

NEWS RELEASE

Alabama Department of Public Safety

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DPS Director Swears in New Troopers *Twelve Members of Class 2007-B to Join Trooper Ranks*

MONTGOMERY — Graduation ceremonies were held Friday, Jan. 18, in Montgomery for the 12 members of Trooper Class 2007-B. Department of Public Safety Director Col. J. Christopher Murphy, in administering the oath of office, told the new troopers that “law enforcement service is one of the highest callings.”

Each of the new troopers completed a 12-week, accelerated training program at the Alabama Criminal Justice Training Center, DPS’s training academy in Selma. The accelerated program is designed for trooper trainees who have completed minimum standards training and are certified by the Alabama Peace Officers Standards and Training Commission prior to reporting to the academy. The training regimen for applicants without prior APOST certification is 22 weeks.

Class members recognized for outstanding achievement include William J. Randall Jr., who earned the Academic Award for achieving the highest overall grade point average; and Thomas A. Brooks, who received the Highway Response and Driving Award for demonstrating a high level of knowledge and ability in defensive and pursuit driving. The Marksmanship Award went to Scott R. Cooper for exhibiting the highest level of knowledge, skill and safety in firearms training; and the Fitness Award went to Jimmy L. Harrell Jr. for attaining the highest level of physical fitness.

Jerome L. White was selected as the class’s top performer overall, receiving the Commander’s Award for exhibiting exceptional leadership, professionalism and dedication to Class 2007-B and the Department of Public Safety, while maintaining a high academic average.

“You can rightly lay claim to the proudest tradition of service, dating back to the founding of the Alabama Highway Patrol in 1935,” said Murphy. “As an Alabama state trooper, you also accept responsibility for helping forge a new tradition of service to our state.”

Murphy congratulated the troopers and told them that Alabama “has extremely high expectations of you. The badge that you wear is a symbol of public faith and public trust, and we must be ever vigilant in making sure that badge is never tarnished.”

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Public Information/Education • P.O. Box 1511 • Montgomery AL 36102-1511

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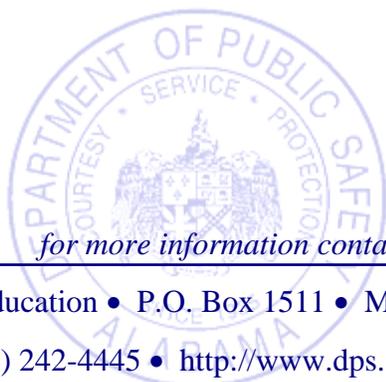
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A roster of the members of Class 2007-B, along with their post and county assignments, follows:

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Post</u> | <u>County</u> |
|--------------------|--------------|---------------|
| Robbie M. Autery | Birmingham | Shelby |
| Thomas A. Brooks | Dothan | Bullock |
| Chad D. Brown | Huntsville | Madison |
| Jon L. Brummitt | Montgomery | Chilton |
| Steven D. Chattin | Huntsville | Jackson |
| Scott R. Cooper | Montgomery | Autauga |
| Randal Dubose | Tuscaloosa | Tuscaloosa |
| Jimmy L. Harrell | Jacksonville | Cleburne |
| John L. Pert | Dothan | Houston |
| William J. Randall | Huntsville | Marshall |
| Jerome L. White | Montgomery | Montgomery |
| Lawrence B. Wilson | Huntsville | Madison |

Photographs of the new troopers are available on Public Safety's Web site <http://www.dps.alabama.gov/> under the Service Division link.

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