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**LOOKING AHEAD :
 A MESSAGE FROM SHERIFF DERRICK CUNNINGHAM**

As we enter the first months of 2021, it is my desire that the tide will begin to turn against COVID-19. With the introduction of the first vaccines, and as immunity begins to increase, we all hope for our lives to return to normal soon. Many Montgomery County citizens have been adversely affected by the COVID-19 virus. Numerous businesses have closed, people have lost employment, schools have turned to virtual learning, and church and social gatherings have been greatly impacted by this pandemic. The Montgomery County Sheriff’s Office has taken measures to ensure that the level of service we provide our citizens meets their needs while keeping our employees safe.



One of the important issues presently facing our communities and law enforcement, on a national and state level, are proposed gun laws. I am a firm believer in the Second Amendment to the United States Constitution. I have taken an oath to defend the Constitution of the United States of America and the State of Alabama. This oath is sacred to me. It is my experience, over my past 32 years in law enforcement, that common sense legislation should be in place to protect the public and law enforcement officers from the criminal element. My concerns are focused on the present and long term. When looking at proposed legislation, I often explore “10 years down the road” and ask myself: How will these laws affect people’s lives? Do the laws we pass today have sustainability?

Criminals do not respect or adhere to the law. Countless future gun laws may be enacted, but offenders would

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(still) ignore them —as they do the current laws on the books. One could say the increase in guns laws would only keep “honest people honest.” The criminals would disobey them, as they always have.

Alabama is an open carry state, meaning that any person who is at least 18 years-old and legally entitled to carry a firearm may open carry. However, as we have seen first-hand at the MCSO, many individuals who attempt to practice this right find themselves in the center of unwarranted attention. Many residents have expressed seeing someone openly carrying a firearm as an alarming sight. Private property, businesses, malls and stores have the right to ask someone to leave the premises that open carry. I have heard from many concerned citizens who witness open carry individuals, and of the appearance that our communities resemble the Wild West —not an appealing environment for families.

I believe in sensible legislation to govern. Our nation and state simply cannot rid ourselves and eliminate all gun laws from our society. Pistol permit laws are effective in providing law enforcement agencies and communities with safeguards against criminal elements. Certain persons are forbidden to carry or possess firearms, e.g. felons, anyone of unsound mind, drug addicts or habitual drunkards, etc. I believe everyone would agree that guns, drugs and alcohol don't mix.

Pistol permit laws allow a vetting process to occur and keep weapons out of the hands of criminals. They also provide a tool for law enforcement to keep our communities safe. There have been many instances where an offender in possession of a firearm without a permit was arrested prior to committing a felony or a crime of violence. It is difficult to measure the crimes that have been prevented, but if it saved one life or a victim



from harm, then pistol permit laws illustrate the effectiveness in protecting citizens and law enforcement officers.

The Montgomery County Sheriff's Office saw a 20% increase in pistol permit applications from 2019 to 2020. A new record was set in 2020 when over five million people became new gun owners in the United States. Approximately one in three adults nationwide now own a gun. Alabama has one of the highest guns per capita rate in the United States at 33 per 1,000. Wyoming is the highest (229 per 1,000). Rhode Island is the lowest in gun possession (3 per 1,000).

The MCSO provides a firearms familiarization course to Montgomery County residents that possess a pistol permit. The class consists of classroom instruction on firearm safety and firearm laws, as well as time on the MCSO firing range with a firearms instructor. You may learn more about the firearms familiarization course and complete an interest form on our webpage at:

<https://www.montgomerysheriff.com/public-interest/firearm-familiarization-course>

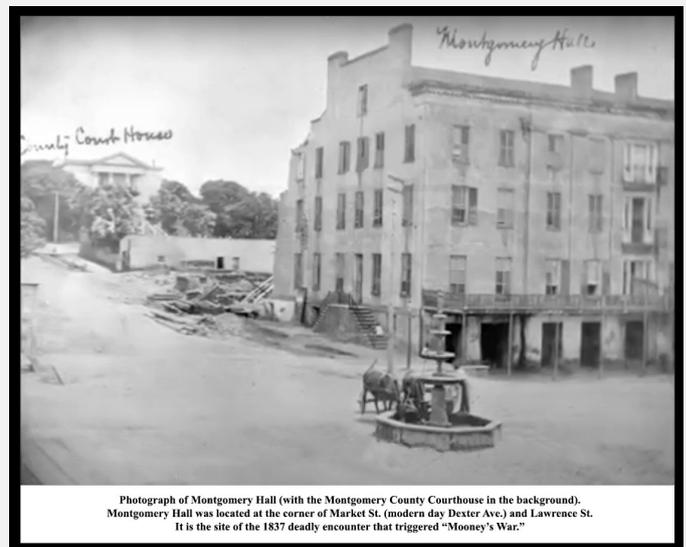
In closing, I wish to reassure our citizens of my belief in the Second Amendment, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed. I further believe that sensible gun legislation shall allow all citizens to exercise their constitutional rights while maintaining safe communities for all to enjoy.

MOONEY'S WAR

Many people are not aware of the story of “Mooney’s War” that occurred in Montgomery County, Alabama in the late 1830s. It resulted in the shooting and serious injury of a Montgomery County Sheriff’s Office deputy.

In 1837, Montgomery County was still considered part of the United States’ frontier, even though westward expansion was driving America quickly toward the Pacific Ocean. Alabama statehood had been granted 18 years prior, and most of the population (88%) of Montgomery County, 24,574 residents, lived outside the City of Montgomery. In contrast, today 90% of Montgomery County residents live within the city limits of the City of Montgomery. The City of Montgomery would not become the State of Alabama’s capital for several more years, when it moved from Tuscaloosa in 1846.

During the 1830s, even though constables had been established in the city, much of the law enforcement responsibilities fell on the Sheriff of Montgomery County. According to the book *The Works of Matthew Blue*, Montgomery’s First Historian, Montgomery was the location of great disorder. Gambling, loud quarrels, drinking and frequent fights broke out, much surrounding the Exchange Hotel and another hotel, Montgomery Hall. Blue wrote “for several years ‘the gentry’ had virtual control of the town.” Matthew Blue further wrote “In August 1837, a desperate and fatal encounter occurred at the Montgomery Hall

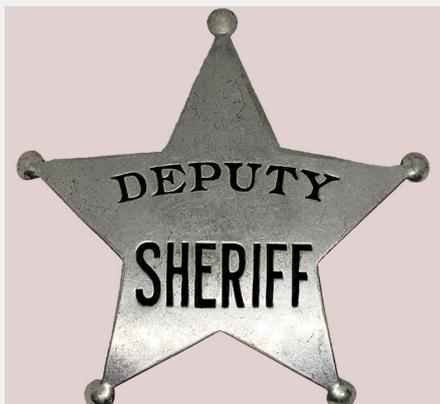


between Kenyon “Kin” Mooney and his father on one side, and Bushrod W. Bell, Sr., and his nephew, Edward W. Bell and son Bushrod W. Bell, Jr. on the other side. The result was that the elder Mooney was killed with a Bowie knife by Bushrod Bell, Jr. and E. W. Bell was mortally wounded in the neck by Kenyon Mooney, while the latter was slightly wounded in the arm by a pistol in the hand of E. W. Bell. The unfortunate affair grew out of the killing of Mr. Thomas Mastin of this county, in November 1836, by Mr. E. W. Bell, who was acquitted at the next spring term of the Circuit Court for the county.”

This event precipitated what was called “Mooney’s War.” After the murders, Kenyon Mooney was captured and incarcerated in jail. In December 1838, the Montgomery County jail was raided by his friends and Kenyon Mooney escaped, becoming a fugitive. Repeated efforts were made to recapture him, without success.

Kenyan Mooney’s assault on the Montgomery County community continued. Matthew Blue writes “In December, 1839, the grand jury of the county presented as a grievance the fact Mooney was still allowed to go at large, and they described him then as roaming the country, principally infesting the neighborhood of his former residence, an in company generally with divers lawless associates, committing almost every species of atrocity, from a simple assault to the most wanton unprovoked murder.”

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On December 6, 1840, members of the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office, under the leadership of Sheriff John W. Templeton "Temp" Reid, located Kenyon Mooney in a house near Carter's Hill Rd, where modern-day Highway 231 South is located. The ensuing gun battle attempting to extract Mooney from the residence lasted into the night. Matthew Blue's account describes "the occupants of the house made such a warlike demonstration the sheriff prudently drew off his forces and sent back to town a cannon to be used in bombarding the Mooney stronghold." Deputy

Sheriff P. H. Raiford was dispatched back to town to retrieve a small cannon. While returning to the scene in a Jersey Wagon with the artillery, Deputy Raiford was ambushed and shot by some of Mooney's men. Deputy Raiford was seriously injured but survived the attack.

After the shooting of Deputy Raiford, Kenyon Mooney escaped (once again) and fled Montgomery County and was never recaptured. Some accounts placed him in Texas, but his whereabouts were never confirmed. There is no historical account of any of his accomplices being brought to justice either. In addition to the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office, much of the credit of ridding Montgomery County and the city of these "rowdies" was Colonel John H. Thorington, who was the head of a local volunteer organization of citizens, and later became the second mayor of Montgomery, from 1839-1840.

The Montgomery County Sheriff's Office continued to be the primary law enforcement agency in the City of Montgomery for the following three decades. It was not until after the American Civil War that the City of Montgomery appointed its first chief of police, Aldolphus Sanford Gerald in 1873. By that time Montgomery County was being served by its 20th sheriff, Paul Strobach.

Like most of the frontier in the United States of America, Montgomery County was not immune to the widespread lawlessness and violence suffered in communities in the early to mid-part of the 19th century. Mooney's War and the assault of Deputy P. H. Raiford is one of many incidents that occurred during the early history of our country that illustrate a burgeoning nation fighting for law and order.



Stock photo

TRAINING DEPUTIES FOR THE FUTURE

Sworn law enforcement officers in Alabama must obtain certification from the Alabama Peace Officers Standards and Training Commission (APOSTC). Certification is awarded after the completion of a minimum of 560 hours (14 weeks) of training at an approved police academy. APOSTC mandates specific training requirements that must be completed in order to become a law enforcement officer in Alabama.

Montgomery County Sheriff's Office deputy sheriff trainee's attend the Montgomery Police Academy for their training and certification. Deputies go through a thorough background investigation before they are hired. Prior to beginning the academy, new deputies are acclimated to the various divisions of the MCSO, learning the mission and various responsibilities of a deputy sheriff along with preparing them to attend the police academy. Prior to academy attendance, physical fitness training, memory work, such as the learning to cite the Law Enforcement Code of Ethics, laws of arrest and MCSO regulations are completed. Preparation for the academy is important in the weeks leading up to first day so that the trainees are ready physically and mentally for the stresses of academy life which include academic studies, physical training and exposing the trainee into the culture of law enforcement.

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Present police academy class attending the Montgomery Police Academy. Front row, left to right, the first five students, Whitten, Coffel, Young, Crenshaw and Daniels are Montgomery Sheriff's Office Deputy Trainees.

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There are six categories that are required for students to successfully proceed in the police academy. Failure in any of the six categories prohibits a trainee from applying as a law enforcement officer in Alabama for two years. The six categories are the physical agility/ability test, overall academic score average of not less than 70%, first aid test, legal issues test, firearms manipulation test, and firearms qualification.

The first APOSTC requirement of certification is the physical agility and ability course. This requirement is designed to test physical capabilities. All trainees are given two opportunities to pass during the first week of the police academy. If the trainee fails any portion of the test, he or she must repeat the entire test within 48 to 72 hours. The test consists of 22 push-ups in a minute, 25 sit-ups in a minute, the agility course within 90 seconds, and a 1 ½ mile run in 15 minutes 28 seconds. The physical agility course consists of pushing a vehicle 15 feet, running, climbing over an 8-foot chain link fence or wood wall, crawling through an obstacle (window), traversing a balance beam and pulling 165 pounds 15 feet. If a trainee fails both attempts at the physical agility and ability test, they are dismissed from the police academy and prohibited from attending any Alabama law enforcement academy for a period of two years.

The academic portion of the police academy requires trainees to study local, state, and constitutional law. Classroom training is devoted to textbooks and note taking that teaches the many facets of legal knowledge to become a successful law enforcement officer. Trainees are assigned homework that includes, but is not limited to, outlining text within the Code of Alabama, including both the criminal and traffic laws. In addition to studying the Code of Alabama, an emphasis is placed on United States Constitutional law, the very foundation of our republic and

arguably the most important part of the criminal justice system. Every aspect of the criminal justice system is touched by the Constitution and the Bill of Rights and an emphasis in academy instruction is placed on its importance. Criminal and Constitutional law are of vital importance and are used every day in a law enforcement officer's career. Trainees are required to successfully pass a legal issues exam in order to complete the police academy.

Law classes don't just consist of reading the Code of Alabama, the Alabama Constitution, or the Constitution of the United States. Instructors lecture on the various facets of the laws and provide not only the text of the law, but case law studies to show the correct ways to apply them in the performance of their duties. Students are exposed to the letter of the law and spirit of the law, an important aspect when applying what is learned in class. Topics such as detention, arrest, use of force, search and seizure, and interview skills are also covered during these sessions.

A law enforcement officer should expect at some point of their career to be challenged on their actions and decisions when it relates to their application of the law. Preparing them for these challenges is of the utmost importance for the integrity and incompetence of the deputy and the agency.

A subject of considerable significance in the realm of police work is mental health. Working within a community, law enforcement must realize and understand that there are instances when a person in crisis needs something other than to be arrested. Recognizing there is an issue for involvement from a mental health professional, and knowing the procedures to find the help for an individual in a mental health crisis are also a part of the police academy training. Critical thinking, conflict

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resolution, fundamentals of communication, recognizing and managing stress, and de-escalation skills are topics covered during a trainee's time at the academy and include methods to recognize and resolve issues with people who suffer from a mental health crisis.

Working in concert with the Montgomery Area Mental Health Authority and the Montgomery County Office of the Judge of Probate are just two of the resources made available to law enforcement. Likewise, different techniques such as active listening skills are taught to assist our future law enforcement officers as to how to interact with someone suffering from a mental health crisis. Understanding what is being said and responding in a helpful manner helps to slow a situation down and bring it to a peaceful and positive outcome is reinforced through both classroom and practical exercises. Similarly, trainees are taught to manage their stress and are given techniques to help them overcome stressors that are present in the everyday life of a law enforcement professional.

Having completed the first half of the academy, the police academy trainees are tested on their knowledge of the law. The next major requirement to the completion of the police academy is what is considered a mid-term exam. This exam provides the instructors the ability to measure where the student is academically at their point of their training and the ability to apply their knowledge toward the legal issues within the scope of police work. This test is aptly named the 'Legal Issues Exam' and is also a requirement for graduation from the academy. Students must pass this exam with a 70% score or better. If the student is unsuccessful, they are excused from the academy and cannot proceed further.

The next portion of the police academy, students learn and practice handcuffing techniques, building searches, active shooter response, patrol techniques, and traffic stops. Instruction with these exercises are practical and take place in the field. Working in a controlled environment, the students are given ample time and practice to improve their skills and knowledge of these procedures. The operant conditioning of these drills makes these tasks second nature to the trainee. Instructors are present as safety officers and role players; students are immersed in scenarios to measure their understanding of the hands-on instruction. Building searches are of vital importance when practical exercises that take place. Classroom instruction is valuable, but practical exercises are imperative. When an officer enters an abandoned, dimly lit warehouse and their job is to find a burglary suspect, an officer quickly realizes the importance of their training. Officer trainees are taught to protect themselves and their partners from the unknown, as criminal suspects may be around any corner in a building.

Other mandated courses such as first aid, emergency vehicle operations, strategic self-defense and gunfighting tactics (SSGT), and firearms training are some of the final courses taught to academy trainees. As previously stated, each of these subjects require a passing score to obtain APOSTC certification as a law enforcement officer. Twenty-seven hours is provided for emergency vehicle operations training at the Alabama Law Enforcement Emergency Vehicle Operation Center (ALEVOC). Vehicle accidents comprise the greatest threat of death or serious injury to a law enforcement officer, therefore training in this area is critical. The safe operation of vehicles, under stressful circumstances, is the focus of

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ALEVOC training. SSGT training provides trainees with the skills to defend themselves and properly restrain suspects. Firearms training consists of over two weeks in the classroom and firing range, allowing academy trainees to become proficient in pistol, shotgun and rifle use. Safety is heavily emphasized in vehicle operation use, self-defense and firearms training. Failure of any of the final mandatory required skills and abilities will result in the academy trainees being dismissed from the police academy.

Once the successful completion of the Alabama Peace Officers' Standards and Training Commission police academy is achieved, these new recruits are anxious to graduate and take their oath of office. Deputy Sheriff's for the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office graduate and take their oath of office from Sheriff Cunningham, a proud moment for them and their families.

New deputies continue their training with a field training officer (FTO) within the patrol division. The FTO program lasts for several months while the new deputies apply their knowledge to a variety of situations and calls. They are measured on their abilities to perform the functions of a law enforcement officer while continuing to learn MCSO procedures and policy, report writing and the use of the radio and mobile data terminals. New deputies are evaluated on requirements for arrests, to include completing affidavits, and obtaining warrants. Prisoner safety and jail procedures are also assessed. Training evaluations are completed and reviewed by the new deputies' supervisors and forwarded to the MCSO senior staff to ensure each new member is progressing favorably.

Upon completion of the field training program, the successful deputy sheriff is assigned to a shift. New deputies can expect to be closely supervised and evaluated and are encouraged to ask questions and further their knowledge of law enforcement. Deputies continue to progress with new experiences and further training, becoming a welcome addition to the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office.



The Montgomery County Sheriff's Office is actively recruiting for deputy sheriffs. If you have the desire and drive to serve your community and be part of a progressive and modern law enforcement agency, we welcome your interest in becoming a member of our team.

CRIMINALS TARGET CATALYTIC CONVERTERS

A catalytic converter is an exhaust emission control device that reduces toxic gases and pollutants in exhaust gas from an internal combustion engine. All automobiles manufactured after 1975 are required by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to have a catalytic converter.

Catalytic converters are exposed to extreme heat from the engine exhaust system; therefore, they have a robust construction. They are manufactured with ceramic cores, using several compounds that resist heat, and two rare-earth metals that are worth more per ounce than gold. Palladium and Rhodium are two such metals used in the manufacturing of catalytic converters. At the time of this writing, the price of gold is \$1,701 per ounce. Palladium is \$2,875 an ounce, and Rhodium is \$27,800 an ounce.

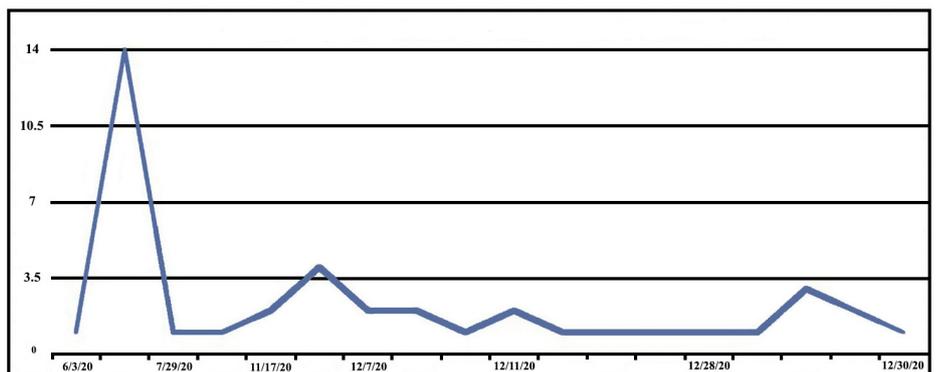
Due to the high cost of these rare-earth metals, catalytic converters are extremely profitable to thieves, and their thefts have massively increased in recent years nationwide due to the black-market resale value of the precious metals they possess. For a criminal skilled in how to remove a catalytic converter from an automobile, it may take less than 5 minutes to remove it from the exhaust of a vehicle. The average replacement cost and repairs, depending on the vehicle, can range from \$1,550 to \$4,000 or more on domestic automobiles. In many instances, the thieves strike multiple cars, often time targeting car dealerships. The extensive costs to replace numerous catalytic converters can be staggering to a business.



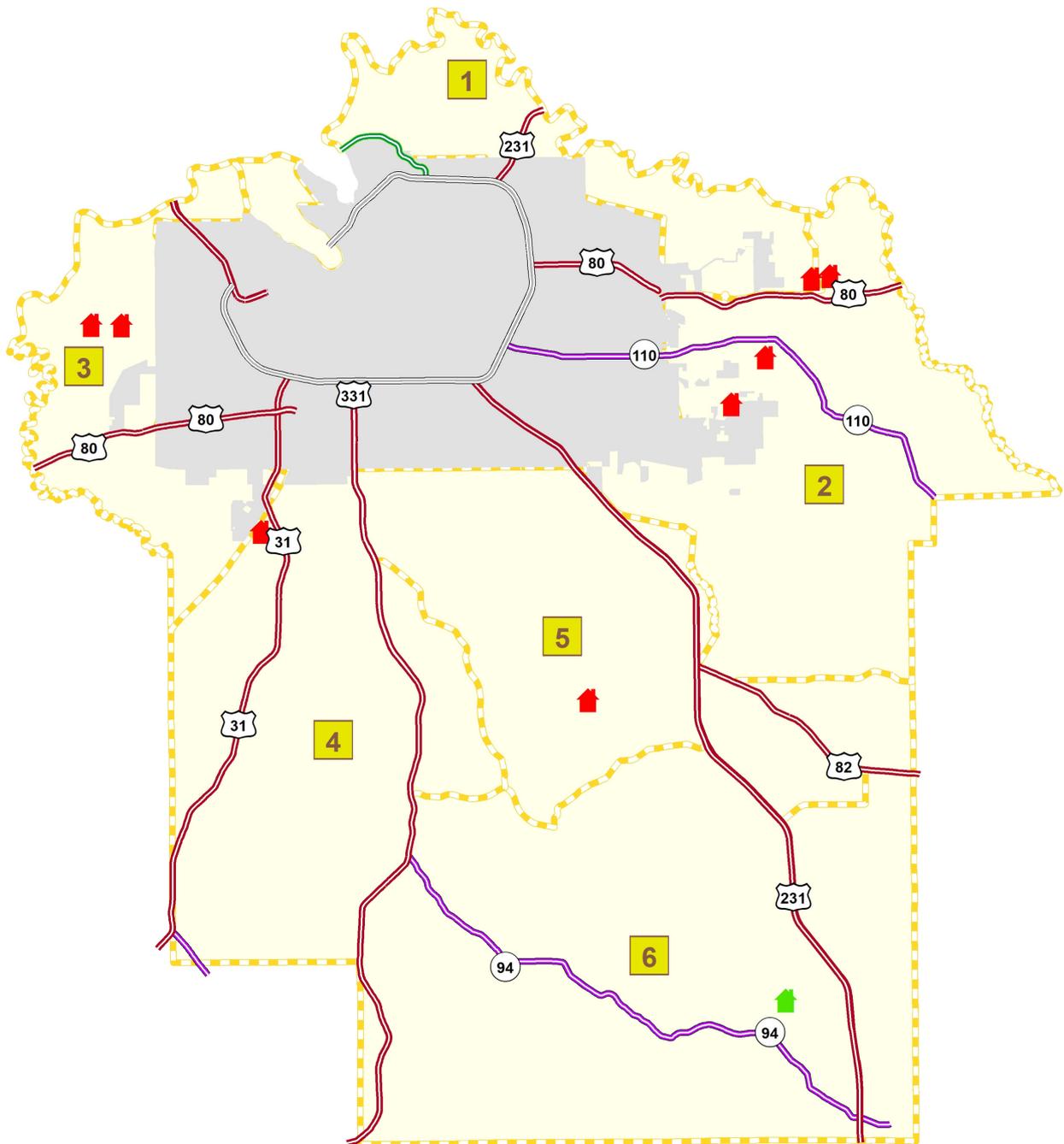
Laws controlling the sale of scrap metal have greatly assisted law enforcement in preventing the resale of stolen copper and other precious metal, like those found in catalytic converters. Scrap metal vendors are required by state law (§13A-8-37.1) to maintain records of purchases and are prohibited from purchasing catalytic converters that are not part of an entire vehicle without verifiable documentation, such as found with a junk car dealer. However, these measures have created a black market where thieves will cross state lines and transport quantities of catalytic converters to states with less stringent laws.

The Montgomery County Sheriff's Office monitors crime through daily activity reports and computer analysis. In mid-2020, the sheriff's office observed a spike in catalytic converter thefts in Montgomery County. We assemble investigators and patrol deputies to combat the problem, and were able to identify suspects and make arrests.

M.C.S.O. Catalytic Converter Thefts - June 2020 - December 2020



M.C.S.O 1st Quarter Burglary Statistics



	Residential - No Arrest
	Residential - Yes Arrest

2021 M.C.S.O. INVESTIGATIONS 1ST QUARTER FELONY ARRESTS



David Raybon
Theft of Property 1st
Hwy 31/E McLean Rd.



Lamar Benjamin
TOP 3
Wax Myrtle Crt.



Daniel Ahearn
Receiving Stolen
Property 2
Johnny Shirley Rd.



Sonny Faulkner
Burg 3 / TOP 1
Moore Rd.



Jermaine Hunter
Destruction of State
Property/Inmate
S. McDonough St.



Timothy Perrin
TOP 1
Alabama River Prkwy



David Jerome Lee
Receiving Stolen Property 3
Eastern Blvd.



Jack-Thomas Williams
B&E Vehicle / TOP 3
Wetumpka Hwy.



Travis Tatum
Robbery 3
Hwy. 80 E.



Radarious Evans-Hall
Assault 2nd
S. McDonough St.



Christopher Ballard
Destruction State
Property/Inmate
S. McDonough St.



Demorris Kilow
2 - Receiving Stolen
Property 1st
Troy Hwy.



Demorris Kilow
2 - Receiving Stolen
Property 1st
Troy Hwy.



Shawn Jackson
Destruction State
Property/Inmate
S. McDonough St.



Shedrick Hill
Destruction State
Property/Inmate
S. McDonough St.



Timothy Dick
Receiving Stolen Property
2nd
Glenmede Ln.



Luverne Fleeton Jr.
TOP 1st
Pettus Rd.



Kenneth Henderson
Destruction State
Property/Inmate
S. McDonough St.



Jravings Jackson
Assault 2nd
S. McDonough St.



Lamoris Johnson
Domestic Violence –
Strangulation
Norman Pines Dr.



Derrick Barnes
Assault 2nd
S. McDonough St.



Kragius Scott
Robbery 1st / Assault 1st
Perkins Rd.



Samuel Needham
Promoting Prison
Contraband 1st
S. McDonough St.



Joshua Richer
Receiving Stolen Property
2nd
I-65 / MM 165



Traymon Sankey
Destruction State
Property/Inmate
S. McDonough St.



Mark Mann
2-Destruction State
Property/Inmate
S. McDonough St.

THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE CRIME SCENE UNIT

Law enforcement must constantly evolve. This progress is necessary due to the criminal element and the crimes they commit becoming more intricate. As times change, criminals learn the forensic techniques that are used to collect and examine evidence, and how it is presented in a courtroom to prove a defendant's guilt. Law enforcement must be innovative in responding to the advancements of criminal behavior. The Montgomery County Sheriff's Office Crime Scene Unit (MCSO CSU) makes a difference in solving crimes from the forensics perspective of an investigation.

With the introduction of the famous television crime scene shows that emerged in the early 2000s such as Law & Order, CSI: Crime Scene Investigation, and Cold Case Files, to name a few, many law enforcement agencies and prosecutors began seeing the public's interest grow in the field of forensic science. Our agency created a dedicated full-time crime scene unit in July of 2002. With a devoted crime scene investigator staff, the sheriff's office began an unparalleled service in the forensic field not seen before in Montgomery County. A crime scene investigator is required to have specialized skills in evidence documentation, collection, and preservation of the scene from a forensic perspective. This had become very important due to what was called the CSI effect.

As previously stated, the public's curiosity grew in the early 2000s with the advent of crime scene drama shows on television. The CSI effect is known to law enforcement as the influence that forensic television shows have on the general public. These programs create expectations on law enforcement and prosecutors that all cases (should) have an abundance of forensic evidence that prove the case and convict defendants of crimes. The forensic television shows' depictions rarely meet the reality of actual investigations and the recovery of evidence.

The Montgomery County Sheriff's Office recognizes the importance of a professional and well-trained crime scene unit and dedicated itself to become one of the most forensically capable law enforcement agencies in the area.

One of the first major opportunities in the advancement of the MCSO CSU was when the sheriff's office received a grant from the United States Department of Homeland Security. This grant provided our agency the opportunity to purchase a mobile crime scene vehicle. This mobile unit allows the crime scene investigators to bring forensic tools and equipment to any crime scene. The vehicle is equipped with an onboard generator that powers portable lights, cold storage for evidence, a camera system for monitoring the crime scene and many other capabilities. The crime scene unit utilizes the mobile crime scene vehicle in many investigations and assists other law enforcement agencies throughout central Alabama.

In May of 2009, the MCSO dedicated a new state of the art crime scene lab. The lab holds some of the newest technology in forensic equipment that helps solve crimes. The crime scene lab is equipped with a negative air pressure system that eliminates odors and hazardous vapors, along with two vent hoods for processing evidence and fingerprints in a clean and controlled environment. A beneficial piece of equipment the lab has is the Cyanoacrylate Fuming Chamber, also known as the "superglue tank." The Cyanoacrylate Fuming Chamber has rendered more fingerprint hit confirmations on suspects than any many other modern-day tools the Crime Scene Unit has.

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The MCSO prides itself on providing the finest training for our crime scene investigators. The sheriff's office has committed itself to sending all their crime scene investigators to the highest quality schools in the nation. One school is known by two names. The official name is the National Forensics Academy, also known by its television name as the "Body Farm." The NFA (National Forensics Academy) is in Knoxville, Tennessee and is a 10-week high intensity school that provides instruction in many areas of crime scene investigation including photography, shooting reconstruction, evidence collection, fingerprint development techniques and the recovery of human remains. The NFA is world-renowned and has an alumnus of over 2000 graduates since its inception in the early 2000s.

The knowledge and extensive training that crime scene investigators receive at the National Forensics Academy has provided our staff with the skills to work any crime that may occur in Montgomery County.

The Crime Scene Unit handles approximately 300 investigations a year. These cases vary widely, from misdemeanor thefts, criminal mischief, to a rare capitol case which includes murder. Every case that a crime scene investigator responds to is handled in the same thorough manner. Each crime scene is photographed in detail. Evidence is processed for fingerprints or DNA that may help identify a suspect. Items at a scene that are too large or cannot be collected are processed at the crime scene location. One of the most advanced tools that we have available is a 3-dimensional (3-D) crime scene scanner.

The MCSO was one of the first law enforcement agencies to acquire this type of system in 2013. The 3-D scanner is a technological leap in the documentation of a crime scene, particularly a major or complex crime scene. It brings the realism of a crime scene to the courtroom. The 3-D system allows individuals to see and understand a crime scene as if you were in the middle of a CSI show. It provides a visual point of view that would otherwise not be available with a mere photograph or

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Crime Scene Lab and Mobile Crime Scene Unit

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video recording. In 2018, the MCSO received a replacement 3-D crime scene scanner with the newest versions that provides enhanced scanning detail than the previous model. The MCSO has used this technology at multiple crime scenes and has assisted other law enforcement agencies to help document their cases.

The Montgomery County Sheriff's Office has remained on the forefront of technology and knowledge in the field of forensic sciences. Due to this, we have had the privilege of assisting and training other law enforcement agencies throughout the State of Alabama. The crime scene investigators of Montgomery County Sheriff's Office have dedicated most of their careers in the field of forensic sciences, with more than 35 years of combined experience. They have guided and instructed other agencies in gaining knowledge in the crime scene forensics field. The members of the Crime Scene Unit have an extensive background in training and education in forensic investigations and have also instructed and trained thousands of students and law enforcement officers in this field. The MCSO Crime Scene Unit has assisted over 50 local, state and federal law enforcement agencies throughout Alabama and in the United States with forensic evidence recovery and crime scene preservation.

The Montgomery County Sheriff's Office Crime Scene Unit will continue to commit itself to remaining on the forefront of forensic knowledge and technology. We maintain strong communications with crime scene units from other law enforcement agencies and with the Alabama Department of Forensic Science. It is with this great commitment that we provide Montgomery County citizens with a modern, progressive and capable law enforcement agency.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE DETENTION FACILITY INMATE NUTRITIONAL MEAL SERVICES

The effective operation of a correctional facility requires an administration to provide inmate incentives that create an environment of cooperation. Modern techniques and policies have improved detention facility conditions in the United States and the welfare and treatment of inmates.

The Montgomery County Sheriff's Office is a member of the American Jail Association that promotes progressive programs for inmate care and security. One such program is meeting the nutritional needs for inmates. In 2019, the Montgomery County Detention Facility began a collaboration and partnership with Kellwell Food Management and Keefe Commissary to provide inmate food services. Since its inception, Kellwell Food Management has delivered service to ensure healthy and nutritious meals for the inmates in the MCDF. Kellwell's services provide the daily nutritional requirement for inmates housed in the Montgomery County Detention Facility. Each meal is portion-controlled and approved by a certified dietician. Kellwell supplies the MCDF inmate population with three complete meals a day totaling a 2,800-calorie meal plan. Each meal is



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prepared by employees trained and experienced in food preparation.

By contracting foods services, MCDF personnel spend less time focusing on these issues and more attention on the safety and security of individuals incarcerated within the detention facility. The food service in the Montgomery County Detention Facility is pork-free in order to follow the religious requirements of some inmates. An additional benefit of a pork-free selection is that the menu is healthier. Kellwell Food Management strives to meet the individual needs of inmates with specific dietary requirements. Kellwell Food Management works closely with our medical provider, Quality Correctional Health Care, to ensure inmates with food allergies, dairy tolerance, sodium, or other strict dietary restrictions are monitored every day.

When the Covid-19 pandemic occurred, Kellwell senior staff maintained thorough communication with the detention facility senior administration to ensure that food services would remain uninterrupted. The Kellwell staff followed the mandated COVID-19 screening that was implemented within the facility, to prevent the spread of the virus. As a nationwide food shortage emerged due to the pandemic, the Kellwell management team worked diligently to ensure all meals were provided with same standards. Kellwell Food Management illustrated their capability to adapt during these trying times. Serving an average of 700 meals, three times a day, 7 days a week, Kellwell Food Management also provides inmate's families the opportunity to personally select a specialty meal for their family members with the Kellwell Café.

The Kellwell Café provides an online service that allows inmates to choose from a variety of meals such as pizza, hamburgers, chicken fingers and Philly cheesesteaks. These meals are served with chips, dessert, and a 20 oz. soft drink. Cooked fresh and served in heated carts,

the specialty meals have become very popular with the inmates and provide incentives for cooperation in the facility. Specialty meals are distributed on Saturdays. The Kellwell Café promotes good behavior and gives a person something to look forward to. These meals can easily be purchased online or over the phone. Specialty meals are additional food for inmates, who still receive their regular meals from the MCDF.

Regular meals for inmates offer a wide menu of items for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Breakfast selections include grits, eggs, biscuits, or pancakes. Lunch options are barbeque chicken sandwiches, hot dogs, meatball subs, or turkey Philly sandwiches. Dinner comprises stroganoff, pasta, tacos, or Salisbury patties. These meals are served on a rotating schedule.

The Montgomery County Detention Facility has utilized Keefe Commissary services since 2014. Keefe offers a variety of snacks, clothing, and over-the-counter medication. Commissary privileges are important for inmate morale and well-being. Keefe Commissary maintains communication with MCDF staff suggestions and inmate input in providing service to the facility. When an individual is brought to the MCDF, any money they have is placed in their commissary account. Keefe Commissary provides a kiosk in the intake area. This kiosk accounts for all coins and paper money inmates possess when booked into the facility. The kiosk reduces the risk of human error. Once an individual is released, the money they have on their commissary account is placed on a credit card.

Keefe Commissary provides an additional kiosk in the front lobby of the MCDF. This kiosk allows the public to place money in an inmate's account. The kiosk is easy to use and provides a printed receipt. Keefe Commissary also has the option to deposit money online or over the phone. Keefe Commissary delivers to the facility twice a week and provides accommodations for holidays. The Keefe Commissary staff

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distributes commissary items to inmates in order to save MCDF employees from diverting from their mission. The commissary items are delivered in sealed bags to ensure that the items have not been tampered with. For security purposes, when an inmate receives their commissary, they must sign for each item.

Keefe Commissary offers over-the-counter medication such as Tylenol, antacid tablets, and denture adhesive. Keefe Commissary offers several different types of soap like Dove, Irish Spring, and Next Bars. They offer pre-stamped envelopes, writing pads, and pencils, as well as several different types of candy, chips, and crackers, in addition to undergarments and thermal underclothes.

Keefe Commissary will soon be offering inmate access to a vending machine in the facility. This will provide inmates staying for a short duration, or have missed the order day, to purchase commissary items immediately. This additionally promotes good behavior by giving incentives, a critical component in corrections.

As one can see, a critical component of operating a detention facility requires an organization keeping the inmate population fulfilled with needs that are taken for granted for by everyday citizens. Incentives such as the inmate food services program promote well-being and a spirit of cooperation with the population that facilitates a positive environment for the staff and inmates.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY DETENTION FACILITY

2021 OFFICER OF THE 1ST QUARTER

SERGEANT MICHAEL LANE



Sergeant Michael Lane has been instrumental with keeping Squad-D officer's morale focused on the Montgomery County Detention Facility's vision and goals. As senior officers retire and new leadership emerges, Sergeant Lane has been an example for others to follow. After being promoted in December 2018, Sergeant Lane has exceeded standards in being an outstanding leader for our correctional officers.

Sergeant Lane encourages the squad employees to take responsibility for their performance and stands ready to make the difficult decisions. With his attention to the small details, Sergeant Lane has developed into a great supervisor at the Montgomery County Detention Facility.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE PROMOTIONS, 1ST QUARTER 2021

Montgomery County Detention Facility

Anthony Nwamadu to Lieutenant January 2021

Chad Miller to Sergeant February 2021

Kelli Schofield to Sergeant February 2021

Kamela Thicklin to Corporal March 2021

Montgomery County Sheriff's Office Sworn

Nina Knapp to Corporal February 2021

MONTGOMERY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE CIVILIAN OF THE QUARTER *WENDY DEESE, DISPATCHER*



On February 14th at approximately 1:12 p.m., The Montgomery County Sheriff's Office received a call regarding an ATV accident. Dispatcher Wendy Deese was the call taker. The victim, Joseph Stewart, contacted our office by cellphone and indicated that he was somewhere in the woods and had suffered a serious physical injury from an ATV accident. In fact, Mr. Stewart was pinned under his ATV. He was unsure of where he was but needed immediate medical attention as he was unable to free himself.

Dispatcher Deese, using Phase 2 Mapping, determined that Mr. Stewart was in Pike County, a few miles south of Montgomery County. She immediately transferred the call to Pike County E-911 so they could send assistance and render aid. Dispatcher Deese continued to monitor the call due to its proximity to the Montgomery County line. As the conversation was taking place between Mr. Stewart and Pike County 911, there was some uncertainty as to Mr. Stewart's whereabouts due to the fact there was no reference point or physical address since he was located in a heavily wooded area.

Familiar with the area and sensing that Mr. Stewart was in grave danger, Dispatcher Deese assisted in the call. Using her instincts, Ms. Deese dispatched a Montgomery County Deputy, South Montgomery Volunteer Fire Department, and Haynes Ambulance to the location she believed Mr. Stewart was located. At the request of Mr. Stewart, she also contacted his wife and informed her of the situation, hoping she could give more insight on the location.

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Dispatcher Deese became aware that the situation was progressively getting worse as Mr. Stewart's breathing and tone changed. The 911 disconnected, and the emergency radios were having reception issues due to the location and terrain. Ms. Deese used every means available to stay in contact with all agencies involved. Ms. Deese used her cellphone to communicate with the first responders to guide them to Mr. Stewart's location, all of this while still on the phone with Mr. Stewart and Pike County 911. Within fifteen minutes of Ms. Deese intervening in the call, Mr. Stewart was located and extricated using special equipment due to the location and the severity of his injuries. Eventually, he was stabilized and transported to the hospital. The total time from the initial call was approximately forty-one minutes, and Ms. Deese stayed on the call for the duration until Mr. Stewart was rescued and evacuated from the scene.

It was truly an act of great professionalism and under extraordinary circumstances that Dispatcher Wendy Deese was able to provide a positive outcome to a situation that could have been fatal.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE DEPUTY OF THE QUARTER CORPORAL WESLEY GLOVER



While off-duty on March 7, 2021 at approximately 11 p.m., Corporal Wesley Glover heard a loud knock at the front door of his residence. He and his family had already retired for the evening. He immediately went to the door where his neighbor, an elderly female, was frantically pleading for help stating that her husband had stopped breathing.

Corporal Glover immediately responded to her home where he found the elderly male with no signs of life. Without hesitation, Corporal Glover began CPR. Medics from the Montgomery Fire Rescue arrived, along with an officer from the Montgomery Police Department. Corporal Glover remained with his neighbor while the fire medics administered treatment. Unfortunately, the gentleman could not be resuscitated. Corporal Glover's act of kindness and display of professionalism did not end there.

With no immediate family in the area, Corporal Glover remained with the widow to ensure everything was handled properly. The funeral home was from Tallapoosa County and their response time was prolonged.

Meanwhile, Corporal Glover assisted the widow in contacting family members. Corporal Glover remained with his neighbor until approximately 4 a.m. until her family arrived and the funeral home had departed.

Corporal Glover displayed the highest standards of character, morality, and professionalism in assisting his neighbor during a time of great need. It is for his actions that Corporal Glover is the Deputy of the Quarter for the first quarter of 2021.

SHERIFF DERRICK CUNNINGHAM BEGINS SECOND TERM AS PRESIDENT OF THE ALABAMA SHERIFF'S ASSOCIATION



My fellow sheriffs have honored me with another consecutive term as the President of the Alabama Sheriff's Association (ASA) for 2021-2022. I am most grateful for the opportunity to continue developing the professional standards and the commitment to community service within our profession. Due to the pandemic, the summer ASA training conference last year was canceled, and this past January we postponed the winter conference. These meetings are a valuable tool for sheriffs to remain familiar with growing trends in law enforcement, community needs and current legislation that effects our profession on the national and state levels and allowing sheriffs

to choose future relevant training needs for the members of our law enforcement agencies.

Within the ACA, The Alabama Sheriff's Foundation (ASF) was created as a 501c3 non-profit to facilitate training for law enforcement officers and provide scholarships to officers and their families. The ASF recently held needed training the last week of March. We received a presentation from Ms. Cynthia Raulston, General Counsel from the Alabama Ethics Commission on ethical and legal issues elected officials frequently encounter. In Alabama, the Office of Sheriff is a statutory/constitutional office having exclusive powers and authority under state law and/or state constitution. The Office of Sheriff has inherent common law powers and sovereignty under the state's constitution and/or state law.

With the great responsibility that comes with holding a constitutional public office, it is important that Alabama sheriffs receive frequent training and information from the Alabama Ethics Commission. Ms. Raulston presented topics on employment issues, the use of public funds, and answered questions from the sheriffs on a wide variety of present-day topics facing law enforcement leaders.

The ASF also had an extensive segment on implicit bias training from Randy Vaughn, the Director of the Tuscaloosa Law Enforcement Academy. Implicit bias training familiarized the sheriffs with the social issue that illustrated most all individuals carry some unconscious attitudes, stereotypes and beliefs towards certain individuals, events or problems that affect decision making and outcomes. In law enforcement, implicit bias is a critical issue that can have a great impact on our relationships within the community, courts and how we are perceived as a profession.

The final segment of the ASF focused on law enforcement accreditation, an issue that is quickly becoming a requirement for agencies in the United States. Sheriff John Samaniego of Shelby County gave a presentation on accreditation standards and how they will impact and positively affect our profession in the future. Captain Mark Bishop, of the Shelby County Sheriff's Office, lectured on the implementation of policies and procedures.

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The training and networking at these professional conferences allows sheriffs to learn the latest techniques and growing trends in law enforcement to assist us in maintaining progressive agencies focusing on the communities that we serve. I will be attending the National Sheriff’s Association conference in Phoenix, Arizona this coming June where I serve on several committees, one being the Government Affairs Committee (GAC). The GAC develops the national association’s law enforcement and homeland security policy positions and represents the association before the United States Congress, the White House and various federal agencies.

The GAC meets with national representatives on proposed bills that effect our communities and discuss their impact, highlighting the positive and sometimes negative aspects of a proposed law. My participation and regular involvement regarding issues on a national level is of vital importance to ensure Alabama citizens receive representation in Washington D.C. I am proud to serve on this important committee and remain focused on doing what is best for Montgomery County citizens.

Derrick Cunningham, Sheriff



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