

NEWS RELEASE

Alabama Department of Public Safety

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Summit to Address Law Enforcement Planning for Pandemic Influenza

The Alabama Department of Public Health and Department of Public Safety are partnering in a satellite conference and live Webcast to discuss pandemic influenza and the role of law enforcement during such an event. Law enforcement agencies throughout the state and nation are invited to view the free Webcast, which will take place Feb. 28 from 8:30 until 11:30 a.m.

Gov. Bob Riley and Attorney General Troy King will join with State Health Officer Dr. Don Williamson and DPS Director Col. J. Christopher Murphy in opening the summit. They will be joined by a panel of experts who will address the potential impact of a pandemic on cities, counties, and criminal justice agencies. They also will discuss and outline the steps for pandemic preparedness and response for those in the law enforcement community.

“Law enforcement agencies and other first-responders have a critical role in pandemic preparedness and response,” said Murphy. “This is why the Department of Public Safety is pleased to partner with the Department of Public Health to facilitate law enforcement’s efforts to address these issues.”

Summit topics include: a general overview of pandemic influenza; avian influenza outbreak and the agriculture industry; the role of law enforcement and pandemic outbreak; and preparing justice agencies for a pandemic. The summit will conclude with a forum discussion.

Law enforcement agencies are encouraged to visit the Department of Public Health’s Web site, www.adph.org/alphtn, to obtain additional information and register for the satellite conference and Webcast.

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for more information contact:

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

(334) 242-4445 • <http://www.dps.state.al.us/>