

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- OFFICERS, CIVILIANS OF THE QUARTER/YEAR ANNOUNCED
- PROMOTIONS
- HOLIDAY HIGHLIGHTS
- WOODARD MEMORIALIZED
- SHERIFF'S HOUSE RIBBON CUTTING
- MEMORIAL WALL DEDICATED
- ARREST REPORT
- CRIME MAP

Montgomery County Sheriff
 115 South Perry Street
 Montgomery, AL 36104
 Office: 334.832-4980
 Website: montgomerysheriff.com

MCSQ Newsletter Design Team:
 we.rise365@gmail.com
 334.625.8416



A MESSAGE FROM SHERIFF DERRICK CUNNINGHAM



This is the final quarterly publication of MSQ magazine for 2020, and the third installment of the new and improved format. This past year has brought many challenges and unfortunately, heartache at the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office. Sadly, on December 3rd we lost a respected member of our agency's family when Deputy Sheriff Trainee Christofer H. Woodard passed away unexpectedly. Christofer had served with our organization for a month and was scheduled to attend the police academy in February He was a great fit for the MCSO and quickly established himself as an outstanding law enforcement officer. Please see the article celebrating his life and career in this edition of MSQ.

This past year most all of us have had to adjust to the challenges that face our families, communities, schools, workplaces and nation. I want to ensure our citizens that the MCSO has not wavered in providing the critical law enforcement service to the residents of Montgomery County. During the COVID-19 pandemic, MCSO operations have remained steadfast and, in some instances, have been enhanced. When county buildings were closed due to the lockdown order, deputies assigned for security purposes to the courthouse and other county facilities were reassigned to patrol Montgomery County, augmenting our presence in our many communities.

Although many of our special events have had to be cancelled this past year, we hosted a drive through trick-or-treating for the 2020 Halloween Spooktacular for our children to enjoy themselves.

We, along with our many partners, all practiced safety and health protocols during the event. In December, generous members of the MCSO and county employees provided gifts for the needy by hosting our annual Christmas Angel Tree. Both of these events are highlighted in this edition of MSQ.

Renovations for the Montgomery County Courthouse and Annex I are continuing. I appreciate the patience of our citizens while we continue to improve our public facilities in order to serve you better. The pistol permit office will remain accessible throughout the construction phase of 100 S. Lawrence Street where our administrative offices are located.

In this publication of MSQ we highlight the opening of the Sheriff's House (TSH), a cooperative effort between the MCSO and Montgomery County Commission. TSH will provide law enforcement officers a place to stay while visiting the capital city, and enjoy fellowship during the police academy, attending continuing education, or executive law enforcement leaders conducting business in Montgomery. I am also proud of the relationships we have built with the Alabama County Commissioners' Association (ACCA).

The ACCA has expressed an interest with funding assistance for Alabama sheriff offices throughout the state to send county correctional officers to the MCSO Sheriff D. T. Marshall Training Facility to receive training and certification in corrections and jail management. We have constructed a state-of-the-art simulated correctional facility on the grounds of our facility so that county correctional officers may receive training and curriculum in jail procedures, de-escalation techniques, search and seizure methods, to name a few. The jail management training course enhances correctional officer's skills, knowledge and reduces liability.

Furthermore, the ACCA has agreed to fund a vehicle driving simulator that will assist law enforcement officers in Alabama with improving their driving skills under a variety of circumstances. The MCSO will sponsor the program and will provide transportation for the unit to any law enforcement agency located in Alabama.

I was recently honored by my fellow Alabama sheriffs and asked to serve another year as the president of the Alabama Sheriff's Association. Our association strives to uphold the highest professional standards in law enforcement. Our present endeavor, while working with the Alabama State Legislature and the Alabama Peace Officers Standards and Training Commission, is to enact relevant and productive accreditation standards for all law enforcement officers in the State of Alabama. An anticipated bill that may be before the Alabama Legislature in the future will be focused on accreditation and standardize education, training, and policy requirements for all law enforcement officers and law enforcement agencies. I have assigned a member of my senior staff to act in the capacity of an accreditation officer, and I am pleased to say the MCSO will lead the way in providing an example in this effort to build trust and confidence in the public we serve.

I look forward to the year 2021 in hopes that the COVID-19 vaccine will allow the pandemic to subside, that Americans may return to work, school, and the extracurricular activities that we most enjoy with one another. The members of the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office are at your disposal.

It is an honor to serve the citizens of Montgomery County.

Correctional Facility photo on page 5

MONTGOMERY COUNTY SHERIFFS OFFICE
DEPUTY OF THE 4TH QUARTER AND 2020 DEPUTY OF THE YEAR
CORPORAL MICHAEL MORROW

Corporal Michael Morrow is assigned to the Investigative Division. He has been assisting federal, state and other local agencies in human trafficking investigations. Human trafficking cases are difficult to investigate because many of the victims are afraid to cooperate and give statements out of fear of retribution from the perpetrators. Using information gathered through various arrests, investigations and witness accounts, he linked a recent suspect to a vast network of human trafficking. The case crossed state lines, where the Department of Homeland Security became involved.



2020 Deputy of the Year, Corporal Michael Morrow and Sheriff Cunningham

Corporal Morrow was successful in building trust and communication with several of the victims of human trafficking, and was able to succeed in freeing them while bringing their captors to justice. Corporal Morrow will be recognized by the Department of Homeland Security and has been made a member of the federal task force on human trafficking.

For Corporal Morrow’s dedication and diligence, he is the Montgomery County Sheriff’s Office Deputy of the 4th Quarter 2020 and Deputy of the Year for 2020.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY DETENTION FACILITY
CORRECTIONAL OFFICER OF THE 4TH QUARTER
CORPORAL STEPHEN FREENEY



Correctional Office of the 4th Quarter Corporal Stephen Freeney and Sheriff Cunningham

Corporal Stephen Freeney is the recipient of the Montgomery County Detention Facility’s Officer of the 4th Quarter 2020. Corporal Freeney works daily with a commitment to keep the inmates safe as well as his fellow correctional officers. He has worked diligently in assisting to f keeping the facility clean during the COVID-19 pandemic. Corporal Freeney does not hesitate to listen to inmate concerns and reassures them that measures are being taken to lessen the likelihood of the spread of infection.

With a reserved character, Corporal Freeney swiftly responds to his supervisors and coworkers to aid and assist when dealing with inmates in crisis. Corporal Freeney’s work ethic is outstanding.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE 2020 CIVILIAN OF THE YEAR
WENDY DEESE, DISPATCHER

Montgomery County Sheriff's Office Dispatcher Wendy Deese is one of our most experienced and capable dispatchers. In January of 2020, a violent storm that passed through Montgomery County. The volume of calls and radio traffic to the MCSO Communications Center erupted. Wendy prioritized the calls and radio traffic in a safe and effective manner by coordinating MCSO personnel, volunteer fire department members, and other state and local first responders in addition to county engineers and maintenance workers. The swift response from local first responders was to the credit of Dispatcher Deese's handling of the incident.



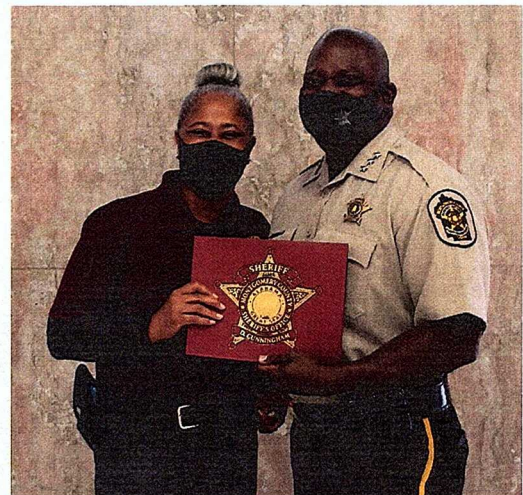
2020 Civilian of the Year, Wendy Deese and Sheriff Cunningham

Another example of Dispatcher Deese's ability and performance in a critical situation came this past year when a homeowner was attacked in her driveway while confronting two burglary suspects exiting her residence. The suspects fled in the victim's car. Dispatcher Deese gave the last location of the vehicle and deputies were quickly able to locate it. The ensuing vehicle pursuit went through several surrounding counties. Dispatcher Deese coordinated with other jurisdictions and assisting in the felons being brought into custody.

Dispatcher Wendy Deese can be relied upon when an emergency situation arises and is one of our most valued employees.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE 2020 CIVILIAN OF THE 4TH QUARTER
PAM COTTRELL, COURT SECURITY OFFICER

Court Security Officer Pam Cottrell is assigned to assist in security in the lobby of the Montgomery County Courthouse, Annex I. She has a positive and friendly appearance for those who enter the building to conduct county business. Many citizens have complimented her on the pleasant nature she displays when greeting citizens. Pam gladly receives tasks to perform and completes them in a timely fashion. This past year she was assigned to remain with a young person who was involved in a legal proceeding. Pam accepted the assignment in her usual willing nature and was very professional and courteous to the child, who was placed in a difficult situation. CSO Cottrell is an outstanding example of a Montgomery County Sheriff's Office employee.



2020 Civilian of the 4th Quarter, Pam Cottrell and Sheriff Cunningham

MONTGOMERY COUNTY DETENTION FACILITY 2020 CIVILIAN OF THE YEAR *PAKETA MAYS, CLERK*

The Montgomery County Detention Division is proudly to announce Paketa Mays as the 2020 Civilian of the Year. Clerk Mays consistently exhibits a positive attitude. She has a fundamental role with the daily operations of the detention facility. Clerk Mays has assisted supervisors in all bureaus with a positive attitude and completes tasks promptly. She processes information efficiently and ensures issues and concerns are properly addressed. Clerks Mays is an exemplary employee.

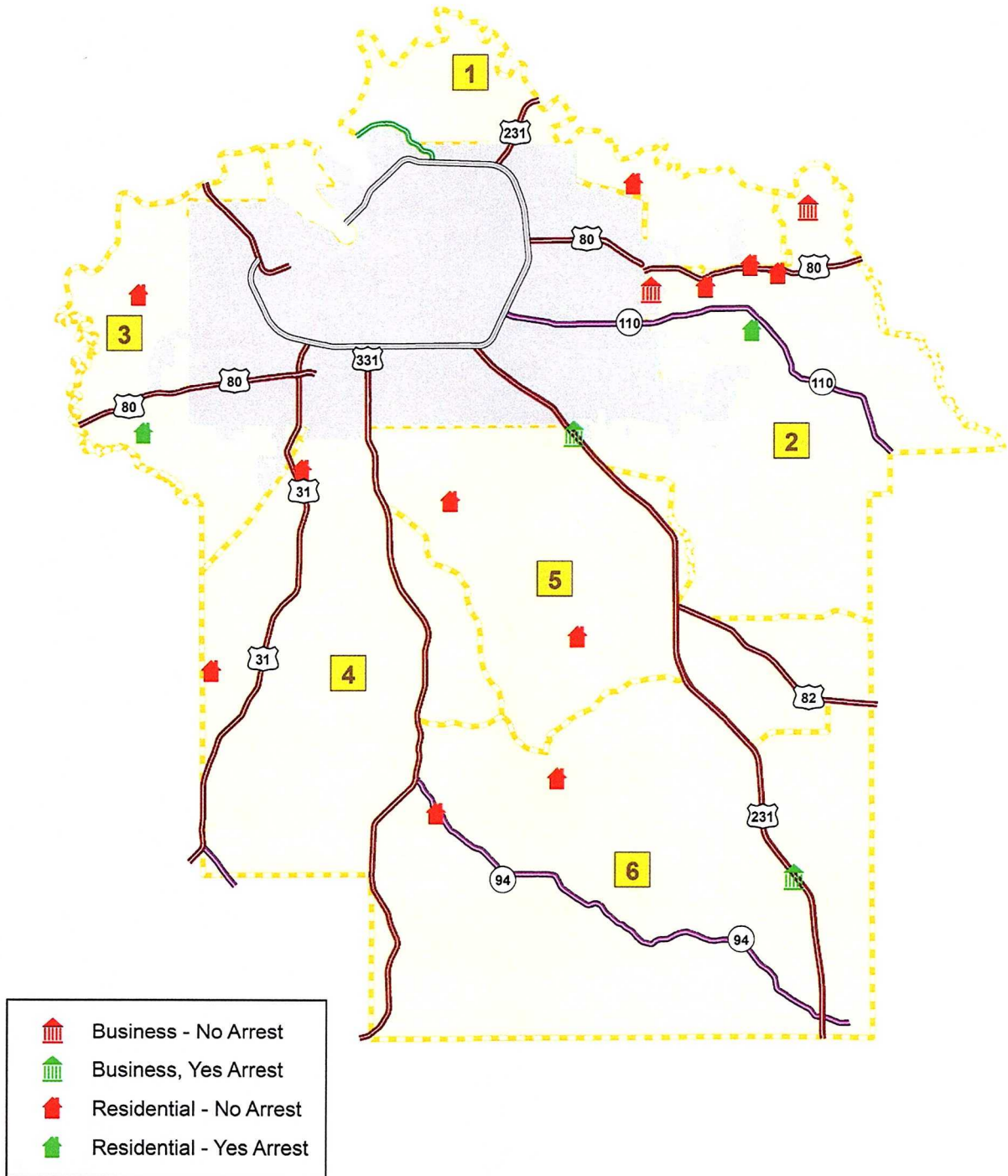
MONTGOMERY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE PROMOTIONS, 4TH QUARTER 2020

- *Sheena Tarver to Corporal*
- *Jeff Krzeminski to Corporal*



MCSO Correctional Training Facility

M.C.S.O 4th Quarter Burglary Statistics



M.C.S.O. INVESTIGATIONS 4TH QUARTER FELONY ARRESTS



Eric Weathers
Theft of Property 1st
9250 Atlanta Hwy



Ashley Coleman
2 Counts Chemical
Endangerment of a Child
65 Jericho Dr.



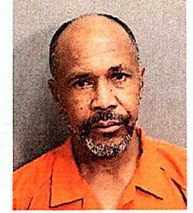
Elmore Dudley
Robbery 3rd, Domestic
Violence 3rd
7533 Muirfield Loop



Amanda Winfield
Chemical
Endangerment/Child
9601 Chobham Crt.



John Henry Harris
Domestic Violence
Strangulation
70 Princeton Pl.



Cyrus Dale Stewart
2 Counts U.B.E.V
2 Counts TOP 4
Wax Myrtle Court



NO PHOTO
AVAILABLE



Lamar Graham
2 Counts Attempted
Murder
Discharging Firearm
Occupied Building



Shawn Tymar Jackson
Assault 2nd
250 S. McDonough St.



Eric Tyrone Dixon
Domestic Violence 2nd
2 Counts Theft of Property 1
4545 Robert C. Hamm Rd.



Lavarion Jonte Luster
Theft of Property 1st
5789 Trotman Rd.



Devin Alexander Ford
Theft of Property 3rd
215 William Stinson Rd.



Kedrick Jerrell Surles
Theft of Property 3rd
Destruction of State
Property
215 William Stinson Rd.



Craig Glen McCloud
Attempted Murder
Georgia Washington Rd.



Courtney Jerome Adams
Burglary 3rd /TOP 1/TOP 2
9515 Vaughn Rd.



Vinson Jerond French
Theft of Property 1st
9515 Vaughn Rd.



Carlos Thaddeus Hinson
Domestic Violence
Strangulation
329 Geary Dr.



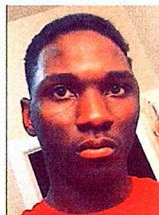
Grigsby Chance
Destruction of State
Property
250 S. McDonough St.



Jontavious Powell
2 Counts Burglary 3rd
2 Counts Theft of Property 1st
Troy Hwy.



James Rhodes
Theft of Property 1
2-Counts Criminal
Possession Forged
Instrument
Wares Ferry Road.



Jeffery Lane Ellisor
Domestic Violence -
Strangulation
Ashwood Cir.



Jordan Chambers
Not Arrested/Wanted
Theft of Property 1st
800 blk Mizell Rd.



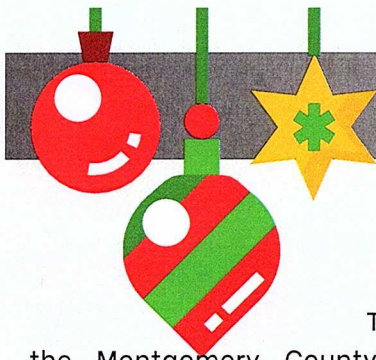
Brian Keith Carter
Assault 2nd
250 S. McDonough St.

HALLOWEEN SPOOKTACULAR A SPOOKALICIOUS SUCCESS

The MCSO held its annual Spooktacular this past Halloween. Sheriff Cunningham felt that the children of Montgomery County should enjoy Halloween despite the pandemic effecting many public gatherings and door-to-door trick-or-treating. With COVID-19 safety in mind, the MCSO changed the Spooktacular at the Garrett Coliseum into a drive-through event. Over 1,700 vehicles participated in the event, that lasted well into the evening. Thousands of children were able to receive candy and remained safely in their parent's vehicles.

We thank our partners and participants, Buffalo Soldiers Motorcycle Club, Creek Swimming Turtles Social Club, First Baptist Church, Gumptown Magazine, Jackson Professional Funeral Services, Kappa Epsilon Psi Military Sorority, MGM Unite, Montgomery Fire/Rescue, Noble Phi Psi, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., Representative Kirk Hatcher, Royal Diamondbacks, Sam's Club, Shaaban Court #126, Sign Now Montgomery, BONDS, Crime Stoppers, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, and Revenue Commissioner Janet Buskey.

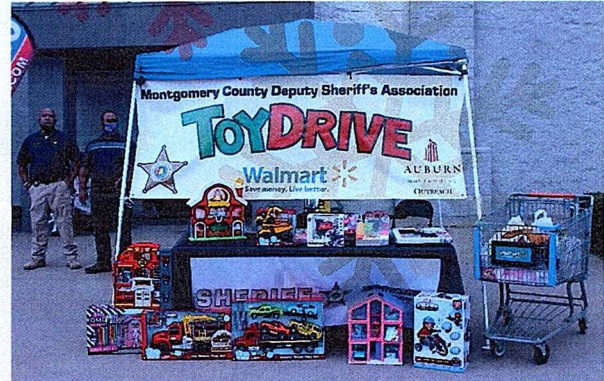




TOY DRIVE MAKES SPIRITS BRIGHT

This past November the Montgomery County Deputy Sheriff's Association and the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office jointly sponsored their annual toy drive for the children of Montgomery County. The program has been an existence for over twenty years. During this time, we have assisted over three hundred families along with 1,100 children during the holiday seasons. For several years, the Montgomery County Deputy Sheriff's Association has held our toy drive at Wal-Mart on Ann Street in Montgomery.

We receive outreach from churches and civic organizations that assist in donations, as well as volunteers who shared in our event. Auburn University Montgomery and local high school athletic teams participated, as well as the Montgomery Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Inc., as part of their community service projects. This past toy drive was organized by MCSO Sergeant Juan Jerry, Corporal Isaac Forbes, Corporal Kofee Anderson, and Deputy Courtney Ward, in



addition to volunteer MCSO employees and various citizens of Montgomery County.

A special thank you to Sheriff Derrick Cunningham for providing the deputy sheriff's association with support to conduct the toy drive. We would like to thank WCOV, Park Crossing High School Basketball Team, Wal-Mart and Montgomery Coca-Cola Bottling. All items that were received were donated and provided grateful children with a wonderful Christmas.

ANGEL TREE DONATIONS DELIVER HOPE TO DISPLACED FAMILIES



Each year the MCSO sponsors the Christmas Angel Tree to help the homeless and needy. This past Christmas we partnered with Fountain of Renewal, Aid to Inmate Mothers, Mary Ellen's Hearth and Without Limits Church to provide clothing and hygiene items to those individuals in need during the holidays. Many of the contributors to our program are MCSO employees and members of other county departments. Volunteers select an ornament

from our "Angel Tree" that has clothing and shoes sizes, along with hygiene needs of an individual. Members of the MCSO deliver the gifts to the homes and shelters the week before Christmas. Over the years this worthwhile program has provided those in need with gifts, clothing and necessities during the holiday season.

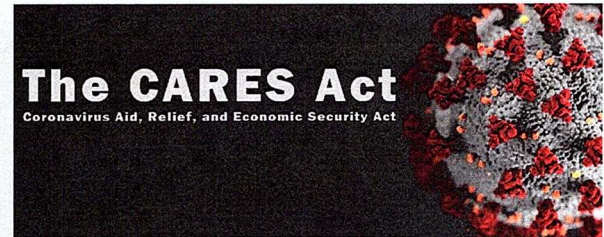
SHERIFF'S OFFICE UTILIZED CARES ACT FUNDS TO KEEP COMMUNITY SAFE

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act, also known as the CARES Act, was passed by Congress and signed into law by the president in March of 2020 in order to provide assistance to American families, businesses, state and local governments in combating issues related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Montgomery County Sheriff's Office received CARES Act funding to alleviate the possible spread of the virus and help keep Montgomery County residents safe from the possible risk of infection. The welfare of our citizens visiting Montgomery County buildings was one of our utmost priorities, along with employees of the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office and members of the community that came in contact with one another.

The CARES Act funding allowed the MCSO to purchase personal protective equipment, e.g. gloves, masks, hand sanitizer, disinfectant spray and wipes, thermometers, and protective suits. The Sheriff's Office also obtained commercial disinfectant foggers that permitted us to treat large areas of the county buildings the public comes in contact with. County buildings were treated frequently based on their occupancy and amount of pedestrian traffic.

Due to its dense occupancy, the jail was given a high priority. The Montgomery County Detention Facility buildings were sanitized several times a day. The MCDP provided inmates with gloves and masks on a regular basis. A state-of-the-art body scanner was purchased with CARES Act funding. The body scanner allows correctional officers to scan prisoners for contraband while limiting



physical contact. Cameras, monitors, audio equipment and upgrades to existing spaces in the MCDP allowed for the Sheriff's Office to equip virtual courtrooms that keep person-to-person contact to a minimum for some, but not all cases, when inmates have to appear in court. It provides a safer environment for the judges, attorneys, witnesses and defendants.

During these times of dealing with COVID-19, most all government meetings were held online in Zoom meetings, webinars and videoconferencing. Virtual conference rooms and computer web cams were also purchased with CARES Act funding that allowed the MCSO to conduct business and continuing education training without interruption. A banker style walk-up window was installed in Annex II of the Montgomery County Courthouse where the Sheriff's administrative offices are located. When fully operational, it will permit residents to renew pistol permits and other Sheriff's Office business in the future without have direct exposure to other individuals.

The Montgomery County Sheriff's Office utilized CARES Act funding to assist in protecting the public and our employees against the COVID-19 pandemic that threatened our communities. If we prevented just one person from being infected or risked a serious medical condition, it was well worth the effort.

SAFE AND SECURE ELECTIONS TOP PRIORITY FOR SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Under Alabama law, the sheriff's office of each county is responsible for election security. Due to the large turnout of the presidential election of 2020, the MCSO partnered with the Montgomery Police Department to increase the law enforcement presence at all polling locations throughout Montgomery County. Sheriff Cunningham swore-in 18 Montgomery police officers as special deputies, to assist in the 2020 general election. With this added staffing, the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office provided security for the 49 election precincts in Montgomery County. Sheriff Cunningham would like to express his appreciation to the officers from the Montgomery Police Department that helped with this election.



In preparation for election day, officials from the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office, Probate Office, Circuit Clerk's Office, Voter Registration, and the Montgomery Police Department held weekly meetings. Preceding the election, absentee voting had a significant increase (from prior elections). The Circuit Clerks Office did an outstanding job processing and accepting the absentee ballots for this election. They, along with the MCSO, opened the courthouse on the weekends to accommodate citizens. Election officials also implemented COVID-19

precautions. This was accomplished by the Probate Office requiring social distancing, mask use, and providing personal protective equipment such as masks, gloves and sanitizer. All participants did an excellent job addressing the many obstacles faced during this election.

Due to a vacancy in the District 26 Alabama State Senate, a special election was held Tuesday, November 17, 2020 in a primary election. A runoff election followed on Tuesday, December 15, 2020. The general election to fill this seat is scheduled on Tuesday, March 2, 2021. This will mark the ninth election for this particular office since 2017. The MCSO has provided election security for each of these elections, many of them special elections. Although elections typically occur every two years, special elections can be called at any time, when vacancies occur. Every election, regardless of the number of offices to be filled or how many voters turn out, require the same preparation and resources.

The sheriff of each Alabama county has constitutional responsibilities for many electoral functions. Some of these responsibilities are well known and visible to the public. There are, however, many other obligations that are less known and not as apparent. These duties are statutory requirements that are the responsibility of the sheriff.

Continued on page 12

Continued from page 11

The sheriff is a member of the appointing board. The appointing board is responsible for the appointment of poll workers at each election precinct. Members of the appointing board include the sheriff, the judge of probate and the circuit clerk. Approximately 20 days prior to each election, the appointing board selects qualified electors to each of the designated voting precincts in the county. These electors include at least one inspector and a number of officials necessary for the effective operation of each precinct.

The sheriff or a deputy sheriff is present at all polling precincts, including on-site absentee voting locations, to preserve good order. This includes ensuring that every citizen can vote without interference or interruption. The sheriff may also specially deputize a sufficient force to act at all polling places on election day. Under Alabama law, in an effort to prevent loitering, no person, except poll workers, watchers, voters, the judge of probate, the sheriff, or deputy sheriffs are allowed to be within 30 feet of the door of the building designated as a voting precinct on election day. Specifically, campaigning is prohibited within this distance of a polling place. Voters may not be arrested during their attendance at elections, or while going to or returning from an election. There is an exception for treason, felonies, or a breach of the peace.

The sheriff, along with the probate judge and circuit clerk, constitute the canvassing board for general elections. The canvassing board differs from the appointment board in that they conduct the canvass of the votes after an election. The sheriff has important duties in the canvassing function. First, is delivering the election returns. Next is maintaining the election records. The sheriff is also responsible for resolving ties as set forth by law.



The sheriff is the returning officer of the county. The chief inspector must deliver the election returns to the sheriff within 2 hours after the election is closed. After collecting all the returns, the chief inspector delivers the ballots to the sheriff or the sheriff's designee. The ballots do not leave the sheriff's possession, except as provided by state and federal law.

The sheriff must keep the ballots in the voted ballot box for six months, provided there is no federal office on the ballot. This may also be extended if the election is contested. After that, the ballots may be destroyed unless the sheriff is notified that the results for the election of one of the offices on the ballot is to be contested. In this situation, the sheriff must preserve any ballots that contain votes for the contested office until the case is resolved or a legal demand is made for the ballots. The sheriff also receives and retains the record of election that contains the clerk's poll list. If there is an electronic record of the election, it must be delivered to the sheriff and preserved for the appropriate length of time and then destroyed. If a federal office is on the ballot, all records must be maintained for 22 months.

Continued on page 13

Continued from page 12

In all elections, if the two candidates for a county or precinct office tie for the highest number of votes, the sheriff is tasked with determining the winner by lot (from among those tied). This is to be done in the presence of the tied candidates.

The sheriff may be represented by one of his/her deputies on the canvassing board. The canvassing board canvasses the county vote in the general, special, and constitutional amendment elections. If the office of the probate judge or the circuit clerk is vacant, or if either or both are candidates in the election being canvassed, the appointing board must fill the vacant positions at the time poll workers are appointed. If the appointing board does not fill a vacancy, or if any member of the canvassing board fails to attend the canvassing meeting, the sheriff must appoint a qualified elector of the county to fill the vacant position. Whether appointed by the sheriff or the appointing board, persons chosen to fill a vacant position on the canvassing board must be qualified electors. If all members of the canvassing board belong to the same political party, the sheriff must summon three reputable, qualified electors from the county who are members of the opposite political party to observe the proceedings.

As one can see, a sheriff in Alabama has a many obligations and responsibilities to ensure that our election process is safe and secure. The members of the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office work hard to ensure that our elections maintain the integrity and trust of the citizens and voters of Montgomery County.

RESTORED HISTORIC BUILDING NOW RETREAT FOR VISITING LAW ENFORCEMENT



(L-R) Chairman Elton Dean, Mr. James Lane, Sheriff Derrick Cunningham, Commissioner Isaiah Sankey, Commissioner Doug Singleton, Chief Alan Benefield, Commissioner Daniel Harris

Through the cooperation of the Montgomery County Commission, Sheriff Derrick Cunningham envisioned providing law enforcement officers a place of fellowship while staying in the capital city of Alabama. The Sheriff's House (TSH) was created by restoring a historic building in the Cottage Hill community in Montgomery, Alabama. Previously a halfway house for juveniles, The Sheriff's House has eight rooms for law enforcement officers to stay while attending the local police academy, conducting business with state and federal government offices, or attending continuing education in Montgomery. The location at 514 Herron Street is conveniently located near

Montgomery and two blocks from the Montgomery Police Academy. The rooms were quickly reserved after the opening in early December, showing that The Sheriff's House is a convenient option for law enforcement officers to stay while in Montgomery.

**IN MEMORY OF
DEPUTY SHERIFF TRAINEE CHRISTOFER HAROLD WOODARD**



*Deputy Sheriff Trainee
Christofer Woodard*

Deputy Sheriff Trainee Christofer H. Woodard died unexpectedly on December 3, 2020. He had been employed by the Montgomery County Sheriff’s Office since November 2, 2020. Christofer was born in Frankfurt, Hessen, Germany in 1982. He joined the United States Air Force in 2008 and was a member of the USAF Security Forces, a certified K-9 handler and had obtained the rank of Staff Sergeant.

Christofer was the recipient of the Air Force Achievement Medal with 6 Oak Leaf Clusters, AF Outstanding Unit Award with 6 Oak Leaf Clusters, AF Good Conduct Medal with 3 Oak Leaf Clusters, Global War on Terrorism Medal, AF Longevity Service with 2 Oak Leaf Clusters, and the USAF NCO Professional Military Education Graduate Ribbon.

Christofer was a valued member of the MCSO. He was looking forward to attending the police academy in February 2021 and becoming a certified law enforcement officer in Alabama.

Christofer is survived by his wife, Supaporn (Kiki), parents Glenn and Sally Woodard of Canandaigua, New York, (brother) Alexander Woodard and (sister) Melinda Woodard. Christofer and Kiki were very proud of their beloved dog, Joey.

Christofer was buried in Canandaigua, New York, where he grew up. Members of the MCSO, Captain Leigh Persky, Deputy Sheriff Trainees Jamie Whitten and Lydia Young traveled to New York to attend Christofer’s funeral. Sheriff Cunningham wishes to thank all those who have reached out to us with their concerns during this difficult time and to please keep the Woodard family and the members of the Montgomery County Sheriff’s Office in your thoughts and prayers.

The Woodard Family

Pictured left to right:

Captian Leigh Persky, Glenn Woodard, Sally Woodard, Deputy Sheriff Trainee Jamie Whitten, Kiki Woodard, Alexander Woodard, Melinda Woodard, Deputy Sheriff Trainee Lydia Young, Sterling Hill-Ridgeway and Joey



ALABAMA SHERIFFS MEMORIAL WALL DEDICATED

The Alabama Sheriff's Association (ASA) held a ceremony on December 30, 2020 to dedicate the memorial wall to the Alabama sheriffs who have been killed in the line of duty. ASA President Derrick Cunningham has been leading the effort to honor Alabama sheriffs for some time. The need for the memorial wall was greatly felt when his friend and fellow Sheriff, John "Big John" Williams of Lowndes County, was killed by a gunman on November 23, 2019.

Sheriff Derrick Cunningham hosted the event. The Russell County Sheriff's Office honor guard presented the colors. Ms. Lisa Crenshaw of the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office sang the national anthem, and Calhoun County Sheriff Matthew Wade played Amazing Grace on the bagpipes.

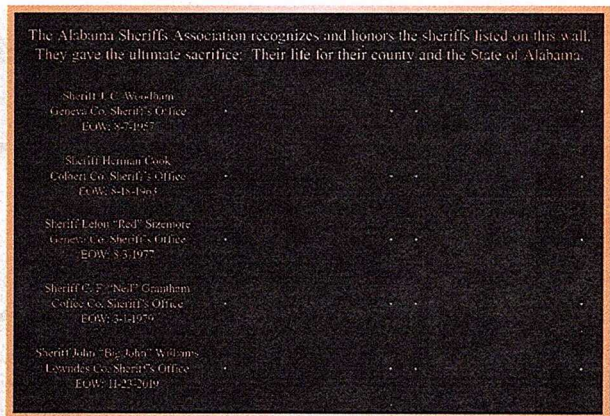
The Reverend John Gilchrist, Sr. gave the opening prayer. Lee County Sheriff Jay Jones presented reflections on the Alabama sheriffs who died in the line of duty. Guest speakers included Alabama Secretary of State John Merrill, Alabama Attorney General Steve Marshall, and Montgomery Mayor Steven Reed.

A special presentation was given to Ms. Joann Williams. The National Sheriff's Association posthumously awarded her husband, Lowndes County Sheriff John "Big John" Williams the 2020 Ferris E. Lucas Sheriff of the Year award. Mrs. Williams accepted the award along with her daughter, Shanice Williams.

There are twenty Alabama sheriffs, spanning a period of 174 years, on the Alabama Sheriff's Association Memorial Wall. As the inscription reads: They gave the ultimate sacrifice: Their life for their county and the State of Alabama.



(L-R) Sheriff Heath Taylor, Sheriff Huey Hoss Mack, Joann Williams, Shanice Williams, ASA President Sheriff Derrick Cunningham



HEALTHCARE PROCEDURES IMPLEMENTED IN CORRECTIONAL FACILITY PROVING EFFECTIVE



Under Alabama law (§14-6-19) sheriffs are responsible for the medical attention of county inmates. As the Montgomery County Sheriff, I take this duty seriously. The Montgomery County Commission and the MCSO contract with Quality Correctional Health Care (QCHC) to provide inmate medical services. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Montgomery County Detention Facility, through the CARES Act, which is highlighted in this publication of MSQ, has enacted additional measures to lessen the likelihood of the spread of infection in the county jail.

On a daily basis, a staff member uses an electrostatic sprayer/fogger to sanitize areas of the detention facility. Additional thorough cleaning and disinfecting are also conducted. Individuals entering the jail received a COVID-19 questionnaire, are tested for COVID-19, and are examined by the QCHC medical staff. Inmates are placed in an intake pod for a specified quarantine period. Inmates who test positive are placed in the jail infirmary. All county inmates receive face masks to wear.

The detention facility correctional staff conducts frequent inspections of the building to ensure that cleanliness protocols are followed. Correctional officers are provided personal protective equipment (PPE) that include face masks, gloves, and isolation gowns.

The procedures that have been enacted in the MCDF have greatly reduced the threat of COVID-19 inside the facility. While we have had some inmates contract the virus, our infection numbers have been much lower in comparison to other facilities of equal or greater size. I attribute this with the hard work of our correctional officers and the QCHC staff, who are following the strict measures we have placed on minimizing the threat of COVID-19 entering the detention facility. I would like to thank them for their hard work and diligence during these unpredictable times.

Derrick Cunningham, Sheriff

.....

To:

Place
Postage
Here

Montgomery County Sheriff's Office
115 South Perry Street
Montgomery, AL 36104

