



The official monthly publication of the Alabama Department of Public Safety



THE BLUE LIGHT

September 2010



THE HONORABLE BOB RILEY
Governor

COLONEL J. CHRISTOPHER MURPHY
Director

LT. COLONEL F.A. BINGHAM
Assistant Director

MAJOR HUGH McCALL
ABI Division

MAJOR MARC McHENRY
Administrative Division

MAJOR TERRY CHAPMAN
Driver License Division

MAJOR CHARLES ANDREWS
Highway Patrol Division

MAJOR HERMAN WRIGHT
Protective Services Division

MAJOR JERRY CONNER
Service Division

INSIDE THIS ISSUE...

Q&A with Col. J. Christopher Murphy..... 2

Lunch and Learn Spotlights Safety Issues 5

Riley Honors Troopers for Drug Seizure..... 7

Meet Robyn Bradley Litchfield 8

Financial Services Work on CPM Project..... 9

HP Honored at National Conference 10

A Conversation with Col. J. Christopher Murphy



A question-and-answer session with *The Blue Light* marked the first months of Col. J. Christopher Murphy's tenure as director of Public Safety. In his last month on the job with DPS, Murphy sat down again with *TBL* for the following conversation.

TBL: Let's go back to Dec. 1, 2006, the day you were sworn in as director of the Alabama Department of Public Safety. What was the first item on your to-do list?

JCM: Meeting with the majors and giving them their new assignments. The reason I thought that was important is that having done my homework — or, in Secret Service lingo, “advance” on DPS — the consistent challenge that I had been made aware of is that the divisions were not working as a cohesive group. We needed to have a different set of eyes looking at the different divisions to make sure that we were working as efficiently and as effectively as possible.

I knew I was an outsider coming in with, I think, some significant leadership experiences and training. If I waited weeks or months to make changes, then it might become personal. If I did it on Day 1, it was a business decision and purposeful, not personal.

TBL: Reflecting on your many accomplishments as DPS director, what would make your Top 3 or Top 5 list?

JCM: I would need to break that down into categories.

The top outward physical achievement has to be the academy, followed by things like getting the Mobile Post out of a deplorable facility and purchasing the 407 helicopter. Those are outward and visible sounds of “Wow. That's a big difference!” I'm very excited about the upcoming grand opening of this academy. It's going to have that

“wow” factor. It's going to show what DPS is all about, but it shows so much more. It shows our cooperation with the Department of Corrections and Wallace Community College Selma. And it shows collaboration with the Legislature and the Governor's Office.

This new structure is the outward and visible sign of so much more. It's a new academy, with adult-based training, with leadership development, with these centers of excellence. And this outward edifice, if you will, is indicative of that.

One of the greatest accomplishments we have been able to do is raise leaders in this department and establish leadership as a priority. We're going through leadership training, doing some mentoring, interviewing for positions as opposed to just picking the next person on the list. We are working not only to get people on the bus, but get them in the right seat on the bus.

Our leaders — division chiefs, assistant division chiefs and at least three tiers down — who are out there now have been promoted under this understanding of what vision is, what ethical behavior is, what business decisions are about. That segues into our success to reduce fatalities, reduce crashes, and reduce injuries. That was accomplished through business decisions, through doing the business of DPS differently. And that is a credit to those men and women who are out there on the job. In a humanistic way, you have got to say that saving those lives is the most important achievement. Period.

TBL: In retrospect, what would you have done differently?

JCM: I think the Lord has blessed me with some great experiences, some great training and, I hope, skills and natural talents. But I'm human, and I have made mistakes. Although I have tried to do things for the right reasons, sometimes I've made the wrong call.



Some decisions have not turned out as well as I thought they would. But I think people have heard me say, “I blew that one.” And they helped me fix it, helped me right it, as opposed to going down with the ship just because I made a mistake.

TBL: How would you describe the impact this department has made on you?

JCM: I came to this department with a deep, sincere respect for the Department of Public Safety. That trooper hat that’s up there has had a place in my office in Birmingham, in Houston and throughout the country because I have always had this respect for Alabama state troopers.

When I was a police officer in Auburn at 21 years old, if a trooper would pull up beside you at 2 a.m. and talk to you, you just thought that was the greatest thing. Or you got to talk with a trooper at a crash scene. That was big. That was exiting. Throughout my tenure in law enforcement, troopers are who you looked up to.

I think I will be forever changed and affected by the deep commitment of this department and the men and women who do their jobs here. And we can take something as horrific as the worst fatality rate since 1973 and absolutely turn that around. No one person does that. It’s not a concept that one person can be patted on the back for.

That stems from an absolute commitment departmentwide — and we did that. We changed how we do business, and the people got excited about it. They saw the difference, and I think they are

emboldened by it. And when you break that down to that first year with 62 fewer fatalities, when you understand that those are people who are spending Christmas with their families because of what we are doing at DPS, it’s really exciting.

So as I segue into a new position of leadership with the Montgomery Department of Public Safety, I am inspired by the success of the Alabama Department of Public Safety. That same success, vision and leadership principles can translate into this new challenge. I think any agency, if it is honest, can say, “Maybe we can do things more efficiently and more effectively.”

TBL: Considering the many events that have taken place during your directorship, which made the greatest impression on you, professionally and/or personally?

JCM: The most profound has to be the Geneva shootings, just in the event’s sheer magnitude and visibility. We were managing from the crisis center at Headquarters and PIO is pointing out news coverage of the shootings in Australia and literally all around the world. You can’t be human and not be profoundly affected by a tragedy of this magnitude. That transcends into the work of the men and women who responded to the shootings, what they had to go through and their absolute professionalism.

When Trooper Jacobs was killed during my first couple of months here, I was at the scene, and it really got to me, more than anything I have ever seen. Our ABI agents were working the crime scene — with their slain colleague right there —

and they were passionate about the job. You just sensed their attitude: “We’re going to do this, and we’re going to do it right. This is one of us.”

Hers was my first trooper funeral. It was really difficult, profoundly sobering and affecting. At the funeral, you hear that bagpipe and Taps, and you see those trooper uniforms, and tears have to come to your eyes. None of that was just a job for any of those people for any of those events. You have to swell with pride because of the men and women who do this job.

I can go through so many events ... the Governor’s Task Force on Illegal Gambling, with some tense times at Greenetrack, VictoryLand and at other places; the Footwash, with folks from Detroit saying, “We’ve never had a positive experience with state troopers before.” It makes you swell with pride. It has very little to do with me. It has everything to do with the men and women here.

TBL: From your work here, is there anything that brings a smile to your face or makes you chuckle?

JCM: Well, I’ve had a lot of pleasant experiences. With the Secret Service I have gotten to do a lot of things and go to a lot of places, but I was on the clock. Here, I was at the governor’s inauguration as a cabinet member, and we went to a black-tie event at the mansion. That’s just cool; there’s no way around it.

It was a different role for me to address a joint session of the legislature. I enjoyed getting to know the legislators



and doing things like that. As an Auburn fan — I know this is controversial for a partisan crowd — but to be invited to the president’s box to see a game as DPS liaison is exciting.

One of the highlights was when Coach Tommy Tuberville asked me to do a spiritual talk with the team, so I got to go over and address them. It’s exciting. I’ve enjoyed going to Alabama games, Troy, the Classic and others.

Riding with troopers is one of my favorite things to do. I have enjoyed and been honored to put on the trooper uniform and pin those eagles on, because I’ve admired Alabama state troopers for so long.

No question, this job has great perks, but do you aspire to a position for the perks or do you aspire to a position for the leadership? Do the perks drive your work, or are they fringe benefits?

TBL: Have you written any tickets?

JCM: I have, but until that first Take Back Our Highways, I hadn’t written a ticket since 1979. I didn’t have a computer in my car, and it took me a long time. The post called and said, “DPS1, we want to make sure you are OK. You have just been out there a long time.” Yes, it takes me a long

time to do this. It’s been 30 years.

It was interesting to ride with the governor and Tommy Giles. We pulled over that first car, and the governor’s in the car, and I love what he said: “At least it’s a Florida tag, not an Alabama voter.”

TBL: As you pack up your office and prepare to leave the department, what is the message you would like to send to the DPS family?

JCM: I first would have to say what a profound honor it has been to serve this department and to serve this state. They are literally the best.

To the people of DPS, I would like to say, continue on this path, no matter who becomes the new director. Continue to value leadership and vision, continue moving in a professional direction, saving lives, being efficient, effective and courteous.

You’re healthy, and you’re strong. Don’t let anybody take that away from you. You know how to do this right and keep serving the citizens the way you have been doing it.

TBL: What would you like to see this department accomplish during the next

three to five years?

JCM: I would love to see DPS continue to come into its own with this new academy and be seen as a regional beacon for excellence in leadership training. I would love to see DPS be able to expand and continue to reduce the fatality rate, and reach for that as a high goal.

I would like for the department to be seen as an example of professionalism and leadership. I think this is more important than the individual functions that you could go through with each division.

I just returned from the Southeastern Colonels’ Conference, and we are absolutely in first place when it comes to saving lives and reducing crashes and injuries. End as No. 1, that is what you want to do.

TBL: Are you sure you want to leave when you’re No. 1?

JCM: You want to leave on top or keep going.

I am excited about my new challenge. I’m honored that Mayor Todd Strange would ask me to take this job, and I really am looking forward to this new opportunity. But do I love this department? Yes. Will it always be a very significant part of who I am? Yes.

TBL: Twenty-five years from now, when the department marks its centennial, somebody may come along and release a big book on DPS’s history, spotlighting each of its directors. What should the “J. Christopher Murphy” page include? How would you like to be remembered?

JCM: I have always said that the mark of my leadership will probably best be judged five years after I am gone. That’s true for any leader.

I have stepped on toes here, no question. There are folks who can’t wait until Oct. 1. And then there are others who truly hate to see me go. It is what it is.

What I would love to have said about me is, “He brought leadership. He was a strong, ethical, professional leader, and he helped teach us to lead.”

Lunch and Learn Spotlights State Employee Safety Issues

7:50 a.m.: Armed man enters office building, looking for wife.

7:51 a.m.: One of wife's co-workers calls 911.

7:52 a.m.: He shoots wife in the head, leaves the area, threatens others in the building.

7:53 a.m.: Police officers and medics are called to the scene.

7:55 a.m.: Armed man shoots three or four employees before turning gun on himself.

7:58 a.m.: First police units arrive, find gunman dead.

"Boom, boom, boom -- it happens that quickly," said Steve Searcy of Family Justice Center in Montgomery. In a matter of minutes, domestic violence becomes workplace violence, putting the victim, his or her co-workers and other innocent bystanders at great risk.

Searcy explored domestic violence in the workplace July 29, during the first session of a free lunchtime series for state employees. Called Lunch and Learn, the bimonthly series is sponsored by the State Personnel Department and the Alabama Department of Public Safety to bring speakers in to discuss a variety of topics. Almost 40 people from a number of state agencies attended the inaugural session.

Capitol Police Sgt. Addré Bryant, one of the Lunch and Learn coordinators, said the program is designed to spotlight personal safety issues that affect state employees. "Education is so important," Bryant said.

During the inaugural program, Searcy stressed the need for a plan before things escalate.

It is always good to have a policy in place, he said, but recognizing signs of abuse is key. Maybe an employee begins asking off or calling in sick more often. Maybe he or she is having a tough time focusing on work or struggling to keep up with his or her normal workload.



Domestic violence in the workplace can be an emotional, physical and financial strain on businesses and organizations of all sizes. In fact, according to the Bureau of National Affairs, domestic violence costs American businesses \$3-\$5 billion per year in lost work days, reduced productivity and medical care. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that businesses pay \$727.8 million annually in lost productivity because of domestic violence, with \$7.9 million of that each year in lost workdays.

But the Family Justice Center and such groups as the Alabama Coalition Against Domestic Violence strive to make a positive difference by educating businesses and communities and improving resources available to victims.

One state employee attended the Lunch and Learn session out of concern for the state's workforce, and he urged everyone there to get involved when possible. "Don't be a silent bystander," he said.

Searcy agreed, adding, "If you're told, you can't sit on the information. You must tell. It's no longer acceptable to say, 'That's not my problem.'" Domestic violence is *everybody's* problem – and all it takes is a phone call to the Family Justice Center or other organizations equipped to work with

victims of domestic violence.

Following the first program, Bryant said he was pleased with turnout and group participation. In the future, Lunch and Learn organizers will partner with a number of Montgomery-area agencies to bring assorted topics to the table. They hope to include speakers from such agencies as the Montgomery Police Department and Montgomery Fire Department.

The next Lunch and Learn, scheduled for noon on Thursday, Sept. 30, will focus on theft in the workplace. Cpl. Glenn Suits of the Capitol Police will offer preventive tips, as well as procedures should state employees become victims of theft.

**Lunch and Learn:
Theft in the Workplace**

**12:05 - 12:50 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 30**

**Personnel Training Room
(Room 319), Folsom
Administrative Building**

Call 334-242-3389

Avoid Workplace Domestic Violence

Domestic violence doesn't discriminate.

It strikes all ages, races, cultures and income levels. And it is more common than you think, said Cathy Dawson, PCO III in the Capitol Police Communications Center at the Department of Public Safety's Headquarters. Members of the DPS family would be surprised if they realized just how common it is and that the violence sometimes follows the victims to work, she said.

Protecting a number of Capitol complex buildings, Dawson's unit frequently deals with domestic violence issues in the workplace. The unit receives five to six calls per month from state employees or their supervisors who want to report telephone harassment, and each report is taken seriously.

"We probably receive one to two calls per month that have escalated and have become threats," Dawson said. "As a rule, by the time we receive the call, we find the individual has had the problem for a while, or the situation has come to the workplace."

Employees often become aware of a co-worker's abusive relationship when the situation worsens. They may notice a greater number of phone calls or unplanned visits during the workday. They may detect bruises or other signs of physical abuse. They may see changes in personality.

"Everyone has a general idea of what domestic violence is; however, education is our best tool in combating the problem," Dawson said.

She urges DPS employees to always be aware of their surroundings and to follow their instincts. If employees notice someone in the building who seems out of place or who is loitering, they should contact a supervisor as soon as possible. "Make others aware. Report strangers or strange activity," she said.

24-HOUR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CRISIS LINE 800-650-6522

RECOGNIZING A VICTIM

Although there may be other causes, the following clues are commonly present when an employee is the victim of domestic violence:

- ▶ Obvious injuries (bruises, black eyes, broken bones and/or hearing loss). The employee may say injuries resulted from "falls, "being clumsy" or "accidents."
- ▶ Changes in appearance, including clothing that is inappropriate for the season (long sleeves or turtlenecks during warm weather) and unusually heavy makeup.
- ▶ Uncharacteristic/excessive absenteeism or lateness for work.
- ▶ Emotional distress indicated by tearfulness, depression or suicidal thoughts.
- ▶ Unusual number of phone calls, strong reactions to those phone calls and reluctance to converse or respond to phone messages.
- ▶ Sensitivity about home life or hints of trouble at home; comments may include references to bad moods, anger, temper and alcohol or drug abuse.
- ▶ Disruptive personal visits to workplace by current or former partner or spouse.

RECOGNIZING AN ABUSER

- ▶ May be found from entry level to the executive suite.
- ▶ May display outbursts of anger toward a partner or others.
- ▶ May blame others for problems, especially his or her partner.
- ▶ May have frequent absences or lateness to work.
- ▶ May make frequent calls or send e-mails or text messages to partner.
- ▶ May have a change in appearance, maybe going from neat to disheveled.
- ▶ May answer questions directed toward partner.
- ▶ May often be very loud or speak in a condescending manner to others.

HERE ARE SOME WAYS TO HELP

- ▶ If there is imminent danger, call 911.
- ▶ Encourage the victim to contact a local domestic violence program to develop a personal and workplace safety plan.
- ▶ Designate a code word or phrase so the victim can alert co-workers to danger.
- ▶ Consider re-assigning the victim until the matter can be resolved.
- ▶ Listen to the victim; don't tell him or her what to do. Advising him or her to leave the abusive relationship may put the victim and any children in jeopardy. (An attempt to leave is most dangerous because the abuser realizes that he or she is losing control. And, in an attempt to regain control, the offender may stalk, injure or kill his or her victim and others.)

Sources: Alabama Family Justice Center, Alabama Coalition Against Domestic Violence

Riley Honors Troopers, K-9's Following Major Drug Seizure

Gov. Bob Riley honored four Alabama state troopers on Aug. 13 for using specialized training to seize 99 kilograms of cocaine during a routine traffic stop in May in Tuscaloosa County.

During a press conference at the Capitol, the governor praised the work of Highway Patrol's Felony Apprehension Patrol Unit members Cpl. Darrell Seymour, Trooper Richard Pittman, Sgt. Charlton Martin and Trooper Shone Minor. Riley not only thanked them for their "exemplary service in keeping Alabama safe," but he showed great interest in their work -- and that of their K-9 partners, Brim (Seymour's partner) and Ringo (Pittman's partner).

"Highway Patrol is about much more than writing tickets and enforcing traffic laws," the governor said. "These men and their colleagues in the Felony Apprehension Patrol unit utilize their training to detect criminal activity, detain lawbreakers and keep illegal drugs and other contraband off the streets," Riley said. "Any given traffic stop could be a drug dealer smuggling narcotics through Alabama, or a convicted felon on the loose."

Members of the FAP unit are trained to detect illegal activity during routine work. In this particular case, Seymour pulled over a tractor-trailer for inspection while patrolling Interstate 20/59. During the inspection, he detected what appeared to be a secret compartment under the bunk and called for backup. Seymour received the driver's consent to search the tractor and located a 218-pound stash of cocaine, which resulted in \$2.8 million worth of cocaine being taken off the streets before it could reach communities.

The governor wrapped up the press conference with a warm handshake for each trooper and a friendly pat on the head for Brim and Ringo.

The FAP Unit receives funding assistance from both the Drug Asset Forfeiture fund and the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration.



Meet Public Information's Robyn Litchfield

As the newest member of the Public Information/Education Unit, Robyn Bradley Litchfield knows a thing or two about reporting.

"Reporting is an occupation that just kind of gets into your blood," she said.

Six months after receiving her degree in Mass Communications from Auburn University at Montgomery, Litchfield found herself gainfully employed as a reporter and editor at the *Montgomery Advertiser* for the next 20 years of her life.

"Even though working for the paper was something that I thoroughly enjoyed, I decided it was time to step outside my comfort zone and accept a new challenge. I am so happy that challenge has brought me here to DPS," said Litchfield.

Since leaving the paper, Litchfield has been busy fielding questions from other reporters, rather than asking her own.

"My previous experience as a reporter really helps me understand my new position," Litchfield explained. "Not only do I fully understand the need for correct and concise information, I also understand what it means to work on a strict deadline. I think that my previous experience as a reporter gives me a unique perspective to be helpful to reporters. Conversely, I am also able to recognize the signs when reporters are fishing for information they are not privy to, and I know when to be guarded."

In the two months since joining the DPS family, Litchfield has adjusted well to working in law enforcement as the department's new information specialist, and she has formed several strong bonds with her peers at work.

"The structure here is very different than what I'm used to," said Litchfield. "Just learning the ranks took some time, and I was accustomed to working in a newsroom, not having my own office. Really though, the transition between the two jobs has been a smooth one, and I have been thankful for the opportunity to work on several special projects in the past few weeks to really get my adrenaline pumping."

Also getting the adrenaline flowing for Litchfield was her bird's eye view of the river region alongside Chief Pilot Lee Hamilton during one of her first assignments for DPS. Litchfield contends the flight was her best-ever flying experience, despite that they flew *sans* helicopter doors.

Litchfield, whose brother is a Montgomery Police officer, said she's always had a great deal of respect for law enforcement and for DPS. "But until I joined the DPS family, I never realized how diverse we are as a department," she said. Litchfield is learning about everything from CyberCrime to graduated driver licensing, as she researches and responds to media and constituent inquiries.

"I have a deep appreciation for what DPS does to protect and serve our state, and I feel honored and humbled to be a part of that," said Litchfield.



Fast Facts: Get To Know

Robyn Bradley Litchfield

- ▶ Was born on Halloween night, and the connection to Halloween makes it her favorite holiday.
- ▶ Has two daughters, Michaela and Madelyn.
- ▶ Despite writing a regular food column, she doesn't drink milk, abhors "smelly" cheeses, and doesn't "do meat with bones."
- ▶ Favorite restaurants include Ixtapa and Chris's Famous Hotdogs.
- ▶ Favorite movies are *Sling Blade* and *The Station Agent*.
- ▶ Favorite musical artists vary widely, but include Lynyrd Skynyrd, Ray Charles, Usher, and everything in between.



Financial Services' Hatcher, Stewart Collaborate on CPM Project to Build Better Leaders

Alabama Department of Public Safety managers Reneé Stewart and Shelia Hatcher recently completed a program designed to inspire new ways of thinking and to explore issues that adversely affect the state.

Both at DPS Headquarters, Hatcher is Accounts Receivable supervisor, and Stewart is Accounts Payable supervisor. They were among dozens of Auburn University-Montgomery's Certified Public Manager students who participated in the CPM Solutions Alabama project.

Hosted by AUM's Alabama Training Institute, the program showcases state employees from across the state. During the two-year training, the students worked in small groups during the second year to find solutions to what state leaders have identified as critical issues, challenges that have the potential to hinder Alabama's progress or adversely affect its residents.

The small groups examined Alabama's high school dropout rate, unemployment tax rates, service delivery at the Alabama Department of Forensic Sciences and

DPS's Driver License Division. By the end of the year, each group had a clear picture of these issues and had a number of solutions to offer. They presented their findings and solutions Aug. 13 at the Alabama State Capitol Auditorium.

While analyzing the Driver License Division, for example, the small group studied the division's services, facilities, employee training and other key factors. At the end of the analysis, the group made several recommendations. Solutions include creating a more informative and user-friendly website, purchasing an interactive voice response phone system to reduce number of calls staff members must answer, and investing in mobile units that could be used across the state.

Hatcher was part of the small group that explored Alabama's high school dropout rate, and she said it was a great learning experience.

The purpose of the training program is "to help supervisors become better supervisors," she said. Training involved developing such skills as brainstorming on

projects, motivating employees, making decisions and impromptu public speaking.

Stewart was part of the small group that explored Driver License. And although the experience was a true test of her time management skills, she is grateful for the opportunity to complete such an enriching program.

"I've found many of the techniques learned in the program to be useful in both my professional and personal life," Stewart said.

From the first day, students were asked to analyze their predominant behavioral tendencies and to identify with a personality type. "During each successive training session, we were challenged to examine, explore and better understand not only our own personality types, but also those of our peers," Stewart said.

"I've grown as both a manager and as an individual during this endeavor, and I look forward to sharing and further implementing the skills gained over the past two years," she said.



HP Among Honored at 20th Annual DIAP Conference in New Orleans

Troopers from the Alabama Criminal Justice Training Center, Motor Carrier Safety Unit and Felony Apprehension Patrol attended the 20th Annual Drug Interdiction Assistance Program Conference in New Orleans Aug. 16-20. DIAP is an initiative of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration focused on targeting all crimes involving commercial motor vehicles, such as smuggling persons, drugs, or money, or theft of cargo. DIAP involves all levels of law enforcement, including the DEA, ICE and Border Patrols.

At the conference, DPS and its members received three national recognition awards. Tpr. Will Barnes of FAP received the El Paso Intelligence Center Instructor of the

Year Award. Both Motor Carrier and FAP each received recognition awards for multiple CMV seizures in 2009, and the FAP K-9 Unit received the National Team of the Year Award.

“It is an honor for the Alabama Department of Public Safety to be recognized by its peers,” said K-9 Commander Sgt. Charlton Martin, “but it always adds a little extra when the recognition is on a national scale.”

Funding for attendance of DPS officers was provided by DIAP and by the MCSAP grant, which is funded by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA).



U.S. Secret Service Provides Training at DPS

The U.S. Secret Service was at DPS Headquarters July 15 to offer training to Alabama state troopers and the Montgomery Fire Department on effective and proactive protective services.

The seminar was part of a week-long dignitary protection training seminar, that brought Washington, D.C., special agents to the river region. The training was designed to help law enforcement protect the public and elected officials.



Roye Receives ATFE Award

The Birmingham ATF field office honored retired Capt. Marvin Roye for his dedication and support to the Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives Bureau at a July 19 luncheon at the Full Moon Bar-B-Que in Gardendale.

ATF Resident Agent in Charge David Hyche presented Roye with a plaque for his dedication in serving as ABI Region B commander.



Troopers Assist 'Christmas' Riders

Troopers from Opelika, Montgomery and Dothan posts participated in the second Christmas in July motorcycle ride. The ride, organized by Judge Theresa Daniels, District Court judge for Bullock County, helps provide toys to underprivileged children. Nearly 100 motorcyclists participated in the July 23 ride.



'Celebrating the Adventure, Continuing the Journey'

DPS's Tommy Giles (center), son Daniel (left) and grandson Colin are pictured at the National Jamboree at Fort A.P. Hill, Va. The trio joined nearly 50,000 other scouts in celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America July 26-Aug. 4.

Applying the Final Touches...



These Sept. 1 photos offer a tantalizing glimpse inside the new Alabama Criminal Justice Training Center on the Campus of Wallace Community College Selma. The new ACJTC will open later this month.





Department of Public Safety

75 Heading Toward

1935 - 2010

Above: The iconic photograph of the charter members of the Alabama Highway Patrol, taken on the south lawn of the Alabama state Capitol in 1935. The photograph was taken with an 8x10 large format film camera, producing an image with a striking level of detail, especially for an image of this vintage.

Below: On July 19, Photographic Services staged several shots to update the 1935 photograph on the Capitol's south lawn. The image on the front page of this issue as well as the one seen below were taken during that session.



People You Know!



New Employees

Phillip Allen	7.16.10	DL Examiner I	DL/Jacksonville Examining
Lula Barnes	8.04.10	Clerical Aide	DL/Medical Records
Danielle Humble	7.01.10	Clerical Aide	DL/Medical Records
Courtney Kelly	8.02.10	Clerical Aide	ABI/CyberCrimes
Kelly McMullen	7.16.10	Clerk	DL/DL Services
Boyd Parker	7.19.10	Building Custodian I	HP/Quad Cities
Michelle Wright	7.01.10	DL Examiner I	DL/Huntsville
Rebecca Tomlin	8.01.10	Account Clerk	ADM/Financial Services

Promotions

Darrell Campbell	8.01.10	Lieutenant	DL/Huntsville
Demetree Collins	8.01.10	PCO III	HP/Montgomery Post
Fran Copeland	7.01.10	Accounting Director II	ADM/Financial Services
Timothy Doyal	8.01.10	Sergeant	HP/Birmingham Post
David Green III	8.01.10	Corporal	HP/Selma Post
Jackie Hamby	8.01.10	Corporal	HP/Opelika Post
Keith Jackson	8.01.10	Captain	HP/Evergreen Post
Christopher McNatt	8.01.10	Corporal	HP/Quad Cities Motor Carrier
Donathan Minor	8.01.10	Corporal	HP/FAP Tuscaloosa
Deena Pregno	8.01.10	Captain	SER/Headquarters
Carl Radcliff	8.01.10	Sergeant	DIR/Office of Inspections
Jessica Richards	7.01.10	ASA II	DL/Records
Christopher Robertson	8.01.10	Lieutenant	DL/Birmingham
Pamela Smith	7.16.10	Fingerprint Classifier I	ABI/Identification
Ethel Tell	7.16.10	Fingerprint Classifier I	ABI/Identification
Kevin Wright	8.01.10	Captain	DIR/Technical Security

Transfers

William Barnes	7.16.10	Trooper	HP/Montgomery County
Chadrick Butts	8.01.10	Trooper	HP/Birmingham Motor Carrier
Dale Cobb	7.23.10	Sergeant	HP/Houston County
Christopher Faulk	7.01.10	Trooper	HP/FAP Headquarters
Billy Fulmer	7.01.10	Trooper	HP/FAP Headquarters
David Godwin	8.01.10	Trooper	HP/Huntsville Motor Carrier
Gerone Grant	7.16.10	Captain	HP/Headquarters
Jason Harris	8.03.10	Trooper	HP/Franklin County
Allen Jones	8.01.10	Lieutenant	HP/Montgomery Post
Howard Krauss	8.03.10	Trooper	HP/Baldwin County
Kenneth Lee	8.03.10	Trooper	HP/Colbert County
John Mahler	7.01.10	Trooper	DL/Morgan County Hearing/Fraud
Benjamin Moore	8.01.10	Trooper	HP Tuscaloosa Motor Carrier
William Rowe	8.03.10	Trooper	HP/Baldwin County

People You Know!



Transfers (continued)

Howard Sharp	7.16.10	Equipment Mechanic	SER/Fleet Maintenance
Terry Sims	8.03.10	Trooper	HP/Bibb County
Derrick Smith	8.01.10	Corporal	SER/Aviation
Timothy Smith	8.03.10	Sergeant	HP/Franklin County
Jeffery Walker	8.03.10	Corporal	HP/Dallas County
Ira Whitehead	8.03.10	Sergeant	HP/Montgomery Motor Carrier
Delvylon Williams	8.01.10	Trooper	HP/Montgomery Motor Carrier
Johnny Williams	8.03.10	Trooper	HP/Lauderdale County

Military Leave

Daryl Thistle	8.01.10	Trooper	ABI/Tuscaloosa
---------------	---------	---------	----------------

Returned from Military Leave

Kevin Cole	7.01.10	Trooper	HP/Montgomery
Jacob Mayo	8.03.10	Trooper	HP/Gadsden

Resignations

Dori Findley	8.13.10	ASA II	SER/Fleet Maintenance
Erik Hunt	7.16.10	Trooper	HP/Quad Cities
Margaret Richardson	7.01.10	DL Examiner I	DL/Dothan Examining

Retirements

Richard Barga	7.01.10	PCO III	HP/Montgomery Post
Steven Bryant	7.01.10	Sergeant	HP/Birmingham
Joseph Brzezinski	7.01.10	Sergeant	ABI/Investigative Operations
Elfriede Hatch	7.01.10	Clerk	DL/DL Services
Keith Mickle	8.01.10	Corporal	HP/Motor Carrier
Jennifer Shaw	7.01.10	Account Clerk	ADM/Financial Services
John Smith	7.01.10	Sergeant	HP/Headquarters
Dale Staggs	7.01.10	DL Examiner I	DL/Decatur
Darrell Tatum	7.01.10	Lieutenant	ABI/Investigative Operations
Dorris Teague	7.01.10	Public Information Specialist	ADM/Public Information
Patricia Thornton	7.01.10	Fingerprint Classifier I	ABI/Identification
Dan Watson	8.01.10	Trooper	ABI/Investigative Operations

Alabama Department of



Public Safety

CONTRIBUTING:

- Maj. Hugh McCall, ABI
- Capt. Charles Ward, PS
- Capt. Jack Clark, HP
- Tpr. John Reese, ADM
- Tommy Giles, Photography
- Reserve Tpr. Tony Dickey
- Robyn Bradley Litchfield

EDITOR:

Ryan Godfrey

RSA Criminal Justice Center Montgomery, Ala.



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

On Your Calendar

Monday, September 6

Labor Day

Monday, October 11

Columbus Day

Thursday, November 11

Veterans Day

Thursday, November 25

Thanksgiving Day

September Academy Class Schedule

DL In-service	Sept. 1-2
Trooper Class 2010-A	1-30
Basic Police Session 139	13-30
DL In-service	13-16
MCSU Commercial Vehicle Counter-Terrorism	13-16
Patrol Rifle	13-17
DPS In-service	20-23
DPS In-service	27-30

To Whom It May Concern:

I just wanted to say my faith in our Alabama State Troopers has been restored. Today, July 14, 2010, between 12:30 and 1 p.m., a caring state trooper, Tpr. Jerod Peak, stopped to assist me on the side of the road. He was truly concerned for my welfare, taking into consideration the severe heat, and he offered to share the coolness of his vehicle. He also offered to take me where I needed to go, and refused to leave me stranded. I had already called my family for assistance and made him aware of the situation. He did not leave until I was able to get my vehicle running and was on my way home. This officer did not have to spend his afternoon sweating with me, but he chose to stay anyway, ensuring my safety and care. This not only made my day, it renewed my faith in law enforcement, and his kindness towards me is very much appreciated.

Sincerely,

April Flowers