



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- SHERIFF CUNNINGHAM'S MESSAGE
- COMMAND AND STAFF COLLEGE INSTITUTE
- HISTORICAL REFLECTION: SHERIFF JAMES YANCEY BRAME
- TRAINING SESSIONS TO BOOST PERFORMANCE
- OFFICERS RECOGNIZED
- ARREST REPORT
- CRIME MAP

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A MESSAGE FROM SHERIFF DERRICK CUNNINGHAM



Summer is in full swing in Montgomery County. Alabama has not gradually entered the summer climate. The thermal plume that descended upon the southeast during the last week of June has hit us without warning. We had record temperatures and heat indexes very early in the new season. Unfortunately, during this period, the air conditioner failed at 100 S. Lawrence St. where the MCSO administrative offices are located. The MCSO shares this building with the circuit family court, county engineers and the information systems department. The Montgomery County Commission made the decision to close the building for 2 days so repairs could be made. Thankfully, the HVAC system was already in the process of being replaced. The recent A/C breakdown led to the speedy delivery of the new system ahead of schedule. We are thankful to the MCC, county maintenance and Bradley Plumbing and Heating for their quick response in getting county government back to work.

The MCSO recently saw the most senior member of our agency, Assistant Chief Deputy Gayle Atchison retire after 46 years of service with our organization. During the span of her long career, she has served under four Montgomery County sheriffs. Chief Atchison has seen many positive changes in law enforcement culture, technology, training, equipment and community relations. She has been one of the most dedicated law enforcement officers I have had the privilege to serve with. She has taken the time to develop County sheriffs. Chief Atchison has seen many positive changes in law enforcement



Colonel Gayle H. Atchison
Dates of Service:
November 30, 1976 - July
1, 2023

Continued on page 2

culture, technology, training, equipment and community relations. She has been one of the most dedicated law enforcement officers I have had the privilege to serve with. She has taken the time to develop young deputies into career minded law enforcement officers and her community involvement is second to none. I have relied on her many times over the years and am most thankful for her personal loyalty to me. She will be greatly missed.

By the time this edition of MSQ is published, families and friends have enjoyed the Independence Day holiday. I believe all will agree we live in the greatest nation that has ever existed on the face of the Earth. The freedoms and liberties we enjoy are the exception and not the norm in the world, and in history. When I traveled during my time in the U.S. Army, I was always thankful to be a citizen of the United States and saw frequently the liberties we take for granted do not exist elsewhere in the world. Our system of government is the best. As Americans, we do not have to fear totalitarianism. Free speech is a sacred right that we should not take it for granted, for in many countries citizens do not have the right to express opinions without government censorship or control, and certainly may not petition the government for a redress of grievances. We should all be thankful for these freedoms and not take them for granted.

The national situation in law enforcement is presently in a critical stage. Felony aggravated assaults against law enforcement officers has increased. There have been several accounts of officers being ambushed, shot and killed as they sit in their patrol vehicles. Through June 2023, there have been 194 officers shot in the line of duty, an 8.9% increase from 2022 where 178 were shot during the same time span and a 30% increase year-to-date from 2021 (<https://www.officer.com/command-hq/news/53065125/fop-update-le-officer-shootings-ambush-attacks-keep-rising>). Two Indiana state troopers have been struck and killed this year by suspects fleeing in vehicles. Recently, in Montgomery County, Alabama State Troopers were involved in a deadly force encounter with suspects in a stolen vehicle from another state. The suspects shot at the troopers, striking their patrol vehicles as they fled on Interstate 65, while in heavy traffic. During the pursuit, the suspect vehicle caused 2 separate motor vehicle accidents. Thankfully, no law enforcement officers, or innocent civilians were injured during the vehicle pursuit or shootout. The MCSO and the Montgomery Police Department, along with other agencies assisting the Alabama State Troopers and Alabama State Bureau of Investigation in this case. Thus far in 2023, law enforcement officers have been involved in responding to several mass shooting incidents. By their quick actions, the officers have saved the lives of countless citizens by ending the threat quickly. It is my responsibly as sheriff to ensure my deputies have the necessary training and equipment in order to respond to such an emergency. We have regular training and frequently evaluate our equipment needs in order to ensure our deputies remain prepared.



QR code link to
FOP Update

I encourage all Montgomery County citizens to assist the MCSO in solving the crime issues that concern our communities. Get involved in neighborhood watch programs, regularly attend community meetings, familiarize yourself with your neighbors and look after one another. It is very common for a concerned citizen to report suspicious activity at a neighbor's home that results in our deputies apprehending a suspect for a theft or burglary.

I cannot stress enough the importance of community involvement, communication and interaction. It is the foundation of a safe community. Since summer has started, the MCSO is receiving numerous home security check requests while our residents leave town for business and some leisure time. This service is available year around. Deputies will inspect your homes in your absence and notify the residents if there are security concerns detected. To register your home security check you may call 334-832-4980 or visit our website at <https://www.montgomerysheriff.com/> to register online.



QR code link to
Montgomery
Sheriff's Office

NEED 9-1-1?

Text to 911 is available in Montgomery County, Alabama

WHEN TO USE IT

Calling is the best and fastest way to reach 9-1-1. But you should text if:

- You're deaf, hard of hearing or have a speech disability.
- You're in a situation where it's not safe to call 9-1-1 for help.
- You're having a medical emergency and cannot speak on the phone.

HOW TO USE IT

If you are experiencing an emergency and can't call:

- 1 Enter the numbers 911 in the "To" or "Recipient" field.
- 2 Text the exact location of the emergency.
- 3 Briefly describe what kind of help you need.
- 4 Push the "Send" button.
- 5 Respond to any questions and follow instructions.

CALL IF YOU CAN -911- TEXT IF YOU CAN'T

If you need help, but can't safely speak on the phone or are unable to speak, use your mobile phone to send a text message to 9-1-1.

While on the topic of community communication, I am proud to announce that the MCSO is utilizing Text 911 with our Smart 911 system at the MCSO Emergency Communications Center. The MCSO can accept text messages sent to 911. The MCSO can also reply to text messages after they are received. Text-to-911 is especially useful for those with hearing or speech difficulties, and in situations when it is not safe to place a voice call to 911. The MCSO encourages anyone with police, fire, or medical emergencies to call 911, if they can. Only use the text-to-911 option in situations where you can't speak to an operator. As the capabilities evolve the system will eventually allow photos, however no pictures may be sent at this time. The technology in this area is ever-growing, and I anticipate the options and availability will expand in the future.



Sheriff Cunningham, Corporal Riego and the new MCSO "Gun Dog" Hannah, a German Shorthaired Pointer

In this publication you will be introduced to one of the newest members of the MCSO K-9 team, Hannah. She is a German Shorthaired Pointer and is the first of her kind in Alabama. Hannah is a "gun-dog" and is specially trained to detect and located firearms and ammunition. Hannah can be deployed in a variety of environments and circumstances as state and federal statute permit. Gun crimes are increasing in the United States, and I've taken action by obtaining a "gun-dog" in order to give our deputies and citizens every resource available to combat violent crime. Most recently MCSO deputies were involved in a stolen vehicle pursuit where the suspects collided into a MCSO patrol vehicle. The suspects fled on foot into a field where the grass was several feet high. It was thought the suspects discarded a pistol in the tall grass as they fled from the deputies. What may have taken hours, with

Continues on page 4

multiple deputies, to search this area for the weapon, only took Hannah and her K-9 handler Corporal Derrick Riego a short period of time before they located the firearm. We look forward to many more successes and cases brought to justice with the use of Hannah in the future.

Our agency recently held a graduation for 18 members of the MCSO Citizen's Academy in April. It is a great opportunity for Montgomery County citizens to learn about law enforcement in general, the daily operations of the MCSO, the unique separate divisions, e.g., patrol, civil, investigations, administrative and training and recruiting, specialty units such as K-9, SWAT, crime scene, etc., the many challenges our correctional officers and deputies face every day, and the manner in which they solve these complex problems. The MCSO is holding another citizen's academy starting August 21, 2023. To register, please call MCSO Support Services at 334-832-2515. I encourage all of you to please join us to learn more about your sheriff's office.



April 15, 2023
Sheriff Cunningham and Sergeant Garner with graduates of the MCSO Citizen's Police Academy

This past April, Carastar, formerly known as Montgomery Area Mental Health Authority, held a ribbon-cutting ceremony opening and dedicating the new Carastar Crisis Center located at 5915 Carmichael Rd, Montgomery, Alabama 36117. This crisis center is the realization of state and local government, the health care industry, and the private sector coming together to provide mental health care for those suffering from a mental health crisis. Patients must volunteer to be treated at the facility. The new state-of-the-art facility treats patients in an outpatient basis and offers 10 observation beds where patients may spend up to 23 hours, and 16 beds where patients may stay for up to seven days. In the first few months we have seen a



April 9, 2023
Sheriff Cunningham speaks at the ribbon cutting for the new Carastar Crisis Diversion Center

tremendous success with the crisis center, diverting mental health patients in crisis away from the hospital emergency departments and avoiding incarceration in the local jails. My thanks to Carastar Executive Director Donna Leslie for her hard work in this project coming



May 4, 2023
Sheriff Cunningham and staff with the MSCO
sponsored East Montgomery baseball team

The MSCO is in full swing of our annual spring and summer events. The sheriff's office sponsored our very first little league baseball team at the Montgomery East baseball fields. We enjoyed attending the games and watching the players (7-8-year-olds) compete and enjoy America's favorite pastime. MSCO Correctional Officer Dequarious Carter is one of the volunteer coaches for the baseball team. The MSCO Deputy in the Park Day was held in Ramer in early May and saw a large turnout of citizens. We grilled hotdogs and hamburgers, provided

refreshments, snacks, static displays of law enforcement equipment, games, our rock-climbing wall, along with the South Montgomery Volunteer Fire Department. We had a lot of conversations with our citizens in south Montgomery County on their concerns and community involvement.

The recent annual MSCO Youth Fishing Rodeo was held in June and was a tremendous success. Many young people joined us at the Montgomery County ponds on Hwy. 231 South. The youth caught a lot of catfish and enjoyed a beautiful spring day. We provided them with food, drinks, awarded prizes, fishing tackle and gave them an opportunity to enjoy the fresh air and sunshine. I look forward and love these events; some of my favorites are with the youth of our county.

For our senior citizens, please mark your calendar for Tuesday, September 12, 2023, for our annual MSCO Senior Fishing Rodeo (the flyer is including in this MSQ publication). Further upcoming events are our MSCO Camp Show-n-Tell held the final week of July where MSCO staff spends a week with children ages 9-11, enjoying canoeing, archery, arts, crafts, swimming, and outdoor survival skills. Please see the flyer in this publication for more information.

Another future event is the 2023 National Night Out to be held on August 1, 2023, from 5 PM to 8 PM at Eastdale Mall (in front of JC Penney). This event gives us an opportunity to engage with neighborhood associations and citizens in discussing the issues that concern us all, while fellowshiping and enjoying good food in a relaxing environment. I am very proud that the host partners for this event continue to grow with every passing year, as we now have over 20 participating partnering agencies. Please see the flyer in this edition of MSQ for further information.

Montgomery County Sheriff's Office Foundation
2023 Annual Senior Fishing Rodeo



Please join us for fun, fellowship and fishing!

Tuesday, September 12, 2023

from 6:00 AM to 12:00 Noon

Montgomery County Ponds

on Highway 231 South (Troy Hwy)

across from Sweet Creek Farm Market

For more information, please call

MCSO Support Services at

334-832-2515



hosted by
Sheriff Derrick Cunningham



Montgomery County Sheriff's Office
2023 National Night Out
 hosted by
Sheriff Derrick Cunningham

Please join your neighbors at Eastdale Mall (in front of J.C. Penney, 1236 W. Eastdale Mall) for fun, food and fellowship

Prizes awarded for the neighborhood association with the best event attendance

Tuesday, August 1, 2023 - 5 PM to 8 PM

Host Partners

Montgomery County Commission • Montgomery County DA's Office • Montgomery Humane Society • Montgomery Police Department • Montgomery Fire & Rescue • Town of Pike Road Pike Road VFD • US Attorney's Office • Alabama Dept. of Corrections • Haynes Ambulance Alabama Fish & Game • Emergency Solutions, LLC • Signs Now, Montgomery • Gulf States Distributors • Troy University Police Department • Alabama National Guard • Buffalo Rock AUM Police Department • American Red Cross • ALEA Driver License Manager (Star ID) Montgomery County Election Center

The MCSO has held a long-term relationship with the Leadership Montgomery (LM) organization. The program offers participants the opportunity to learn about various aspects of the community that builds friendships in hopes of strengthening bonds with fellow Montgomery leaders. LM has assembled and graduated over 1,500 community leaders since its inception in 1983. Captain Leigh Persky is the most recent graduate of this program and was the class speaker at their recent graduation ceremony. Most all of my senior staff has participated in the LM program, with many others slotted for future classes. I was very honored recently to receive not one, but two awards from Leadership Montgomery. My personal gratitude to LM for recognizing me with a plaque of appreciation



presented to me on April 4th during the Montgomery County Commission meeting, as well as the Leadership Montgomery Organization Leadership Award that was presented to the MCSO at their Legacy Class graduation on May 18th.

April 4, 2023
 Leadership Montgomery Award Presented to Sheriff Cunningham

Continues on page 8



May 18, 2023
Leadership Montgomery Organization Leadership Award
 (L-R) Captain Trent Beasley, Captian Leigh Persky, Colonel
 Gayle Achison, Sheriff Derrick Cunningham, Ms. Lisa
 Crenshaw, Cheif Kevin Murphy and
 LM President Cheryl Johnson



May 17, 2023
 Sheriff Cunningham and Montgomery County Commission Chairman Doug
 Singleton present to Mr. Curtis Daniels a donated decommissioned MCSO
 patrol vehicle to the MPACT Law and Public Safety Academy. The vehicle
 will be sued for practical exercises and training for criminal justice students.

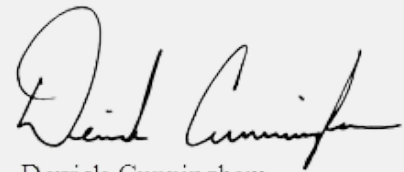
The MCSO is diligently working to recruit qualified candidates for all positions in our agency. We have recently raised the pay for correctional officers. Soon afterwards, the State of Alabama did the same for the Department of Corrections. As one can see, the increased competition in this field is fierce. The clerk and administrative positions are equally difficult to fill. Many applicants have shared with us the pay in the private sector is more attractive. Although the county positions offer many beneficial incentives such as paid leave, holidays, healthcare and retirement, many young people today look at their immediate income needs when making decisions on employment. On listening to feedback from prospective candidates, I have learned that quality of life issues, time off, flexible schedules and hours are priorities for young people entering the workforce. Many positions in the present workforce offer a work-from-home option, something that the MCSO cannot compete with. I will continue to work on creating an attractive alternative to potential employees. A strong workforce makes for a strong organization.

In closing, I wish to highlight the great relationship the MCSO has with Montgomery Public Schools. From its inception, I have been committed and supported the MPS Montgomery Preparatory Academy for Career Technologies, Law and Public Safety Academy. The LPSA teaches high school students about public safety and law enforcement. I have been a guest lecturer for this academy for many years and am proud that some of my current deputies have participated in this curriculum and eventually became a Montgomery County deputy. Mr. Curtis Daniels, a retired Montgomery police officer and now the MPS LPSA instructor, requested the use of a patrol vehicle in order to expose his students to this function of police work. Along with the Montgomery County Commission, we were able to donate a

used and decommissioned patrol vehicle to the program. The vehicle was outfitted with special graphics and a light bar. It will be used for practical exercises and training for criminal justice students at LAMP where the LPSA is located.

I hope all of you have a safe and enjoyable summer and can get away for some rest and relaxation with your families and friends. If I or the members of the MCSO may ever be of service to you, please don't hesitate to contact us for assistance.

Sincerely,



Derrick Cunningham
Sheriff

COMMAND AND STAFF COLLEGE INSTITUTE FOR CREDIBLE LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

The MCSO, in a cooperative partnership, has joined with the National Command and Staff College to provide leadership training and development for members of our agency. Created in 2010, the curriculum is focused on improving the learning, education, and performance challenges in the public safety profession. The CSC Institute for Credible Leadership Development is a crucial part of the Command and Staff College's efforts to address these challenges. Through the Institute for Leadership Development, the CSC offers evidence-based strategies and performance feedback to improve leadership skills to assist public safety leaders and security personnel to reach their full potential. The CSC Institute for Credible Leadership Development is designed to provide a comprehensive and transformative learning experience that will equip leaders with the knowledge, competencies, and skills needed to successfully perform their duties in complex and challenging environments. The CSC model is a unique approach that emphasizes the use of evidence-based strategies and performance feedback to guide coaching decisions and actions for development. It utilizes live video sessions and organizes individual topics to better focus on the areas that will strengthen performance in the field. The goal of the Institute for Credible Leadership Development is to equip leaders with the tools and skills needed to navigate complex situations and make sound decisions in real-world scenarios.

In 2019, Sheriff Cunningham partnered with the Institute for Credible Leadership Development to provide leadership training for the MCSO. This training is available online from any location. The goal was to enhance the leadership skills of agency personnel and provide them with the tools to effectively manage complex situations. This training is provided to every member of the department and is voluntary, but highly encouraged to all



April 4, 2023

Montgomery County Sheriff's Office



National Command & Staff College Graduates of the Institute for Credible Leadership



Front Row (L-R): Chief Deputy Kevin Murphy, Sergeant Anthony Boykins, Sergeant Jeff Davis, Corporal Tyshana Freeman, Lieutenant Kirk Harbin, Deputy Leslie Harrell, Lieutenant Juan Jerry, Corporal Greg Johnston, Corporal Maxwell Madrid, Lieutenant Rick Thompson and Sheriff Derrick Cunningham

Back Row (L-R): Montgomery County Commissioners Daniel Harris, Jr., Carmen Moore-Zeigler, Ronda M. Walker, Isaiah Sankey, and Doug Singleton

personnel so everyone may benefit from a consistent leadership approach. As emphasized in the literature, collective leadership and the development of groups of leaders across an organization are required for developing institutional change. The Institute for Credible Leadership Development recognizes this need and strives to equip entire organizations with the skills and competencies needed for effective leadership. Through the Institute for Credible Leadership Development at CSC, public safety and security personnel can benefit from evidence-based leadership training that is designed to cultivate effective leadership strategies to drive organizational change. Law enforcement is an ever-changing and dynamic field that presents various complex challenges.

The training is presented in a way that allows participants to focus on individual topics, ensuring that they receive comprehensive training in the areas where improvement is desired. The sections conclude with a short test to ensure the full understanding of the subjects matter that is discussed. Test performance is measured before the student may begin the next educational phase. This approach is designed to provide a thorough and effective learning experience that permits participants to apply their newfound leadership

skills in real-world scenarios. Overall, the Institute for Credible Leadership Development at the CSC is committed to providing relevant leadership training that is designed to develop and enhance the skills of public safety personnel.

The training is broken down into four main sections. Each section is furthermore broken down into individual topics. The first section is about principles and foundations. This is the starting point for the remaining training and provides a starting point for people at any level to take the course. The second section is theories and practices. This section builds on the first course and provides different theories and methods in a way to improve leadership concepts. The third section of training focuses on application and advancement. This is where instruction puts theory into practice. This section also provides ways to improve each theory that is taught. The final section is labeled competency and mastery. This is where all the topics that are taught throughout the course are reviewed to ensure that the individual is able to apply the ideas presented from the curriculum.

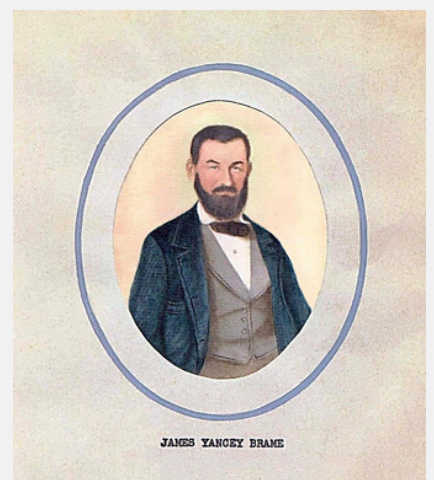
As stated before, each topic ends with a short test to ensure that students participating in the training are able to grasp the concepts being presented. The sections also include discussion questions where everyone may interact with other students in the law enforcement agency to discuss what they have learned, and what their thoughts are on the topics presented. This creates a group-style learning environment that focuses on not just individual ideas, but also the ideas of those in the agency so that everyone could improve. In total, this training provides 187 hours of instruction to each person to improve leadership and provide greater service to the community.



HISTORICAL REFLECTION: SHERIFF JAMES YANCEY BRAME

James Yancey Brame was the 14th sheriff of Montgomery County, Alabama. He was born in Mecklenburg County, Virginia June 23, 1818, and moved to Alabama when he was 16 years-old, settling in the Carter's Hill community in south Montgomery County. He was a merchant in the Carter's Hill community for a number of years and moved his business to the City of Montgomery before the American Civil War. According to historical records, his business "went down with the wreck of the war."

It was during the Civil War that Brame was elected as



Sheriff of Montgomery County, serving from 1862 to 1865. He was “prominent in the political affairs of the county, filling the office with honor to himself and satisfaction of the people.”

During his later life he served for over 20 years with the Montgomery Police Department, filling the office of sergeant, where he remained at his post until he was stricken down by a fatal illness. He was described as “a man of strong and positive character, sometimes rugged in outward seeming and honest as the sunshine itself.” Sheriff Blames passed away on January 9, 1891, at the age of 72, and is buried in Oakwood Cemetery.

CIVIL RIGHTS AND FBI TRAINING SESSIONS TO BOOST PERFORMANCE



Montgomery County Sheriff Cunningham has made a commitment to ensuring that his staff continues to be educated and aware of the laws that affect how correctional officers conduct their duties. He has made this possible by making available the newest technology as well as continuing to provide the relevant training that can assist in how officers can better perform their duties. Sheriff Cunningham ensures his staff is aware of incidents or actions of officers in other agencies in or outside of the state. He has not only made this available for his own staff but other agencies also. Continuing to educate the

correctional staff is a must. As agencies continue to battle against staff shortages, it is very important for correctional staff to have training in a variety of areas.

This is evident in the latest training that was recently provided to Montgomery County detention officers and added to the curriculum of the jail management course. This training reminds correctional officers of their duty to protect as well as accountability for their actions. One of officers’ initial trainings is understanding that they have a duty to protect inmates from other inmates, staff, and themselves, no matter their crime. Accountability and protecting inmates go hand in hand. Officers are consistently made aware that maintaining a professionalism presence and doing things the right way are paramount to their success.

MCSO correctional officers recently received training from Federal Bureau Investigation (FBI) agents on the topic of civil rights as it relates to detention facilities. These agents covered federal “color of law” issues, to include an overview of the primary federal statutes used in federal civil rights prosecutions of law enforcement misconduct. The training focused on elements of 18 U S Code 242 (Deprivation of Rights Under Color of Law). The FBI is tasked with investigating incidents of this nature, ensuring that agencies and their

members are held accountable if they violate an inmate's rights. This subject is a topic that all agencies are faced with day-to-day.

Correctional officers on all levels, federal, state, and local, are being scrutinized for their actions or inactions in the performance of their duties. The civil rights training addresses issues and laws governing the actions of officers in the areas of the use of force, deprivation of any rights, and privileges that are protected by the Constitution or laws of the United States. Correctional officers are exposed to several discussions on these subjects. Officers also view videos on incidents that have occurred throughout the nation and investigated by the FBI. The correctional officers are encouraged to critically analyze these incidents and learn from them.

The civil rights course concludes with a discussion focused on public corruption in a jail setting. Corruption is a major concern because it encourages the trade of drugs and other contraband in a jail setting that finances organized crime. Corruption is an unethical behavior that is associated with working with negative or disgruntled staff members. Corruption can exist among all jail personnel; no one is exempt from it. Staff that engage in this behavior often put the standards that they are sworn to uphold to the side, as well as bringing shame to their family and agency. After careful case analysis, students realize those members who break the law take no responsibility for their actions, nor care about the dangers and jeopardy that they put their fellow correctional officers in. Another element discussed in the class is that some members who may not directly participate in the crime but possess some knowledge of the activity but fail to report it to their superiors. This part of the training is to ensure that correctional officers understand the consequences of not standing up and doing the right thing can cause. They also offered ideas of how to eliminate these types of issues in jail. Having a zero-tolerance approach when it comes to incidents of this nature takes the entire staff effort to help combat. Also, having more in-depth training for our members on topics such as ethics and the repercussions of breaking the law have on the agency and all members. Other training that is provided are ways to avoid inmate manipulation and consequences of staff-inmate relations.

It is critical for everyone within the corrections field to be vigilant about identifying and eliminating acts that violate the rights of inmates, as well as participating in corruption within the facility. All employees should personally work to ensure their own behavior upholds the highest level of ethical conduct. The training and education of the Montgomery County Detention Facility staff is of great importance to ensure that the highest ethical standards and conduct are consistently maintained.



Montgomery County Sheriff's Office Foundation Camp Show-n-Tell

Hosted by Sheriff Derrick Cunningham

*Week-long camp held July 31 - August 4, 2023 at YMCA
Camp Chandler. For Montgomery County youth ages 9 - 11.
Activities include canoeing, archery, arts, crafts, swimming, and
outdoor survival skills and a big dance! Applications available April
1-29, 2023 at 100 S. Lawrence St., Montgomery, AL 36104.
For more information, please call MCSO Support Services at
334-832-2515.*

*Join Us
For Fun!*



CRIME STOPPERS AND LOCAL OFFICER OF THE YEAR AWARDS



May 2, 2023

Corporal Derrick Riego accepts the 2022 Central Alabama Crime Stoppers Officer of the Year Award for lifesaving efforts he provided to a fellow deputy. Presenting the award is Crime Stoppers Executive Director Tony Garrett Sheriff Derrick Cunningham and members of the Montgomery County Commission.



April 13, 2023 - Law Enforcement Coordinating Committee Conference Auburn, AL

MCSO Corporal Mike Morrow (2nd from the right) accepts the United States Attorney's Office, Middle District of Alabama "Local Officer of the Year Award" for his work in a human trafficking case that resulted in the rescue of several victims and the federal conviction of major human trafficking suspect in Alabama. Corporal Morrow is currently assigned to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security task force on human trafficking.

UNMANNED AERIAL SYSTEMS UNITS PROMOTE PUBLIC SAFETY

The Montgomery County Sheriff's Office is proud to introduce its newest unit, the Unmanned Aerial Systems unit. Over the last year, the MCSO has acquired four additional Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) in an ongoing effort to obtain the latest technology and better serve the citizens of Montgomery County. The UAVs or drones as they are often referred, will cover a wide range of potential deployments. Currently, the UAV Unit has three certified operators, and these operators utilize the UAV's for various scenarios where a bird's eye view would be advantageous. These UAVs are advanced and represent the latest technology available to promote public safety.

Currently, MCSO has a total of five UAVs in its fleet. Most notably are the recent acquisitions of a DJI Mavic 3 Enterprise, a Vantage Robotics Vesper, and three DJI Mini 3 Pros. The Mavic 3 is equipped with a 48mp camera, capable of a 56x hybrid zoom and a 640x512 thermal camera for lowlight or nighttime operations; it boasts a flight time of 45 minutes. Next, we



have a Vantage Robotics Vesper which boasts a 48x zoom, a 320p thermal camera, and is capable of 50 minutes of flight time. The Vesper is a military grade drone, capable of flying in inclement weather. Finally, each of the three certified operators are equipped with a DJI Mini 3 Pro. The smallest drone in the fleet, the Mini's are more than capable and, in most situations, can

keep up with the larger drones. At under 249 grams, the Mini 3's capture 4k videos and high-quality photos with its 48mp camera. The Mini 3 has an estimated flight time of approximately 47 minutes and can go from storage to flying in under two minutes. All drones deployed by the MCSO are capable of flying in sustained winds or gusts over 20 mph.

MCSO has three certified UAV operators, which includes the unit supervisor, all of whom have obtained their Remote Pilots License. Lieutenant Robert Whitmore is the supervisor of the unit. Corporal Lydia Young and Deputy Gregory Ocampo are the licensed drone pilots. The Remote Pilots License, often referred to as a Part 107, is issued by the FAA and grants the operators permission to operate small Unmanned Aircrafts in the National Airspace System (NAS). Although MCSO would be eligible for exemptions from the FAA, the MCSO requires all certified operators to obtain their license prior to deployment. Through this license, the operators learn the rules and regulations concerning the operation of small Unmanned Aircrafts in the NAS, specifically where recreational flyers would be prohibited.

Although our operators are licensed to fly in restricted airspace, they must be vigilant during their operation to avoid manned aircraft operating in the immediate area. Operators must also ensure the weather conditions are favorable and to avoid obstructions and people.

The operation of UAVs by MCSO personnel differs from that of a private citizen. The Sheriff's Office operates the UAVs for commercial purposes and are bound by the rules and regulations of the FAA. As a private citizen, you are still bound by the rules of the FAA and must do your due diligence to ensure you are flying safely. The information for recreational flyers is located on the FAA website. You are encouraged to familiarize yourself with this information, even if you purchased a toy drone for your child or yourself. According to the FAA, recreational flyers must complete The Recreational UAS Safety Test (TRUST) and if the drone weighs more than .55 pounds (249 grams), it must be registered. Finally, the recreational user must be able to produce their TRUST certificate at the request of any law enforcement officer or FAA personnel. For more information, visit https://www.faa.gov/uas/recreational_flyers.

Continues on page 17



QR code link to
Recreational
Flyers



In conclusion, the MCSO has multiple UAV's which are readily deployable, twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, with few limitations. MCSO intends to deploy UAVs for search and rescue operations, natural disasters, high risk operations, and flying demonstrations at many of our upcoming community events. The UAS Unit has strict guidelines that must be adhered to in accordance with the laws of the State of Alabama to ensure the

privacy of all citizens is respected. The UAV's will provide deputies with an immediate aerial view which would otherwise be delayed while waiting for air support. These UAV's provide law enforcement personnel with an eye in the sky when time is of the essence. If you happen to see one of our operators out flying in your area, stop and say hello, we would be happy to talk to you and answer any questions you may have.

DEPUTY OF THE 2ND QUARTER



Deputy Nygeon Thomas

On May 18, 2023, Deputy Nygeon Thomas, a school resource officer at Pike Road High School, noticed a student who appeared depressed and was remaining separated from their peers. Deputy Thomas was compelled to interact with the student, eventually gaining the student's trust. Deputy Thomas reached out to the school counselor regarding the situation, and after obtaining background information, was able to convince the student to open up to him and the school staff about a possible assault that occurred in another jurisdiction. Deputy Thomas was insightful, recognizing that the student was having trouble and taking the initiative to ensure the student's wellbeing. This resulted in the student receiving the help and attention needed. For his

care and attention to his students, and going beyond the call of duty, Deputy Thomas is the deputy of the 2nd quarter 2023.

CORRECTIONAL OFFICER OF THE 2ND QUARTER



Sergeant Porshylynn Reed

Montgomery County Correctional Sergeant Porshylynn Reed is assigned to night shift. On April 22, 2023, she ordered a search of the housing unit after fellow correctional officers reported the strong smell of tobacco in the area. Sergeant Reed, assisted by several officers conducted a thorough search. While tracing the tobacco odor, not only did they discover the individuals smoking the contraband, but Sergeant Reed discovered three shanks inside a cell. Sergeant Reed continued to search and found medication an inmate was hiding inside of a mattress. Sergeant Reed represents a true example of diligence and dedication to getting the job done. Sergeant Reed had a strong work ethic. For her attention to detail and thoroughness, Sergeant Reed is the Correctional Officer of the 2nd Quarter for 2023.



Juvenile Correctional Officer
Verlesa Manora

JUVENILE DETENTION OFFICER OF THE 2ND QUARTER

Verlesa Manora, Juvenile Detention Officer, has been employed with Montgomery County Youth Detention Facility (MCYDF) since November 2011. Prior to joining the MCYDF, Ms. Manora was a Municipal Jail Correctional Officer with the City of Montgomery Municipal Facility.

Juvenile Detention Officer Manora is a consummate professional and exemplifies strong work ethic and core values daily. She has excellent oral and written communication skills that are displayed

through interactions with parents, attorneys, social workers, mental health professionals and court personnel. Officer Manora is eager to learn and quickly comprehends new and complex matters relating to the day-to-day operations of her position at Central Control. She has an innate ability of diffusing hostile situations which serves as a key strength dealing with detainees and parents after court appearances and detention hearings. While working Central Control on Thursday, April 20, 2023, Juvenile Detention Officer Manora successfully deterred an escape attempt by several detainees. Her quick thinking and swift actions prevented the detainees from gaining access to the control panel on B-Wing and opening cell doors with keys that were taken from a Juvenile Detention Officer during a physical assault. Officer Manora's experience, actions, and selflessness prevented the situation from escalating and becoming dangerous for staff and other detainees. Officer Manora is an asset not only to this organization but to the entire community. We want to honor her for her heroism and commitment to the Montgomery County Youth Detention Facility.

CIVILIAN OF THE 2ND QUARTER



Emergency Communications Operator
Kyrius Scott

On June 5, 2023, at 4:56 pm, Dispatcher Kyrius Scott received a 911 call from an address in Cecil, Alabama. The complainant advised that his son was on some type of narcotic and was acting as if he would harm himself and others. Dispatcher Scott was able to get the name and information of the subject, who had an active felony murder warrant with the Montgomery Police Department. Dispatcher Scott was able to notify units of the information and obtain a copy of the warrant. After getting the complainant back on the telephone, Dispatcher Scott was able to notify the units on the scene of what the suspect was wearing and his movements in the area. This information helped the law enforcement officers with

an operational plan. While this was occurring, Dispatcher Scott was also handling multiple 911 calls from a major traffic accident on Troy Highway which involved several injured and entrapped occupants. With all the activity, Dispatcher Scott was able to remain calm and focused on the task at hand. Dispatcher Scott's attention to detail and ability to multitask during several serious incidents while under stress shows her commitment to serving the citizens of Montgomery County. Dispatcher Scott's actions assisted law enforcement in taking a dangerous individual into custody. Dispatcher Kyrius Scott is the MCSO Civilian of the 2nd quarter 2023.

SHERIFF'S OFFICE WELCOMES NEW DEPUTIES



May 15, 2023
Sheriff Cunningham swearing-in
new Deputy Sheriff
Jasmine Woodard



May 15, 2023
Sheriff Cunningham swearing-in new
Deputy Sheriff Ryan Brooks



May 30, 2023
Sheriff Cunningham welcoming new
Deputy Sheriff Scott Gilliland



June 6, 2023
Sheriff Cunningham administers the oath of office to Deputy
Lamar Craig who graduated from the policy academy.

NEW CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS WELCOMED



May 4, 2023

Sheriff Cunningham meets with new Correctional Officers (L-R) Xavier Frazier, Cordero Cotton, Angela Wright, (Sheriff Cunningham), Adrianna Williams, Dere'l Cromartie and Keldrick Foster



May 15, 2023

Sheriff Cunningham meets with new Correctional Officers (L-R) Ryan Butler, Aaron Hall, Jamie Manning and Calvin Butler.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY YOUTH DETENTION FACILITY

The Montgomery County Youth Detention Facility (MCYDF) is staffed with six (6) full-time educators who are employed by the Montgomery Public School System. The detainees work with certified educators to improve reading, language arts, mathematics, and computer technology skills. The school day (Monday - Friday) begins at 8:00 a.m. - 2:45p.m. The MCYDF follows the Montgomery Public School academic calendar. Upon their release from detention, detainees are re-enrolled in their home school district. All grades are forwarded to the juvenile's home school.

Attendance is required for all detainees. All detainees are required to participate in all educational activities. While in custody, detainees academic progress is tracked, and credits/grades are provided to the last school. Detainees can also work towards a GED. All MCYDF detainees are required to maintain appropriate behavior in the classroom, and to and from the classroom. Appropriate behavior moves detainees closer to their goals, helps them earn rewards, improves their chances of becoming productive law-abiding citizens, and is helpful to themselves and others. All MCYDF detainee rules and regulations are in effect and always enforced.

Current Course Offerings

Language Arts: 6-12

Course helps students improve their reading, writing, and communication skills.

Mathematics: 6-12

Course assist students in problem solving and computing mathematical equations.

Also assist students with problem solving and critical thinking

History: 6-12

Course instructs students on the history of the world, specific regions and relate current and past events.

Science: 6-12

Course provides guidance to help students explore and understand important concepts in science, including problem-solving and how to gather evidence to support ideas and decisions.

Computer Technology: 6-12

Course introduces computer concepts, including fundamental functions of computers. Topics include identification of hardware components, basic computer operations, security issues, and use of software applications.

Physical Education: 6-12

Course focuses on developing physical fitness and health to perform day to day activities and is conducted by the Juvenile Detention staff.

Special Education Services

Special education students who are detained at the MCYDF receive direct instruction and services from a licensed special education teacher. Special education conferences can be conducted at the MCYDF when they are required. Special education is specially designed instruction that addresses the unique needs of a student eligible to receive special education services. The goal is to provide the student with a learning environment conducive to their abilities.

Library Media Center (LMC)

The mission of the MCYDF LMC is to promote the love of reading that will develop an appreciation for books. This encourages detainees to become literate, and effective readers of the 21st century. The LMC is open weekdays, Monday – Friday from 8 a.m. – 2 p.m. Students are allowed to check out book one – five books per week and must return books upon completion.

Montgomery Public School provides a Reading Teacher Tutor who is highly qualified and certified to instruct students in vocabulary, comprehension, fluency, and critical thinking. The reading tutor provides whole/small group instruction to students who struggle with reading. Also, he/she provides literacy assistance for students to become more fluent and confident readers, leading to advanced comprehension.

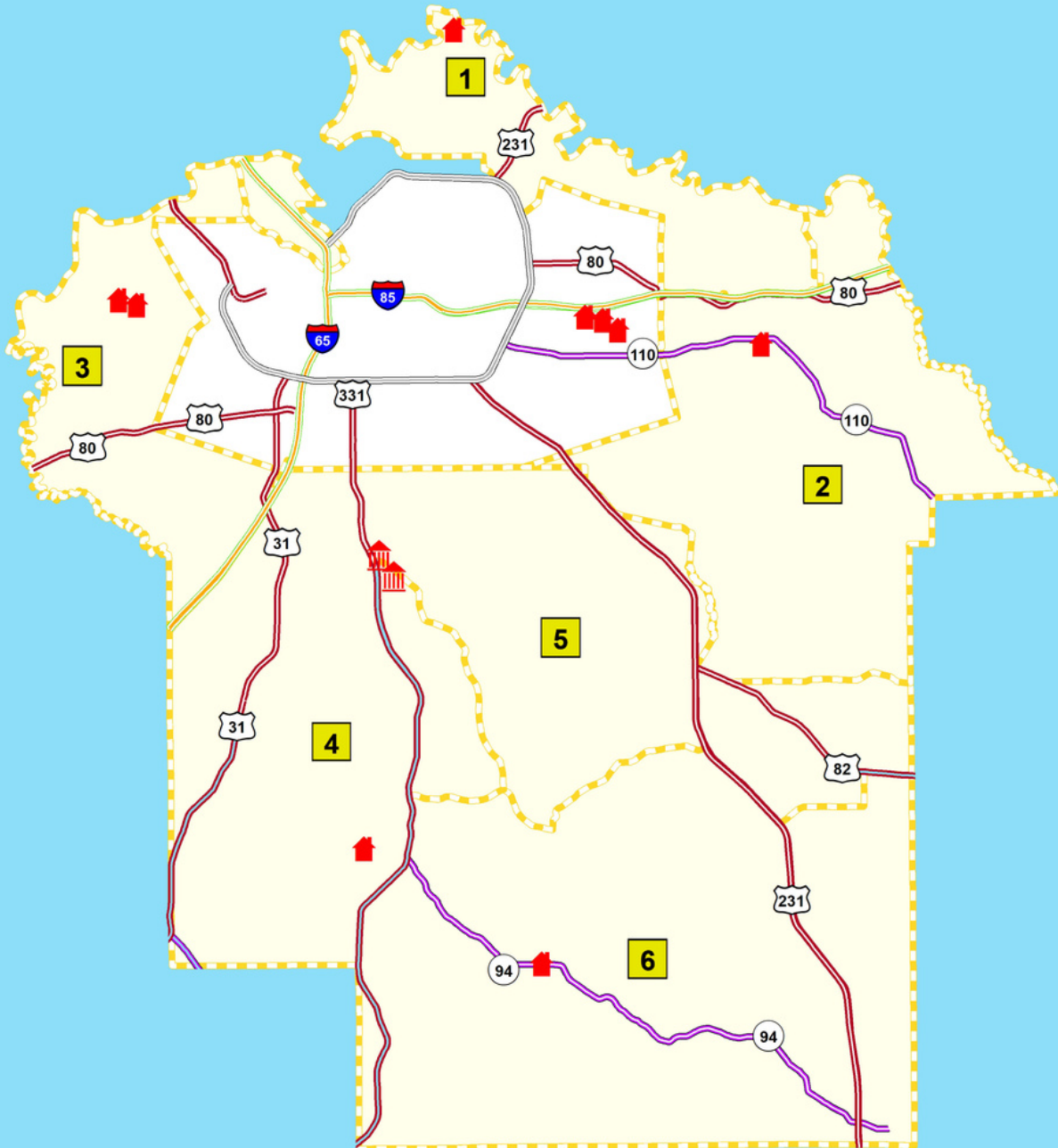
Summer school provides detainees the opportunity to interact in a smaller classroom environment. Summer school focuses on academic instruction which allows detainees enhanced cognitive skills and abilities. Thus, a summer school program will provide detainees with unique and engaging lessons and activities, as well as academic and social support and social development.



Year-round school is needed to provide detainees with a smooth transition to either their home school or into the workforce when they transfer out of the correctional system. These support systems are important for young people. It not only aids them in rehabilitation, but also helps them return to their home communities and continue moving forward and making good decisions.

Detainees who are behind in basic subjects, and 'At Risk', need an education to develop critical skills like decision-making, mental agility, problem solving, and logical thinking. School will help bridge the learning gap and prevent learning loss. It provides structure, increasing their chances of graduating from high school, which has been scientifically proven to increase their chances at success in the future. The MCYDF is dedicated to the education of the youth detained in our facility and works closely with Montgomery Public Schools to make this a reality.



M.C.S.O. 2nd Quarter Burglary Statistics 2023



-  Business - No Arrest
-  Residential - No Arrest

2023 M.C.S.O. INVESTIGATIONS 2ND QUARTER FELONY ARRESTS



Bailey, Anthony Monte
Obs. Justice x2/RSP 2
Vaughn Road



Barnes, Keondrea Ladell
R.S.P. 2
Wetumpka Hwy



Birdwell, Robertt Patton
R.S.P. 1
Wetumpka Hwy



Daniels, Rodney
D.V. Strangulation
Ashley Rd.



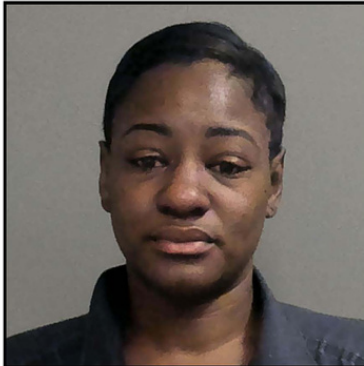
Dillard, Jonathan
Prom. Prison Contraband 1
S. McDonough St.



Faraj, Basem Hameed
Sodomy 1st / D.V. Strang.
Silverbell Crt



Foster, Chelesea
D.F.O.D. / D.V. 1
Philadelphia Church Rd



Gilchrist, Kwajalein Jamir
U.B.E.V. / T.O.P. 2
S. Lawrence St.



Grace, Demetrius
R.S.P. 2
N. Burbank Dr.

2023 M.C.S.O. INVESTIGATIONS 2ND QUARTER FELONY ARRESTS



Hall, Keyonia Rashawn
Assault 2 / P.P.C. 1
S. McDonough St.



Hatcher, Jamarcus
Robbery 1 x2 / P.P.C. 1
Mobile Hwy/S. McDonough St.



Holcombe, Kenneth Kendrick
D.V. 2
Vista Del Verde Dr.



Lang, Veric Lavar
D.V. Strangulation
Ridge Water Cove



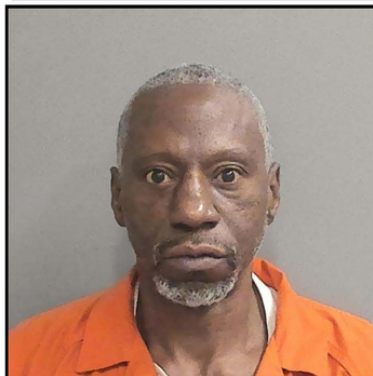
May, Tommy Marquez
T.O.P. 3
Hwy 80E



Nesbit, Larry
Dest. State Property x2
S. McDonough St.



Nichoson, Kumaski Leray
D.V. Strangulation
Sawtooth Loop



Phillips, Alvin Pierre
Promote Prison Contraband 1
S. McDonough St.



Powell, Bernard Jevon
Promote. Prison Contraband 1
S. McDonough St.

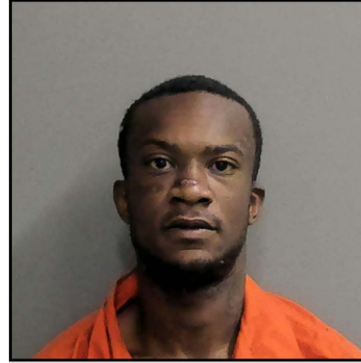
2023 M.C.S.O. INVESTIGATIONS 2ND QUARTER FELONY ARRESTS



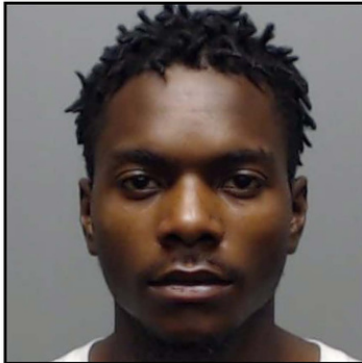
Rivers, Debra Bailey
Posses. Alterd Firearm
Vaughn Rd



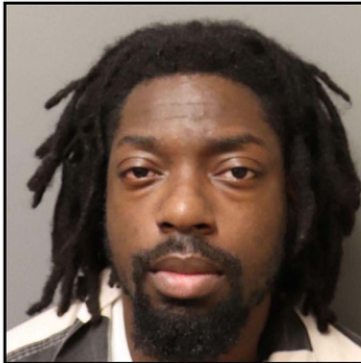
Roberts, Tiffany Lachelle
Interfere Child Custody
Marler Rd.



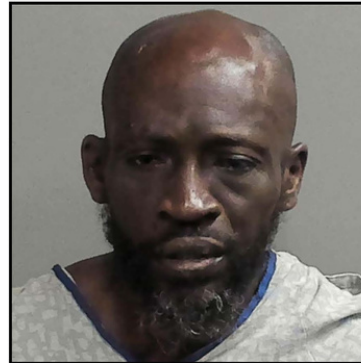
Rodgers, Aundraye
Assault 2 / P.P.C. 1
S. McDonough St.



Scott, Robert Henry
D.V. Strangulation
Ashwood Cir.



Seawright, Marcus Tyrone
Assault 2
S. McDonough St.



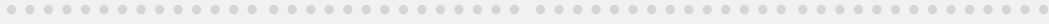
Stewart, Ronnie Jerome
Assault 2 x2
S. McDonough St.



Toole, Casey Walter
T.O.P. 3
Mitchell Young Rd.



Washington, Tacques Dontal
Assault 2_P.P.C. 1
S. McDonough St.



To:

Place
Postage
Here

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

