckled up, and crashes and fatalities dropped significantly in 2007 and 2008.

Tennessee and Mississippi took notice, and in November 2007, partnered with Alabama on a Thanksgiving TBOH safety campaign. The latest version of TBOH brought in partners Tennessee and Mississippi, along with

Murphy appears with Florida Highway Patrol Director Col. John Czernis on a Dothan-area talk show July 29.



Florida and Georgia to truly make the campaign a regional effort to reduce highway traffic fatalities.

“In the last two years, our state troopers have saved 195 lives on state roadways,” said Col. J. Christopher Murphy. “However, we’re still seeing too many preventable fatalities in Alabama, from the drunken driver who drove off the road and overturned, to the teenage driver, not wearing a seatbelt, who failed to yield the right of way, or the speeding motorcyclist who lost control ... these fatalities should have never happened.”



“These are the lives we are working on to save,” Murphy said. “We have seen great improvements, but as long as 65 percent of trooper-worked fatalities are not buckled up, and as long as more than 40 percent of trooper-worked fatalities involve alcohol, there are fatalities we can and will prevent.”

Similar to previous campaigns, the latest Take Back Our Highways initiative placed troopers from every rank and division in uniform and on patrol, including those whose duties normally does not include patrol. The campaign strategically focuses on driving behaviors that cause crashes and contribute to crash severity. These include speeding, failure to yield the right of way, following too closely, driver inattention, and DUI.

In addition to the checkpoints, saturation patrols, and line patrols troopers used to correct bad driver behavior, troopers also used mobile breath-testing laboratories to process and hold impaired drivers as part of Task Force Zero details. TFZ troopers specialize in DUI enforcement, and the mobile testing units, called BATmobiles, were purchased through a grant authorized by Gov. Bob Riley and administered by the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs.

Murphy said the week-long campaign can help to bring about long-term improvement in driving behavior throughout the southeastern region. “With Mississippi, Tennessee, Florida and Georgia participating, we believe motorists will benefit from the consistent emphasis on safety that they’ll encounter as they travel from one jurisdiction to another,” said Murphy.



Found Child Porn Leads to ICAC Arrest

Excellent law enforcement work in an ongoing Internet Crimes Against Children investigation led to the arrest of Jonathon Brady LeCroy, 23, of Heflin, June 30 on federal child pornography charges.

The investigation began eight days earlier, when the 15-year-old nephew of Tpr. John Lewis was fishing off a bridge on the Tallapoosa River near Heflin. While fishing, the juvenile discovered several black bags in the river, each containing what he believed to be printed images of child pornography. The bags also contained six digital CDs and three videotapes. All of the bags were recovered by Lewis and transported to the Jacksonville ABI office for further investigation.

Special Agent Larry Crocker reviewed the evidence and found more than 200 images of prepubescent children in various stages of undress and involved in sexual acts. The videotapes, labeled “slimxxxproductions,” feature an adult white male engaged in sexual acts while reviewing the pornographic material.

The investigation led agents to Mountain Brook Elementary school, when investigators discovered in the evidence a photo of an underage, clothed female, with the words, “Slim worked at Mountain Brook Elementary in March of 2008,” written on the photograph.

Investigators were able to determine the photographed juvenile was a student at Mountain Brook Elementary, and parents of the child identified the photo as one that was framed and placed on an end table in their living room. The parents suspect the photograph was taken from their home while it was undergoing renovation.

Crocker was able to pull several still images off the videotape clearly displaying the white male subject. These images were provided to Special Agent Don Worrell. Worrell printed the images and went to the Cleburne County Sheriff’s Department, where Deputy Michael Gore identified the subject in the images as LeCroy. A federal search warrant for LeCroy’s residence turned up hundreds of additional images and several videotapes.

“There are many elements to this case, where the pieces just fell into place,” said Sgt. Ricky Agerton, commander of ABI’s CyberCrime Unit. “It’s unusual to make a find like this in the river, but being able to trace the evidence back to the subject, identify the subject, and make an arrest of the subject within this short period of time is unprecedented.”

Funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, ICAC seeks to detect sexual offenders who use the Internet to commit crimes against children. ICAC-trained officers with the Alabama Bureau of Investigation conduct online, undercover investigations and conduct forensic analysis of computers and other evidence seized in ICAC investigations.



ICE Troopers Earn Credentials

Fifty-four ICE-trained and certified Alabama state troopers received federal law enforcement credentials during a July 7 ceremony at DPS Headquarters in Montgomery. The troopers are authorized to enforce federal immigration law pursuant to Alabama's partnership with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement as part of the 287 (g) Program administered by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

ICE Special Agent in Charge Michael Holt of New Orleans conferred the credentials and addressed the troopers. "Your professionalism and dedication have made the program implemented in Alabama one of the most problem-free units in the nation," he said.

"I also applaud driver license for their work in identity-theft prevention, in turn making our jobs easier. You have truly earned these credentials, and I thank you for your hard work," said Holt.

Section 287 (g) of the Immigration and Nationality Act allows DHS to enter into agreements with state and local law enforcement agencies, permitting designated officers to be trained in and perform immigration law enforcement functions. DPS inked an agreement with DHS under Section 287 (g) in October 2003, with the first ICE troopers finishing training that year.

The cross-designation between ICE and state police allows necessary resources and latitude to pursue investigations relating to violent crimes, human smuggling, gang/organized crime activity, sexual-related offenses, narcotics smuggling and money laundering; and increased resources and support in more remote geographical locations.

"As troopers, we encounter many things that threaten the public's safety," said Col. J. Christopher Murphy. "This ICE designation is another tool in our tool chest to help us ensure our safety and the safety of others."

THE SAFE WAY TO GO BACK TO SCHOOL

With the days of summer vacation winding down, and the beginning of another school year just around the corner, many Alabama families need a reminder about the importance of safety in the midst of the hustle and bustle of back-to-school preparedness.

With more children on the roadways in the morning and afternoon hours, the school year marks an increased risk of transportation injuries to children, and driver behavior should change to reflect these risks. Also, as the school year progresses and the days get shorter, fewer hours of daylight means reduced visibility of young pedestrians and bicyclists.

These suggestions from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration can help every community enjoy a safe and happy school year.



Notes for Motorists

- » Slow down and obey all traffic laws and speed limits.
- » Always stop for a school bus that has stopped to load or unload passengers. Red flashing lights and an extended stop arm tell you the school bus is stopped to load or unload children. State law requires you to stop.
- » Be alert and ready to stop.
- » Watch for children walking in the street, especially on roads without sidewalks.
- » Watch for children playing and gathering near bus stops.
- » Watch for children arriving late for the bus, who may dart into the street without looking for traffic.
- » When backing out of a driveway or leaving a garage, watch for children walking or biking to school.
- » When driving in neighborhoods or school zones, watch for young people who may be in a hurry to get to school and may not be thinking about getting there safely.

Tips for Parents

- » Help your children learn and practice the safety rules for walking, bicycling, or riding in a passenger car, school bus or transit bus.
- » Supervise young children as they are walking or biking to school or as they wait at the school bus stop.
- » Be a good role model, especially when you are with your kids. Always buckle up in the car, always wear a helmet when biking, and always follow pedestrian safety rules.

Tips for Teachers

- » Teach young children the safety rules for traveling to school, whether it be walking, bicycling, or riding in a motor vehicle or on a school bus. NHTSA has developed a variety of kid-friendly materials and teaching tools. These can be downloaded by going to NHTSA's Web site at www.nhtsa.dot.gov and clicking the traffic safety banner at the top of the page.
- » Support any "Getting to School Safely" activities sponsored by your school, the PTA/PTO, or other community organizations.

- » Be a good role model. Always use your seat belt, wear a helmet when bicycling or riding a motorcycle and practice pedestrian safety rules.

Tips for Students

- » Always buckle up when you're riding in a car.
- » Always ride in the back seat. It's the safest place for young people.
- » Always wear a helmet and follow traffic safety rules when riding your bike.
- » If you ride a school bus, learn and practice the safety rules for waiting at the bus stop, getting on and off the bus, and riding the bus.
- » If you walk to school, learn and practice the safety rules for pedestrians. Always cross at cross walks, obey all traffic signs, traffic lights and safety patrol instructions.
- » Be a good role model for your younger brothers and sisters and friends, and help them learn and practice the safety rules.

After Long, Distinguished Careers, Two K-9s Sniff Out Retirement

*Jones, from left, with
Little “E,” Murphy, Kas,
and Martin.*



With a combined 133 canine years of service, two dogs from Highway Patrol’s K-9 unit were retired from their duties July 22, receiving service awards, pats of appreciation, and home-made treats in appreciation for their work for DPS.

Kas and Little “E” served the department as detector dogs by locating evidence emitting the odor of marijuana, cocaine, methamphetamine, and heroin. Since assuming their role at the department, these two K-9s have been responsible for the removal of narcotics with a street value in excess of \$50 million, and they have aided in the seizure of another \$2 million in U.S. currency as proceeds from illegal narcotics.

Little “E” began his career with the department in 1999, and during his career worked with three handlers, Tprs. James Boykin, Joe Parrish, and Justin Jones. Little “E” easily adapted to his handlers and continued to perform his duties as detector dog throughout his distinguished career. He retires to a life as Jones’s pet.

Kas joined the department in 2000, and worked with two handlers, Cpl. John Hall and Sgt. Charlton Martin, during his distinguished career. Kas was fortunate enough to assist in two record-setting seizures. In 2001, Kas aided Sgt. Jessie Peoples in the seizure of 841 pounds of cocaine in a traffic stop in Montgomery County, and in 2003, aided Martin in the discovery and seizure of 36 pounds of Colombian heroin in a traffic stop in Lee County. Kas is taking a medical retirement and will now have time to relax as Martin’s pet.

These two dogs have been exemplary in their service to the department, and their work has benefitted not only DPS, but also city, county, and other state agencies by helping remove drugs from the highways of Alabama.

'Man-cation' Lets Troopers 'Take It Easy'



From left, Piggott, Peacock, Claybrook, McGlothlin, Anderson, Johnson, and Napp are seen standing on the corner in Winslow, Ariz.

You might think that a lengthy road trip would be the last thing troopers might find appealing and relaxing during vacation, but not so for seven of Alabama's finest, who recently set out on a two-week, cross-country journey, driving through 13 states and covering some 6,000 miles on motorcycles.

Capt. Tim McGlothlin, Lt. Lee Peacock, Cpls. Charles Anderson, Randy Johnson, Brad Napp, Joe Piggott, and Tpr. Chad Claybrook left Alabama May 23 in a driving rainstorm and headed west for what they referred to as the "man-cation."

And where did the "man-cation" take them? "We visited Carlsbad Caverns and Roswell, N.M., on the way to San Diego," said Piggott. "In Califor-

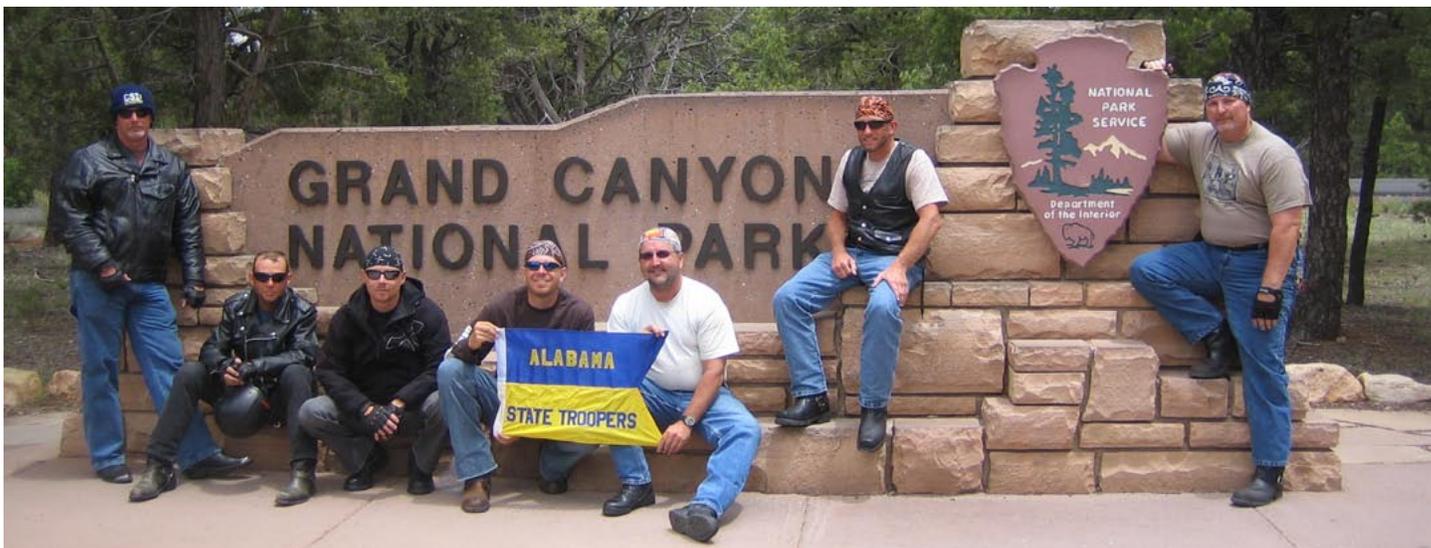


nia, we took the Pacific Coast Highway north to Santa Monica, at the start of historic Route 66. From there, we headed east, along what's left of Route 66, and we stopped in Las Vegas and saw the Hoover Dam, the Grand Canyon, Bryce Canyon, Salt River Canyon, and Petrified Forest National Park along the way."

"This adventure is all about experience," said Piggott. "We experienced America in ways that you can only experience it on the back of a motorcycle. For instance, when travelling from the high desert to the desert floor, the temperature went from 40 degrees outside to about 110, in a matter of a couple of hours. We had the opportunity to meet and take photos with a California Highway Patrol trooper, and some of us had our pictures taken with 'Elvis' just before leaving Las Vegas."

The journey took the crew through Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, California, Nevada, Utah, Oklahoma, Nebraska, Missouri, and Arkansas, and ended on June 6.

Stay tuned for the second chapter. Tpr. Gregory Estes has informed The Blue Light that he is planning a similar trip and promises more photos to run in a future issue.



Troopers Teach Scouts Firearms Safety



Bennett assists a camper in correctly aiming a rifle at its target.



Three DPS firearms instructors left their usual jobs for a week to assist in firearms instruction of Boy Scouts of America at Camp Tukabatchee in Pine Level. Cpl. Edward Bennett and Tprs. Gregory Estes and Howard Fells all led various weeks of rifle training and gun safety. This is the second year troopers have taught weapons safety and rifle shooting at Tukabatchee.

The weapons experts taught campers the various parts of a rifle and their function, weapon cleaning, safe handling, and the importance of hearing and eye protection. Through training, the instructors successfully guided several scouts in meeting the requirements to obtain merit badges in rifle shooting.

In addition to gun safety knowledge, for scouts to obtain the rifle shooting merit badge, they must be able to fire 15 shots at a target from 50 feet that can all be covered by the head of a U.S. quarter.

“This has been a wonderful experience, and I am glad to participate in such a wonderful character-building experience,” said Estes. “Teaching weapons safety to children is important and is just the responsible thing to do.”



New PIO Joiner Focuses on Safety Education in Northeast Alabama

The department's newest Public Information/Education officer, Tpr. Charles Joiner, is on the job in Troop E, recently participating in Martin's Family Clothing family day activities in Oxford.

Joiner talked with adults and children of all ages about safety-related issues and the work of DPS. Other participating agencies were the Oxford Police and Fire departments, along with representatives from ALLKids.

Joiner said the children enjoyed activities that ranged from exploring the inside of patrol cars and fire trucks to chatting with law enforcement officers. The adults attending were surprised to learn the scope of DPS's services through both enforcement and education.



PIOs Journey to Summer Camp to Discuss Safety

Public Information/Education's Cpl. Steve Jarrett and Tpr. Chad Joiner spoke about safety to a group of children from the Kids Journey summer camp July 9.

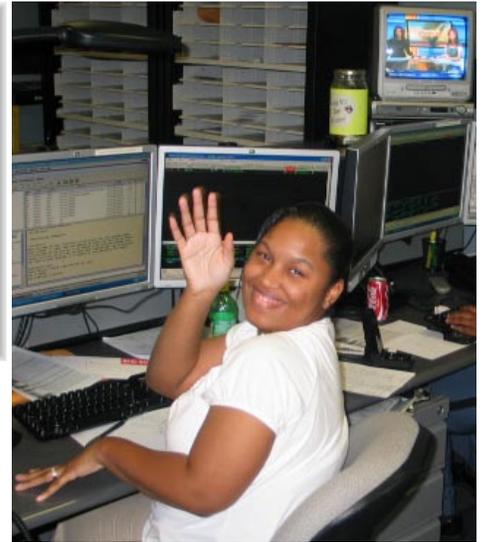
The troopers answered the children's many questions and provided a demonstration of the roll-over simulator, purchased through a Federal Motor Carrier Safety grant. The simulator displays the importance of buckling up while riding in a motor vehicle.

Kids Journey is a summer program offering activities to 75 Elmore County youth from the communities of Millbrook, Sandtown, and Coosada. The community service provides information and resources to the public and offers prevention and outreach programs to educate children and adults.

Thank You, PCOs

OBSERVATIONS, REFLECTIONS, & APPRECIATION
FROM A TROOPER'S PERSPECTIVE

BY: TPR. CHARLES DYSART



There are many unseen heroes and warriors who work behind the scenes within DPS. And while they may go publicly unrecognized for their kindness, patience and service, they do not go unappreciated. In some cases, these DPS heroes communicate with a trooper or Capitol Police officer more than the officer communicates with his or her family. They spend countless hours tending the radio and telephone. They speak to distraught motorists and disseminate vital information to sworn personnel. These heroes make our jobs less complicated and more secure. They inform DPS personnel of all ranks and positions of vital and critical information.

Who are these heroes and warriors who toil at all hours, working through the wee hours of the night when most of DPS is at home and asleep? They are some of DPS's finest. They are PCOs. For those troopers and Capitol Police officers out there who don't know your PCO, take a moment to go by the office and put a face with that voice. PCOs are our lifeline.

One of the first sayings that a PCO taught me, as a young trooper, is: "You may know where you are and what you are doing. The Lord may know where you are and what you are doing. However, if the dispatcher doesn't know where you are and what you are doing, we hope that you and the Lord are on very good terms."

Here's to Public Safety's PCOs!



Jefferson County Office Closings to Affect Driver License Services

Public Safety Encourages Patience, Recommends Service at Outlying DL Sites

With the announced closing of Jefferson County satellite offices, driver license services no longer will be available at Center Point, Forestdale, Gardendale and Homewood, according to Department of Public Safety Director Col. J. Christopher Murphy. The last day of driver license services at the four offices is slated for Friday, July 31.

Murphy said the offices to be closed serve close to 500 driver license customers each day and that Public Safety will work to accommodate the influx of applicants at area offices and surrounding counties. He cautioned that driver license applicants may experience delays in service, however.

“We can best accommodate the applicants these offices serve through broad redistribution, and we encourage applicants to seek driver license services in adjacent counties,” said Murphy. “We also encourage new applicants to schedule their road skills tests online to avoid delays in service.”

Applicants may schedule road skills testing through the Public Safety Web site, <http://dps.alabama.gov>. The Web site also provides a listing of all state driver license offices statewide with days and hours of operations.

County employees assigned to the four county offices slated to close process approximately 350 driver license renewals and duplicates each day. The five Public Safety driver license examiners assigned to the Center Point and Homewood satellite offices are responsible for examining new applicants and out-of-state license transfers. They serve approximately 130 applicants each day.

Murphy said the DPS employees assigned to the Center Point and Homewood satellite offices will be reassigned to work at the Bessemer, Birmingham and Pelham examining offices.

“Public Safety is exploring every option to fill the gap in driver license services created by the closing of these four county offices,” said Murphy. “In this process, we ask for understanding and patience of driver license applicants who may be inconvenienced.”

Applicants seeking to renew a license or obtain a duplicate license may visit any probate or driver license office in Alabama. Locations in and around Jefferson County are:

- Jefferson County Courthouse
716 Richard Arrington Jr. Blvd N., Birmingham
- Jefferson County Probate Office,
Bessemer Courthouse, 1st Floor
1801 3rd Ave. N, Bessemer
- Shelby County Probate Office
112 N. Main, Columbiana
- Shelby County Probate Office
1018 County Services Drive, Pelham
- Shelby County Probate Office
310 Inverness Corners, Birmingham
- Walker County Probate Office
1900 3rd Ave S., Jasper
- St. Clair County Probate Office
1815 Cropwell Ave., Pell City
- St. Clair County Probate Office
165 5th Ave., Ashville
- Blount County Courthouse
220 2nd Ave. E., Oneonta

Applicants seeking to transfer an out-of-state license or ID card and those applying for a new license or ID card may seek assistance from any driver license examining office statewide. These offices also provide renewal and duplicate driver license services. Examining offices in and around Jefferson County are:

- Birmingham Driver License Office
908 Bankhead Highway W., Birmingham
- Bessemer Driver License Office,
Courthouse, 3rd floor
1801 3rd Ave. N., Bessemer
- Jasper Driver License Office, Court-
house, basement
1900 3rd Ave., Jasper
- Sumiton CDL Office, Beville State
Community College
(commercial license testing only)
271 State St., Sumiton
- Shelby County Driver License Office
1018 County Services Drive, Pelham
- Shelby County Driver License Office
104 Depot St., Columbiana
- St. Clair County Driver License Of-
fice, Courthouse
1815 Cropwell Ave., Pell City
- St. Clair County Driver License
Office, Health Department building
(Tuesdays only)
31675 Highway 411, Ashville
- Blount County Driver License Office,
Courthouse
220 2nd Ave. E., Oneonta

75 Heading Toward

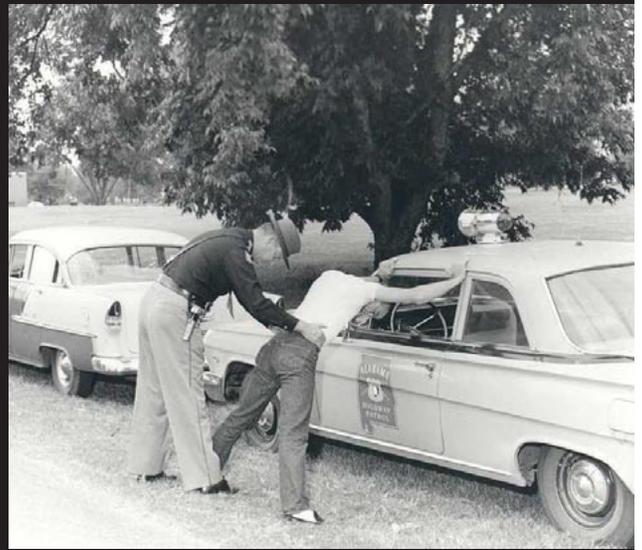
1935 - 2010



Above: Highway Patrolmen Jim Bryant, Chuck Franklin, Kenneth Rush and Joe Partin at the Alabama Deep Sea Fishing Rodeo on Dauphin Island in July 1960. As they were returning from the trip, Partin was killed when a truck made an improper turn in front of his motorcycle in Baldwin County. Rush was also seriously injured in the accident.

Right: A photo op taken for the Montgomery Advertiser in 1961. It shows Patrolman Kenneth Rush patting down Trooper Cadet Tommy McGehee, who had come to the post to pick up his check. This photo was taken behind the Montgomery Post about where the radio shop is now.

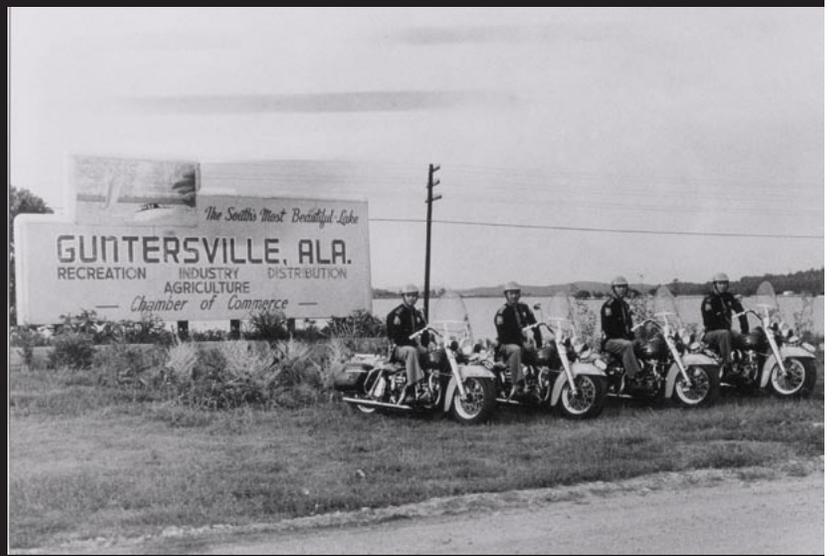
Below: Investigative and Identification Division personnel in front of DPS headquarters at 711 High St. in the early 1960s. As labeled, 1) Assistant Director N.W. Kimbrough, 2) Chief Bill Jones, 3) Unidentified, 4) Gladys Jones, 5) Jimmy Nettles, 6) Bessie Bruce, 7) Carrie Rushton, 8) Agnes Holliday, 9) Unidentified, 10) Capt. Bob Godwin, 11) E.B. Watts, 12) Sgt. Raymond Carton, 13) Ell Cowling, 14) Oscar Coley, 15) Harry Sims, 16) Roy McDowell, 17) R.C. Brooks, 18) Chambers, 19) John Williams, 20) Earl Thompson, 21) Dexter Haney, 22) Kennon Agee, and 23) Herman Chapman. Carlton was later killed in a traffic crash in Covington County in February 1965, when a tire blew out on his patrol car, sending him into a bridge abutment on U.S. 331. McDowell later became sheriff of Etowah County, and Chapman was later sheriff of Lee County.





Above: Col. Floyd Mann, director, promoting highway patrolmen to corporal in the early 1960s. From left, Cpls. Don Kimbro, Pete Bagnall, Bill Hollon, Chief Bankhead Bates, Cpl. Jessie Ward, Chief Joe Smelley, Chief Bill Jones, and Cpls. Robert Ethridge, Emmett J. Dixon, and J.R. Lowe. Dixon would later become chief of I&I and ABI.

Right: Highway Patrolmen Jim Bryant, Chuck Franklin, Joe Partin, and Kenneth Rush at the Lake Guntersville boat races in 1960.



Below: Retirement presentation for Maj. Bankhead Bates. Bates was a charter member, a former director, and a chief of Driver License. From left, Capts. Bob Godwin, Roger Milner, George Wallace, Lt. Col. Bill Jones, Chief Joe Smelley, Capt. Billy Hoots, Bates, Col. Floyd Mann, and Capts. Claude Prier, John Cloud, Tom Posey, Bob Miller, T.L. Payne, Floyd Bunn, and J.K. Adams.



A Letter of Appreciation

June 15, 2009



To Whom It May Concern:

Last month, my sister and I found ourselves in Mississippi taking care of some legal matters. On our way back home to Tennessee, we were totally oblivious and engrossed in discussing the court case. We were laughing and talking with nary a thought to the gas gauge!

Well, just as we crossed the Alabama state line, the little Kiwi green Honda Element we were driving in that day started to sputter and then stalled – out of gas!

We then pulled over onto the shoulder of the interstate, and huge trucks blew past us, never even slowing down.

My sister grabbed her cell phone and called AAA. As she talked to them, I stepped out of the car and started munching on some French fries while waiting for their arrival.

I had eaten about seven fries, watching out for the cars and trucks roaring past when, lo and behold, a car pulled in behind us.

It was an Alabama state trooper! Hooray!!!

A young, smiling, clean cut, handsome trooper stepped out of his car, adjusted his hat, and walked up to us.

“Do you ladies need some help?” he asked.

I told him that my sister was on the phone with AAA.

“Well, do you want to wait a couple of hours for them, or would you just like me to go get you ladies some gas and be back in about 15 minutes?”

Well, of course we chose the latter!

He came right back, gas can in hand and poured a gallon of gas in the car for us, and then he was gone.

Tpr. Richard Pittman was absolutely a life saver, polite and capable. He was very mannerly, and he seemed so proud to wear the honorable uniform of an Alabama state trooper. The state of Alabama is lucky to have a representative such as he, and we are so thankful he came to our rescue!

Sincerely,

Faith Mayton and Glory Davis

‘HONORING OUR HEROES’

Regional ceremonies honoring law enforcement personnel are being planned for those who were unable to attend and receive the Medal of Distinction or Medal of Valor at the 2008 Opening Ceremonies in Birmingham. Cities chosen to present the awards in are Dothan, Florence, Huntsville, Mobile, Montgomery, Tuscaloosa, and either Anniston or Gadsden.

Registration is now open for the first ceremony, to be held in Mobile on Monday, Aug. 10, at 1:30 p.m. in the Mobile City Council Chambers for Metro Mobile and the Southwest section of Alabama. All law enforcement personnel with 10 years of service and any family member that has lost a loved one in the line of duty will be eligible to receive the appropriate medal.

Individuals wishing to register for the ceremony in Mobile may do so online at www.alagames.com (under the Honoring Our Heroes section), or by e-mailing Dean Kelly at dean.kelly@alagames.com, or calling, toll-free, at 1-800-467-0422. The deadline to register is noon, Aug. 7. Dates and exact locations for the other six ceremonies will be made available as they are confirmed.



People You Know!

New Employees

Jilane Brimer	6.16.09	ASA I	HP/Jacksonville
Brittney Fannin	6.16.09	ASA I	ABI/Identification
Mary Griffith	6.16.09	Special Agent	ABI/CyberCrime
Bobbie McCullough	7.01.09	ASA I	DL/Reinstatement
Katherine Stewart	7.01.09	Special Agent	ABI/CyberCrime
Brooke Walker	6.16.09	Special Agent	ABI/CyberCrime

Promotions

Andrea Donaldson	6.16.09	ASA II	HP/Hamilton
Herbert Junkin	7.01.09	Lieutenant	HP/MCSU
Stanley Lemon	7.01.09	Lieutenant	DL/Birmingham Examining
Mark Neilson	7.01.09	Corporal	HP/MCSU
Michael Smith	7.01.09	Sergeant	HP/Dothan

Transfers

Michael Gillis	6.16.09	Trooper	ABI/Investigative Operations
Judith Hanna	6.16.09	DL Examiner I	DL/Mobile Examining
Jennifer McIntyre	7.01.09	ASA II	SER/Supply
Cynthia Price	7.01.09	ASA II	SER/Communications Engineering
Kenneth Vines	7.01.09	Sergeant	DL/Jacksonville Examining
Dan Watson	7.01.09	Trooper	ABI/Montgomery

Resignations

Mark Barron	6.30.09	PCO I	HP/Huntsville
Chyna McCreary	6.30.09	DL Examiner I	DL/Montgomery

Retirements

Kris Helton	6.30.09	Trooper Pilot Supervisor	SER/Aviation
Faye Miller	6.30.09	Fingerprint Classifier I	ABI/Identification
Freddie Reeves	6.30.09	Trooper	ABI/Investigative Operations

Alabama Department of



Public Safety

CONTRIBUTING:

- Maj. Hugh McCall, DL
- Capt. Charles Ward, PS
- Capt. Jack Clark, HP
- Sgt. Ricky Agerton, ABI
- Tpr. Charles Dysart, ADM
- Tommy Giles, Photography

EDITOR:

Ryan Godfrey

RSA Criminal Justice Center Montgomery, Ala.



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Questions? Comments? Concerns?

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

RYAN.GODFREY@DPS.ALABAMA.GOV

On Your Calendar

Monday, September 7

Labor Day

Monday, October 12

Columbus Day

Wednesday, November 11

Veterans Day

Thursday, November 26

Thanksgiving Day

ACJTC TRAINING SCHEDULE AUGUST '09

Date	Event
Aug. 3-7	Basic Narcotics Response
4	PowerPoint 2003 Advanced
5	PowerPoint 2007 Advanced
6	SUID
10-13	Radar Instructor Course
17-21	MCSAP Advance
18	Excel 2007 Advanced
18-19	DPS Chaplains In-service
19	Excel 2003 Advanced
19	DVOC/Military
23-31	Level III Spanish Immersion
23-31	Basic Police Session 136
26	Computer Basics
27	Outlook & Webmail