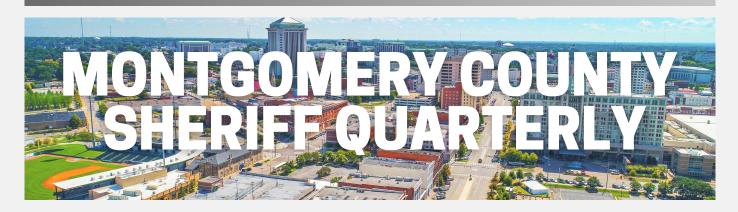
AUGUST 2020 ISSUE 1



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## WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION FROM SHERIFF DERRICK CUNNINGHAM



behalf of the On Montgomery County Sheriff's Office, I am pleased to introduce a new format for our quarterly newsletter, the Montgomery Sheriff Quarterly, or MSQ. The improved publication will

offer enhanced graphics and storylines. The focus will be on our service to Montgomery County residents and the positive impact these relationships bring to our communities.

Montgomery County Sheriff's Office The annual and seasonal activities will highlighted, along with community gatherings, and homeowner's association meetings. As many of you are aware, the MCSO takes great pride in focusing on the children of our community, and many of our programs are focused on the youth of Montgomery County. If you wish to have a future event placed in MSQ, please call 334-832-1338 and ask to speak to Lisa Crenshaw. Additionally, our quarterly newsletter will highlight MCSO members' accomplishments, commendations and promotions within the organization.



### **DEPTUTIES OF THE 2ND QUARTER**

Recently a Montgomery County resident was involved in tragic accident while operating a tractor. Corporal Chesmon Guthery and Deputy Ralph Wilkerson responded quickly to the scene. Once they arrived, they found the resident unresponsive. Both deputies administered CPR for a period of 10 minutes and were able to resuscitate him until the paramedics arrived. Corporal Guthery and Deputy Wilkerson are to be commended for their life saving actions.



Corporal Chesmon Guthery and Deputy Ralph Wilkerson

### CORRECTIONAL OFFICER OF THE SECOND QUARTER

An inmate with mental health challenges in the Montgomery County Detention Facility recently experienced a crisis. While monitoring the detention facility, Corporal Keldric Hawkins observed correctional officers attempting to deal with the distressed inmate who was becoming increasingly violent. The situation quickly escalated.

Corporal Hawkins used outstanding communication and crisis intervention skills to bring the situation to a peaceful resolution. He is commended for his skill and ability in deescalating an event that could have evolved into a dangerous situation.



Corporal Keldric Hawkins

Lakenya Webster, Dispatcher

### **CIVILIAN OF THE SECOND QUARTER**

Montgomery County Sheriff's Office Dispatcher Lakenya Webster has consistently displayed a professional work performance by going beyond the call of duty. Recently the dispatch center undertook a major change in how NCIC paperwork is filed. Ms. Webster took it upon herself to review all NCIC files, ensure their accuracy, and verified the records. There were approximately 2,000 files. Ms. Webster's actions ensured that the MCSO complied with NCIC rules and regulations.

Furthermore, Ms. Webster took it upon herself to learn the emergency procedures of recovering the 911 system and phone network in the communications center, in the event of an interruption in service. She contacted the vendor, InDigital/ECW and obtained detailed information on the system operations. Ms. Webster forwarded this to her supervisors so that others may learn how to restore the communication equipment in cases of emergency.

Dispatcher Lakenya Webster is commended for her forward-thinking and attention to detail.



### Welcome continued from page 1

We will also cover initiatives that the MCSO practices that save the taxpayers money, such as operating our own vehicle maintenance facility rather than outsourcing it to a private vendor, or conducting in-house "vehicle builds" that task MCSO employees with constructing law enforcement vehicles with emergency lights, sirens, computers, radio system, in-car cameras, etc. These endeavors save the Montgomery County taxpayers thousands of dollars a year.

Combating crime and making our communities safe is my number one priority. MSQ will report our efforts in public safety in a clear and concise manner, allowing residents to view crime data on their neighborhoods and communities. As always, your suggestions on matters of public safety are welcome.

MSQ will be sponsoring a guest article from a member of the community in most every publication. We are looking for your input and ideas in making Montgomery County the safest in the nation. Our quarterly publication will also address pending state and local legislation that will impact our communities and law enforcement in general. The relationships I share with other elected officials, local, state and federal, is vital to the future of Montgomery County.

In closing, I thank each and every one of you for your continued support of my office, the members of the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office, and for the entire law enforcement profession. The relationships we share are critical to the safety and welfare of our citizens, homes, businesses and future of our country.

### MONTGOMERY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

Did you know that the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office offers a variety of programs to the community? Here are a few:

- Call Reassurance Program
- Yellow Dot
- Project Lifesaver
- Citizens Academy
- Home security Check
- Explorer Post
- Test My Teen
- Smart 911
- Business & Church Watch



For more information these or other programs, visit our website at:

https://www.montgomerysheriff.com/home-sheriff

or call 334-832-1338.



### CRISIS INTERVENTION TEAM AND DE-ESCALATION TRAINING

One of the most challenging calls a law enforcement officer will face in their career one dealina with an individual experiencing a mental health crisis. Calls of this nature have increased nationwide over the vears. The need for law enforcement to be equipped to handle those in mental crisis has become imperative. Montgomery County The Sheriff's Office has taken the lead in this important social issue. Through a U.S. Department of Justice Mental Health Grant, the MCSO partners with the Montgomery Police Department, Montgomery Fire/Rescue, Baptist Health, Montgomery Area Mental Health Authority and the Alabama Department of Youth Services. Instruction is provided to law enforcement officers throughout the State of Alabama in dealing with the mentally ill. Intervention Team and De-escalation Training (CIT/DT) began in March of 2017 and has been highly successful.

The goal and purpose of the curriculum is to assist law enforcement officers in guiding mental health consumers from hospitals and jails and directing them to mental health facilities that are specialized in treating mental illness. CIT/DT improves law enforcement response and interaction involving people experiencing a behavioral health crisis.

The course familiarizes officers in identifying the signs and symptoms of those experiencing mental health issues, and effective methods in interacting with them during a crisis. Over a three-day



period, officers are given instruction from subject-matter experts, family members of mental health consumers and CIT instructors. A featured practical exercise involving role playing is held at the end of the course. De-escalation techniques are the focus during the training.

The program has proven to build and strengthen relationships among law enforcement, behavioral health organizations, hospitals, consumers, and family members, establishing a solid community-based behavioral health crisis response team. NAMI Montgomery (National Alliance on Mental Illness Montgomery) has partnered with the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office in supporting the course.

Crisis Intervention Team and De-escalation Training has proven to be a reliable program that has benefited the citizens of Montgomery County and members of the law enforcement community throughout the State of Alabama. It has given those in the mental health community a voice in how consumers are viewed and treated.





# CAREER OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE WITH THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Are you looking for a career with a progressive law enforcement agency? The Montgomery County Sheriff's Office is seeking qualified individuals for the position of deputy sheriff. Montgomery County is the fourth largest county in Alabama, with a population of 226,486. It

encompasses 800 square miles. Montgomery County rests on the banks of the Alabama River and has two municipalities, Montgomery and Pike Road, and several unincorporated communities.

The Montgomery County Sheriff's Office began in 1819 with its first Sheriff, John Martin. The Honorable Derrick Cunningham currently serves as the 39th Sheriff of Montgomery County. Sheriff Cunningham has placed a great investment in deputy sheriff pay and benefits, along with a strong infrastructure in technology and equipment within the agency. A new communications center was recently constructed that is a state-of-the-art facility. The MCSO is a leader in assisting many local law enforcement agencies in criminal investigations, crime scene investigation, search and rescue, and leadership development. The sheriff's office offers a command and staff college curriculum for professional advancement.

The beginning salary for a deputy sheriff is \$39,456 per year. There are several pay incentive programs available for those with college degrees and applicants who are certified by the Alabama Peace Officers Standards and Training Commission. A competitive benefits package includes health and dental, paid annual and sick leave, paid holidays and participation in the Retirement Systems of Alabama.

The MCSO offers a college incentive program where members may receive up to 90% reimbursement for tuition based on academic performance. The awarding of a degree allows members to be eligible for a pay increase.

The Montgomery County Sheriff's Office offers several career paths to include patrol, investigations, crime scene investigator, K-9, traffic (motorcycle), school resource officer, legal services (civil process/warrants/fugitive/courts), negotiators, SWAT, dive team, etc. There are pay incentives for specialized assignments. The MCSO also assigns deputies to several federal task forces with federal agencies such as the FBI, DEA and U.S. Marshal's Service.

If you would like to learn more, you may visit our website at:

https://www.montgomerysheriff.com/

or to apply as a deputy sheriff, you may visit:

https://jobapscloud.com/MGM/default.asp



### GUEST ARTICLE: GORDAN STONE, MAYOR, TOWN OF PIKE ROAD

It has been over twenty years since the Town of Pike Road incorporated, an act made possible by passionate and engaged individuals with a deep interest cultivatina a responsible, sustainable future for the community. Since then, this township has experienced extraordinary growth, being named the fastest-growing city in Alabama two decades in a row. This rate of growth provides a broad set of opportunities. With this awareness, town leadership has made concerted efforts and intentional choices throughout the years to provide a central focus. The focus is defined as the Four Pillars: Planning, Services, Quality of Life, and Education.

As a small town starting with around 300 citizens, fiscal responsibility has been at the forefront of planning for growth, providing quality services, and providing educational opportunities for every citizen. Incorporating a Town in 1997 provided unique opportunities to learn from the best practices of small and large cities across country, and this approach traditional municipal responsibilities opened the door to partnerships. We have been blessed to be able to provide excellent services, from electrical to emergency response, through cultivating partnerships with existing organizations. partnerships help our growing community continue to maintain efficient and consistent services in a financially responsible way. One of the best examples of this is our partnership with the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office, whose



team has diligently and professionally protected and served the Town of Pike Road and the Pike Road area for years.

In addition to excellent response times and professional service, the MCSO team dedicates energy and brings enthusiasm to community-building activities. They are excellent at fostering relationships with all Montgomery County residents. In the past, we have partnered with the MCSO to host activities like National Night Out and safety seminars with our Neighborhood Leaders. Plus, their team is involved in many of our other community events. Aside from these activities and events, the MCSO prioritizes providing their own initiatives to show their commitment to the people they serve, such as the annual "Spook-tacular" Halloween party and both youth and senior-citizen Fishing Rodeos.

Strong relationships between law enforcement and communities are vital to promoting safety and security in any area, and we see this evidenced now more than ever across our country. As partners, it is important that we regularly contribute to help meet the financial needs of the MCSO.



### **PROMOTIONS 2ND QUARTER**

### **SWORN**

- Lieutenant Ben Harrison
- Sergeant Marshawn Garner
- Corporal Joshua Bauer
- Corporal Chesmon Guthery
- Corporal Charles McGlown



### CORRECTIONS

- Major Sallie Foster
- Captain Carlos Parks
- Lieutenant Crystal Jenkins
- Lieutenant Ralph Johnson
- Lieutenant Nicole Owens
- Sergeant Tersheria Baldwin
- Corporal Kimberly Carter
- Corporal Jessica Harvey
- Corporal Raven Jordan
- Corporal Nekia Key
- Corporal Ladarius Knight
- Corporal Chas Pierce
- Corporal John Smith
- Corporal Ke'hinde Sturdivant
- Corporal Cournisha Taylor
- Corporal Miya Williams

### Guest Article continued from page 7

The MCSO has consistently prioritized open lines of communication among county leadership, beginning with the late Sheriff D.T. Marshall and continuing now with Sheriff Derrick Cunningham. The collaboration and support we receive from the Montgomery County Commission has also helped this partnership grow in a sustainable manner. We also appreciate the connectedness and outreach from the MCSO, which allows us to utilize direct lines of communication to inform our citizens. Sheriff Cunningham is always available to assist.

Frequent communication and collaboration help Town and MCSO leadership understand the needs of our community and county. Strong leadership positions us to grow in partnership – thank you, Sheriff Cunningham. We are more than appreciative of the continued dedication to excellence and service, which is evidenced in the regular calls and comments the Town of Pike Road team receives from citizens. We celebrate the responsiveness and professionalism of the MCSO, and we look forward to continuing to grow alongside the department.



### M.C.S.O INVESTIGATIONS 2ND QUARTER FELONY ARRESTS



Liathey Williams Theft of Property 3rd 10000 Block Chantilly Parkway



Quandel Williams Theft of Property 3rd 10000 Block Chantilly Parkway



Kenneth Harris Theft of Property 3rd 3000 Block Wetumpka Hwy



Timothy Clark Burglary 3rd x2 Theft of Property 1st x2 2000 & 3000 Block Hillabee Rd.



Demarcus Parker Murder, Attempted Murder, DFOD 2000 Block Moore Rd.



Clarence Morgan, Jr.
\*Receiving Stolent Property 1st
6000 Block Ashwood Cir.
(\*Warrants Secured/Pending
Arrest)



Jacoby Esco \*Burglary 3, TOP 4, Attempt. Elude 100 Block Pine Level Ln. \*(Warrants Secured/ Pending Arrest)



Carl Smith III Kidnapping 2nd, Robbery 3rd 100 Block Edwards Ln.



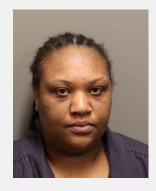
Darius Gunn Destruction of State Property x3 200 Block S. McDonough St.



Delano Gilcrest
\*Obstuc. Justice False I.D.
5000 Block Selma Hwy
(\*Warrants Secured/Pending



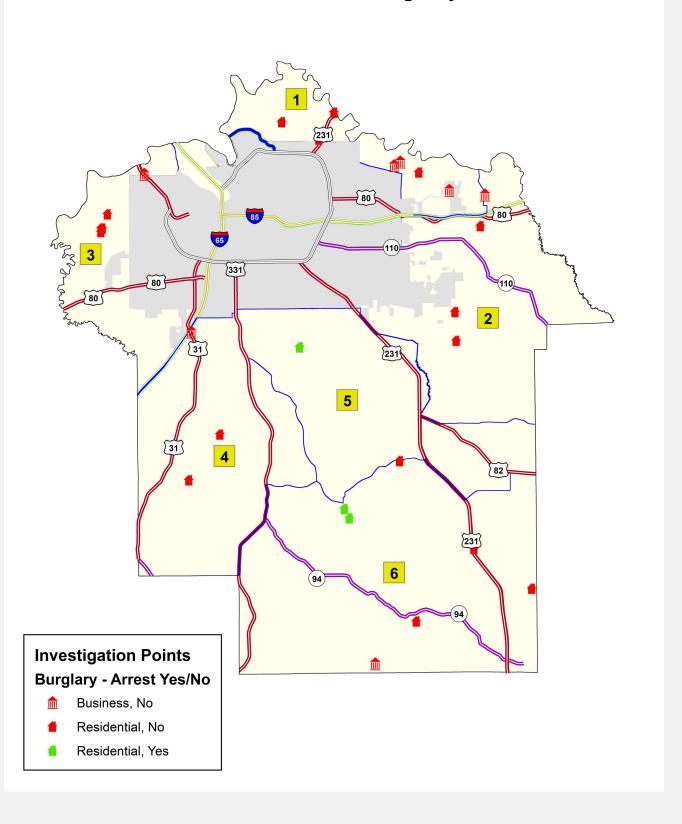
Jeremiah Watkins Destruction State Property 200 Block S. McDonough St.



Tyslii Maner Assault 2nd 200 Block S. McDonough St.



## M.C.S.O 2nd Quarter Burglary Statistics





### SAFER, STRONGER TOGETHER

During the Covid-19 pandemic, the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office has been committed to fulfilling our sworn oath to the citizens of Montgomery County. Families, businesses, federal, state and local governments have all been tasked with the many challenges facing our country.

When Montgomery County buildings were temporarily closed due to Covid-19, deputies assigned to courthouse security were assigned to patrol duties, augmenting the number of law enforcement officers patrolling our communities. Safe health protocols were implemented, e.g. face masks, gloves, frequent hand sanitizer use, etc. were employed to keep our personnel safe, as well as the public.

The Montgomery County Detention Facility has long-ago established strong cleanliness standards within the facility. Working with our inmate healthcare provider, Quality Correctional Health Care



(QCHC), additional policies and procedures were implemented to lessen the probability of the spread of infection.

The measures undertaken to fight this dreaded public health threat has caused a great deal of

inconvenience to the people of Montgomery County. I am most appreciative of our citizens in the cooperation and support we have received in combating Covid-19 as a community.

Derrick Cunningham, Sheriff

:oT

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