



## **FY2015 Annual Report**

***Alabama Law Enforcement Agency***

***Welcome to the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency, created by Act 2013-67, represents the consolidation and realignment of 12 state law enforcement agencies/functions. The agency is responsible for the functions and missions of the Alabama Department of Homeland Security, Department of Public Safety, Alabama Bureau of Investigation, Fusion Center, Criminal Justice Information Center, Marine Police, Alcoholic Beverage Control Board Enforcement Division, Department of Revenue Enforcement, Forestry Commission Investigations, Agriculture and Industry Investigations, Public Service Commission Enforcement and Office of Prosecution Services Computer Forensic Laboratories.***



Acting Secretary Stan Stabler

***A number of players from various agencies across the state devoted the better part of two years to realize Governor Robert Bentley's plan to ensure more efficient and effective state law enforcement. Scrutinizing each of the involved agencies' functions and services, a task force eliminated non-essential elements and used available resources to strengthen existing services or develop new programs benefiting the citizens of the state.***

***The mission of the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency is to efficiently provide quality service, protection, and safety for the State of Alabama through the utilization of consolidated law enforcement, investigative, and support services.***

***The multifaceted agency includes the Office of the Secretary, along with several divisions:***

***Office of the Secretary***

Under the direction of Acting Secretary of Law Enforcement Stan Stabler, this office oversees and manages ALEA's efforts to provide public safety to the citizens of Alabama – in coordination with the agency's federal, state and local partners.

Units inside the Office of the Secretary include: Domestic Security, Fusion Center, Legal and Office of Integrity. Additionally, the Legislative and Public Relations efforts are directed from the Office of the Secretary.

### *Administrative Bureau*

The Administrative Bureau serves all divisions in ALEA. The bureau is responsible for training, implementing policies and procedures, and providing a variety of administrative functions necessary to ensure the effective operation of the department. Units in the bureau include Financial Services, Personnel and Grants.

### *Department of Public Safety*

ALEA's Department of Public Safety patrols Alabama roadways and waterways. DPS comprises Highway Patrol, Marine Patrol, Motor Carrier Safety, Motors Unit, Felony Apprehension Patrol (FAP) and K-9, and Traffic Homicide Investigation.

### *Information Bureau*

The Information Bureau encompasses several units that provide services to citizens: Driver License, Vessel Operator License, Vessel Registrations, Background Checks and eVerify. The largest unit in the Information Bureau is Driver License, which is responsible for the testing and issuance of driver licenses. Within Driver License are sub-units, including Safety Responsibility, CDL/Medical Section, Reinstatement Unit, Records Unit, and Hearing/Fraud Unit. Additionally, the Criminal Justice Information Systems functions, Alabama Sex Offender Unit, Identification Unit, Criminal Record Section and Computer Technology Services Unit are housed in the Information Bureau.



### *Law Enforcement Support Services*

The Law Enforcement Support Services Unit serves as an umbrella for specialized units and services that support the law enforcement functions within the agency, including Aviation Unit, Tactical Team, Critical Response Team, EOD/Bomb Squad, Special Response Unit, Dispatch Operations, Communications Engineering, Fleet Maintenance, Public Information and Education, Photographic Services, Print Shop, Facilities Maintenance, Inventory Management, Recruitment, and the Alabama Criminal Justice Training Center.

### *Protective Services*

The Protective Services Division is responsible for providing protection to certain state officers and visitors to the state. It is also responsible for law enforcement/police services at all state facilities, buildings and other designated properties (primarily within the state Capitol complex in Montgomery).

### *State Bureau of Investigation*

The State Bureau of Investigation is the investigative division of the ALEA. The SBI is the statewide lead for all narcotics investigations and alcohol enforcement, as well as being responsible for conducting complex criminal investigations, often in support of city, county, state and federal law enforcement agencies. Additionally, the SBI has a team of investigators who specialize in the investigation of agricultural and rural crimes.



**The agency's 1950s Flying Squad.**

# **Office of the Secretary**

## **Fusion Center**

### ***Missing and Exploited Children Unit***

The Alabama Center for Missing and Exploited Children is the state's clearinghouse through the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. This unit is housed within the Alabama Fusion Center and serves as the custodian of information concerning missing children and adults.

The unit works closely with the national center and networks with personnel in other state and federal agencies to link its capabilities to help locate or identify missing children, adults or unknown deceased persons. In FY2015, 144 missing adults and 169 missing juveniles were reported to law enforcement authorities in Alabama for a total of 313 missing persons. In addition, three AMBER Alerts, eight Media Alerts and eleven Missing Senior Alerts were issued during the fiscal year. In this period, the Missing Unit was staffed by three employees.

### ***Internet Crimes Against Children***

In an effort to make Alabama a safer place for children, the Alabama Fusion Center has in place trained personnel who conduct investigative activities related to the detection of sexual predators who use their computers to prey upon the innocent.

The Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) program was made possible by a grant received from the U.S. Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. ALEA is the administrating agency for the state of Alabama for federal dollars, and the agency acts as the coordinator for the Alabama ICAC Task Force.

This task force comprises ALEA Special Agents and several other local, state and federal law enforcement agencies across Alabama. Crimes committed against children through the use of the Internet are a growing concern. ALEA has trained agents to conduct undercover online investigations, as well as to conduct forensic analysis of electronic devices seized by ALEA Agents and other law enforcement agencies. In performing these forensic examinations, they retrieve evidence necessary for the prosecution of a multitude of crimes.

The Forensic Technology Examiners frequently attend training schools and seminars to keep pace with rapidly changing technology. The agents also conduct public outreach for law enforcement officers, private sector entities, students, teachers and parents to make them aware of the dangers facing children on the Internet. The ICAC Unit had 12 employees in 2015. A review of the ICAC Unit's activity is as follows:

<b>ICAC FY2015 Stats</b>	<b>Total</b>
Investigations opened	147
Arrests	35
Search warrants	42
CyberTips received	1,078
Subpoenas served	269
Children rescued	7
Group presentations/attendees	28/5,188
Public events/attendees	4/1,300

***Cybercrime Initiative***

The Alabama Fusion Center’s Cybercrime initiative was established in January 2015 because of the growing threats faced by Alabama’s citizens, businesses, governments and industries from cyberspace. The program’s overarching mission is to provide and coordinate services and information to stakeholders related to cybercrime prevention, investigation and prosecution.

The current goals of the program are to provide expert-level services in the area of cybercrime response and digital forensic examination, and to serve as a hub for the coordination of cyber-capable personnel and the dissemination of cybercrime and vulnerability information. In addition, personnel work toward building solid relationships with law enforcement, government, industry, prosecution and academia that enhances the capabilities of all entities, the security of computer networks and systems, and the protection of the public’s personal and financial information. A review of the Cybercrime initiative activity follows:

<b>CyberCrime FY2015 Stats</b>	<b>Total</b>
Cyber Awareness Bulletins, written/distributed	7
Cyber Bulletins, written by partner organizations and distributed	26
Point-of-sale incident responses	2

Computer & Network Tampering investigations	5
Cyber-stalking investigations	2
Training sessions provided	6
Search warrants executed	2
Arrests	1

## **Legal**

The primary responsibility of the Legal Division is to represent the agency and its employees in all legal matters arising out of the performance of their duties. During the first quarter of FY2015, the Legal Division was staffed by three attorneys, one ASA I, two ASA IIs, two ASA IIIs and a legal research assistant. With the consolidation of the Department of Public Safety in to the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency, effective Jan. 1, 2015, Legal obtained two additional attorneys and one additional ASA II.

### Major Cases

During the fiscal year, the agency and agency employees were sued in 14 new major civil cases filed in state and federal courts. The major case docket usually carries approximately 20 major cases. The agency was successful in obtaining summary judgment in several of these cases.

### Driver License Appeals

Driver license suspension appeals account for the largest number of cases handled by the Legal Division. During the fiscal year, the department received a total of 773 new cases, appeared in court for hearings on approximately 739 cases and disposed of 784 cases. There are approximately 1,000 cases pending at any time throughout the year. These appeals are handled in all 67 counties. Staff with the Legal Division responded to hundreds of inquiries from judges, attorneys and others about driver license records.

## Personnel Matters

The Legal Division represents the agency in major disciplinary matters involving its employees. During the past year, attorneys in Legal were involved in numerous termination and suspension proceedings.

In addition, the division represents the agency in proceedings before the Equal Opportunity Commission (EEOC). The Legal Division also filed responses in a number of requests for unemployment benefits filed with the Department of Industrial Relations.

## Immigration Law Enforcement

Attorneys continued to work with federal immigration agencies and other federal officials to obtain certification for arresting officers with the agency to arrest illegal residents.

## Contracts/Leases

The division's attorneys reviewed dozens of contracts and agreements involving ALEA (and formerly DPS) during the past year and drafted many such documents.

## Board of Adjustment Claims

Agency attorneys drafted responses to numerous claims filed with the Board of Adjustment and appeared before the board at hearings.

## Sex Offender Registration

The Legal Division continued to be involved in the process of registering out-of-state sex offenders as required under federal and state law. Attorneys with the division attended hearings on appeals of determinations that registration was required. The Legal Division staff received approximately 300 new sex offender cases this year, with approximately 487 cases being closed; and it currently has approximately 500 pending sex offender cases.

## Instruction

Attorneys with the Legal Division continued to provide an increased amount of instruction at the Alabama Criminal Justice Training Center during the past year. Attorneys taught Trooper, basic police and in-service classes on such topics as arrest laws, search and seizure laws, legal updates and Title VII laws.



## Subpoenas

Attorneys and staff with the division responded to hundreds of subpoenas served on the agency, either providing information or moving to quash such subpoenas in appropriate cases.

## Legal Advice

Attorneys with the division continued to provide legal advice to the Secretary of Law Enforcement, ALEA's command staff and other members of the agency on a variety of topics.

## Office of Integrity

The unit is responsible for ensuring ALEA employees adhere to professional standards outlined in the Code of Ethics and ALEA/State Personnel Board rules and regulations by conducting internal/administrative investigations at the direction of the Secretary of Law Enforcement or his or her designee.

### **OI Unit staff completed the following, during FY2015:**

OI internal/administrative investigations	15
Disciplinary review case numbers issued	19
Use-of-force case numbers issued	28
Total	62

OI personnel conducted and completed the following activities during FY2015: Physical fitness tests, internal investigations and ALEA annual in-service training. Staff members also attended and completed: Recertification for RADAR, Draegar, PPCT, OC and Taser; firearms requalification; Law Enforcement Base Video training; Construction Zone Safety training; Blood Borne Pathogen Exposure training; Bias-Based Law Enforcement class; legal update workshop; Stress Management for Law Enforcement Officers; Police Misconduct; Beretta 1301 Tactical Shotgun Transition Course; Safe Space training; Polygraph Techniques and Practices; and Alabama Attorney General's 2015 Law Enforcement Summit.



Alabama Law Enforcement Agency's Trooper Honor Guard.



# Administrative Bureau

## Accounting/Financial Services Unit

The Accounting/Financial Services Unit has the following primary areas of responsibility in the operation of the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency (ALEA)/Department of Public Safety.

**Departmental Budget:** The budget is prepared by the Chief Financial Officer and staff -- during the summer after the budget is passed by the Legislature -- to meet the financial needs of the Agency during the fiscal year beginning Oct. 1. The total amount appropriated by the Legislature is analyzed and converted into an Operations Plan that best fulfills the needs of each ALEA division, down to the organization and grant levels. The budget also is analyzed and modified as necessary during the fiscal year to meet the ALEA's changing obligations. The annual budget request to the Finance Director is prepared each fall based on anticipated financial requirements for the coming year.

**Accounts Payable:** The Accounts Payable Section makes all of the agency's payments for purchases, travel, rent, repairs, utilities, etc. Invoices are audited and payment vouchers are created and processed for all expenditures of the agency. These expenditures are analyzed, and financial reports are prepared to reflect the financial status of ALEA. The Accounting Section also prepares and processes all of the inter-agency accounts payable and distributes all checks except payroll.

<b>Accounts Payable</b>	<b>DPS</b>	<b>ALEA</b>	<b>Total</b>
Payment Vouchers	4,943	9,263	14,206
Journal Vouchers	58	129	187

**Accounts Receivable:** The Accounts Receivable Section currently prepares and processes all of the inter-agency accounts receivables and cash/credit card receipts. The section reconciles and deposits all receipts into the State Treasury from 106 Driver License locations, 10 Reinstatement Offices, SBI and other divisions. The section prepares the daily reconciliation and deposits into the State Treasury of driver license issuance fees previously collected by probate judges in each county, plus the reconciliation and deposit of credit card fees collected by probate offices that have elected to use our credit card system. The section is responsible for monthly remittance of fees that were collected on behalf of the probate offices and to the Alabama Veterans Living Legacy Trust Fund. Accounts Receivable also receipts and disburses detained funds for narcotics cases and disburses payments or refunds for driver license surety bonds and reinstatement overpayments.

<b>Accounts Receivable</b>	<b>DPS</b>	<b>ALEA</b>	<b>Total</b>
Credit card deposits	153	418	571
Regular deposits	429	1,198	1,627
Surety bonds	6	20	26
Interfund billings	150	256	406
Payment vouchers	510	416	926
Journal vouchers	14	12	26

Grants Accounting: The Grants Accounting Section currently provides accounting, budget and other administrative support pertaining to federal grants, state/local inter-agency agreements, natural disasters and construction zones. This includes ensuring fiscal compliance with the rules and regulations of the funding agencies. The section is responsible for monitoring, analyzing, billing, tracking revenues and expenditures, and maintaining financial transactions related to these grants and agreements. In addition, the Grants Accounting Section is responsible for the preparation, monitoring, reconciling and reviewing of budgets, claims and receipts received from sub-grant agencies. The Section is also responsible for preparing and submitting internal and external financial reports required by the funding agencies. In addition, the section oversees, participates and gathers information for grant audits and monitoring reviews.

The ALEA Grant Management Database continues to be used, and all grants have been consolidated from the DPS Grant Management Database and entered into the new ALEA Grant Management Database.

<b>Grants Accounting</b>	<b>DPS</b>	<b>ALEA</b>	<b>Total</b>
Number of grant claims	33	322	355
Amount of grant claims	\$1.4 million	\$16.3 million	\$17.7 million
Journal vouchers	232	183	415
Closed grants	11	41	52

Purchasing: The Purchasing Section is responsible for all requisitions, agency encumbrances, purchase orders and contracts for the agency. The Purchasing Section coordinates all requisitions with Budget, Grants Accounting and the Accounts Payable Section to ensure sufficient budget exists prior to any purchase.

## Purchasing

Requisitions	Quantity	Encumbrance
DPS, Oct. 1, 2014-Dec. 31, 2014	275	\$4,093,269.91
ALEA, Jan. 1, 2015-Sept. 30, 2015	731	\$9,555,086.96
<i>Totals</i>	1,006	\$13,648,356.87

### Agency Encumbrances

DPS, Oct. 1, 2014-Dec. 31, 2014	112	\$51,714.60
ALEA, Jan. 1, 2015-Sept. 30, 2015	423	\$755,031.84
<i>Totals</i>	535	\$806,746.44

### Change Orders

DPS, Oct. 1, 2014-Dec. 31, 2014	250
ALEA, Jan. 1, 2015-Sept. 30, 2015	350
<i>Totals</i>	500

### New Contracts

ALEA, Jan. 1, 2015-Sept. 30, 2015	10
Payment vouchers to close purchase orders	50

Grants Administration: The Grants Administration Section researches and writes all agency grants and develops and completes all original grant budgets and grant budget revisions. The section is responsible for the compliance with all federal grant rules, regulations and guidelines for more than 50 grants and cooperative agreements, as well as federal appropriations requests and programmatic reporting for all grants and cooperative agreements. In addition, the section is charged with conducting ongoing research and negotiations for additional federal funding and project development. Effective Jan. 1, 2015, upon consolidation, the section began receiving, reviewing and monitoring Homeland Security grants for all 67 counties. The section successfully submitted all quarterly programmatic reports by federal deadline dates.

## Grants Administration

New grants submitted	8
Continuation grants submitted	9
Extensions	9
Budget revisions	39
HLS claims reviewed	209
Grants transferred from DPS and ACJC to ALEA	24

Financial Services continues to reduce paper and ink usage by ordering and installing a second monitor to all employee's computers. Further reduction has occurred by limiting the use of desktop printers to supervisors only. All employees have been provided scanners and access to network printers. These activities lead to costs savings and efficiency.

DPS (now ALEA) was among the first group of state agencies to begin implementing Track 1 of the new accounting system (STAARS), CGI Advantage 3, a web-based application. This system became operational Oct. 1, 2015, and all FY2016 invoices are submitted through the system from field staff through the workflow process for approvals through ALEA Accounting to the Comptroller's office. ALEA Accounting Section conducted many training sessions including one-on-one training with all interdepartmental staff in preparation for the system. Training is ongoing, along with the creation of Job Aids to assist in the procurement, payment and receivables process.

## **Personnel Management**

The Personnel Unit coordinates and processes all personnel actions in coordination with the State Personnel Department. These actions include, but are not limited to, appointments, appraisals, promotions, leave, on-the-job injuries, FMLA, resignations, hearings, travel orders and service awards.

Personnel staff members maintain official personnel files on approximately 1,150 active and 1,600 inactive employees.

This unit coordinates the department's Policy Order No. 100 regarding assignment and training. The policy provides for announcement of vacant law enforcement positions/duties and ensures that equal consideration is given to all interested employees who meet minimum qualifications. Projects coordinated by the Personnel Unit during the fiscal year included blood pressure and Health and Fitness programs by Health Watch; and department-sponsored blood drives administered by the American Red Cross and LifeSouth Community Blood Center.

### **Personnel Transactions**

Appointments	59	Resignations	76
Promotions	550	Retirements	45
Transfers	200	Dismissals	4
Demotions	0	Deaths	1
Suspensions	4	Annual Raises	1,268
Injuries	74	Probationary Raises	421
Injury in line-of-duty	74	Employees	1,349



Highway Patrol joins other ALEA divisions to serve during special events across the state, including the famous Selma bridge crossing and march to Montgomery.

## Department of Public Safety

### Highway Patrol Division

The Highway Patrol Division comprises seven Highway Patrol Troops consisting of 17 Highway Patrol Posts. It is the largest of the three divisions that form the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency's Department of Public Safety.

The primary goal for the Division is the reduction in traffic fatalities. In FY2015, Troopers worked 2,151 more crashes, which resulted in 781 more injuries than in FY2014. There also was an increase of 44 fatalities in FY2015. Through strategic planning (Annual Troop Enforcement Plans, use of real-time enforcement/crash data using e-Crash, e-Cite, ADVANCE Dashboard from the University of Alabama/Center for Advanced Public Safety, etc.) and grant funding

from partners at the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs and the Alabama Department of Transportation, the men and women of Highway Patrol have made every effort to reach the goal of reducing fatalities.

The Division found success with a variety of such enforcement initiatives as saturation details, Flying Wheel Details and Task Force Zero/BAT Mobile Operations. Troopers in Highway Patrol will continue to build upon these initiatives as they move into FY2016. Furthermore, Division personnel believe educating the motoring public through public service announcements (PSAs), emphasizing the importance of seat-belt usage and driving defensively coupled with more aggressive patrols and a stronger law enforcement presence will contribute to the reduction of traffic fatalities.

### ***e-Crash and e-Citation***

The transition to a paperless reporting system has greatly benefited the Highway Patrol Division. All Highway Patrol Troopers use e-Cite/MOVE (Mobile Officers Virtual Environment) to issue traffic citations and warnings, and they use e-Crash for reporting motor vehicle crashes. Below are the numbers for FY2015:

e-Crash reports submitted	31,186
e-Cite citations issued	239,092
e-Cite warnings issued	149,293

### ***Motorcycle Unit***

The Highway Patrol Motor Unit played a significant role in various enforcement details. During FY2015, there were five Flying Wheel details conducted in areas across the state that experienced the most injury-type and fatality-type traffic crashes during FY2014. In addition to the 2015 Enforcement Initiatives and Flying Wheel Details, the Motor Unit was tasked with providing safety support to such annual events as Talladega Motor Speedway, Mardi Gras in Mobile, Trail of Tears, Bo Bikes Bama, the Foot Wash and Alabama and Auburn football home games. Personnel provided escort support for several small-scale charity rides during the 2015 calendar year.

### ***Traffic Homicide Investigation***

The Traffic Homicide Unit currently has 85 active investigators throughout the state, with one Lieutenant, 10 Sergeants, 14 Corporals and 60 Troopers actively involved in the unit. There are two full-time sergeants, each of whom is responsible for monitoring his or her region (North Region, South Region) of the state. There are three Troopers assigned on a post level as full-time investigators. Of the full-time Troopers, one is assigned to Gadsden, one to Troy and one to Mobile.

All other members of the unit work their investigations as additional-duty assignments. The unit has an ASA who is responsible for the administration of files, data and the flow of



information in conjunction with her responsibilities as the account clerk for Highway Patrol. THI is responsible for the Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS), which has one ASA, who is also a FARS analyst.

Of all the members of the unit, 54 have received advanced training and are certified as Traffic Crash Reconstructionist. The Traffic Homicide Unit completed 245 investigations during 2015, which compares to 202 cases worked the previous year. Of the 202 investigations, 53 of them were assists, where the unit assisted ALEA's State Bureau of Investigation, as well as other law enforcement agencies. There were five Major Accident Investigation Team (M.A.I.T.) responses during the year, including an investigation involving a drunk driver who struck a Trooper as he worked construction-zone enforcement.

THI conducted one Basic Traffic Homicide School in 2015. This included 14 students from outside agencies and four Troopers. The unit instructed the two-week basic Accident Investigation course in 2015 at ALEA's Alabama Criminal Justice Training Center for the Trooper Recruit Class. The unit also conducted three Basic Accident Investigation courses at the ACJTC for outside agencies during the year.

In 2015, 39 THI cases were adjudicated with the following dispositions:

- 12 true bill for murder/reckless murder
- 3 guilty plea for murder
- 11 true bill for manslaughter
- 3 true bill for criminally negligent homicide
- 2 guilty plea for criminally negligent homicide
- 5 true bill for assault first
- 1 true bill for vehicular homicide
- 2 true bill for felony leaving the scene of an accident

### ***Trooper Reserves***

Trooper Reserves manpower now stands at 28, a reduction of four since FY2014. There are several reasons for the smaller number: Some Reserves may have obtained full-time employment with other law enforcement agencies; some may have dealt with employment schedule conflicts; some may have failed to meet departmental standards (annual firearms qualification and/or annual physical fitness assessment); some may have resigned for personal reasons; and some may have violated ALEA policies and procedures or lacked the desire to remain in the program.

From Oct. 1, 2014, through Sept. 30, 2015, Reserves were used for the following: 2015 Selma 50th Anniversary Bridge Crossing Jubilee, Talladega Races (spring/fall), Mardi Gras, football details, Auburn rodeo detail, Trail of Tears Ride, Foot Wash, dignitary protection (Governor's

detail), University of Alabama President/Chancellor detail, Hands Across the Border detail, such enforcement details as DLC/TFZ/Saturation and LIDAR.

Reserves also completed annual mandatory training and other routine patrol functions. To date, Reserves worked a total of 5,436.75 hours in FY2015. Based on an entry-level Trooper hourly pay rate of \$17.11 per hour, the department saved \$93,022.79 in salaries and other expenses.

## **Motor Carrier Safety Division**

The Motor Carrier Safety Division (MCSA) consisted of 73 sworn officers, five civilians and two retired state employees, for a total of 80 assigned personnel. The MCSA also used 158 Commercial Vehicle Enforcement (CVE) Troopers and 50 City Officer Program (COP) officers from 25 different law enforcement agencies during FY2015.

During calendar year 2015, the MCSA used grant funding awarded by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA). The grant funds received through the FY2014 (4MCU) Commercial Vehicle Safety Plan was \$3,654,124, which included \$263,408 in incentive funds. ALEA was responsible for a 20 percent match of the federally awarded funds equaling \$650,123.

Motor Carrier Safety spent the majority of its grant funding on personnel and fringe costs totaling \$2,313,094.66. In addition to personnel costs, the MCSA purchased and equipped eight Chevrolet Tahoes at a cost of \$242,774.75. The MCSA did not expend all grant awarded funds by the end of the grant period, resulting in a de-obligation of remaining federal funds totaling \$204,698.02. There were 27 MCSAP Troopers funded at 100 percent, and 16 FAP Troopers funded at 7 percent. In FY2015, MCSAP, CVE and COPS inspectors conducted 33,608 inspections, which are broken out as follows: 3,121 at Level I, 17,106 at Level II, 13,137 at Level III and 244 at Level V. There were no Level IV or Level VI inspections conducted in FY2015.



**Troopers assigned to Motor Carrier Safety inspect assorted commercial vehicles.**

The Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) awarded a two-year grant of \$2,300,000 for FY2014 and FY2015. This ALDOT grant funds 16 Weight Enforcement Troopers and four supervisors (Corporals). In addition, the MCSU received an ALDOT award of \$2,037,723.05 for FY2015. The bulk of the grant funding was spent on personnel costs totaling \$1,231,540.25 as this grant prohibits equipment purchases. Therefore, the remainder of the grant funding was used to pay for air cards, weight overtime and any necessary repairs to weight equipment.

Although the grant agreement did not allow for the purchase of any vehicles, ALDOT purchased one 2015 Chevrolet Tahoe to replace a vehicle that had been totaled in an accident. ALDOT grant funds 16 Weight Enforcement Troopers and four supervisors (Corporals). For FY2015, Weight Enforcement Troopers weighed 997,443 trucks (an increase of 21,591 from FY2014) and issued 6,028 citations (a decrease by 73 from FY2014).

E-Weight, which rolled out in August 2009, is now fully implemented. In FY2013, ALDOT purchased and equipped all Weight Enforcement crews and Troopers with computers, scanners and printers.

In FY2015, the MCSU was awarded \$737,447 from FMCSA's Ticketing Aggressive Cars and Trucks (TACT) Enforcement Program. ALEA was responsible for a 20 percent match of the federally awarded funds totaling \$165,612. The total award amount (federal and state share) for FY2015 was \$903,059. These grant funds allowed the MCSU to conduct TACT details and granted additional shifts for MCSU personnel in high-crash identified hot spots.

During FY2015, TACT details (including additional shifts) were conducted. The total TACT statistics for FY2015 follow: 25,394 citations/warnings were written for TACT violations (an increase of 8,615 from FY2014), and 1,400 drivers were identified as aggressive drivers (an increase of 603 from FY2014). Troopers assisted 507 motorists during TACT shifts. There were 1,760 CMV inspections conducted (an increase of 1,026 from FY2014) with 2,125 violations discovered.

The TACT grant funding primarily was used to pay salary and fringe costs for MCSU personnel to work additional shifts in high-crash corridors throughout the state. The total salary and fringe costs for MCSU personnel working TACT shifts was \$498,984.62.

The grant also allowed for the purchase of four Chevrolet Silverado pickups and the associated equipment to conduct passenger vehicle/motor-coach (bus) roadside inspections. The total cost of the pickups and associated equipment was \$141,747.36. (The pickups were not received from the vendor until the end of the fiscal year and were not actually deployed until November 2015.)

In addition to the salary and equipment costs, the MCSU subcontracted with the Center for Advanced Public Safety (CAPS) at the University of Alabama to analyze surveys developed during the 2014 grant period at a cost of \$62,500. Besides the analysis of surveys from the previous year, CAPS was awarded \$75,000 to produce and air several public service

announcements (PSAs) throughout the state to increase public awareness and education efforts regarding aggressive driving and other unwanted driving behaviors.

The MCSD received a third grant during FY2014 used to fund the New Entrant Program during FY2015. Total grant funding awarded under the New Entrant Safety Assurance Grant was \$653,584. It required no matching state funds and allowed for 100 percent funding of five Troopers, one Corporal and one administrative assistant.

Again, the bulk of the grant funding was spent on personnel costs: \$487,405.52. One Chevrolet Tahoe and the associated equipment was purchased using the New Entrant Grant at a cost of \$51,634.95. During FY2015, Troopers assigned to the conduct safety audits surpassed the number of audits outlined in the grant agreement (425), completing 671 safety audits.



Troopers perform a variety of enforcement activities to prevent traffic crashes, injuries and fatalities.

### ***Felony Apprehension Patrol (FAP) and K-9***

The FAP Unit, Motor Carrier’s uniformed highway patrol criminal investigations unit, consists of 16 members including eight narcotic K-9 teams, one Lieutenant, two Sergeants, and three Corporals.

The K-9 Unit currently consists of 12 Narcotic teams (Highway Patrol Division) and four EOD teams (Law Enforcement Support Services Division). The teams consist of 16 handlers and one K-9 instructor/handler.

## Training

A portion of the FAP Unit attended the annual DIAP/EPIC conference held in August 2015 in Cincinnati. Members of FAP assisted with Criminal Patrol instruction, Contraband Detection techniques and ceremonial presentations.

## CMV Enforcement

The FAP/K-9 Units made four criminal arrests from commercial vehicles in FY2015. The seizure totals for CMV are:

Marijuana	90 grams
Cocaine	0
Methamphetamine	0
U.S. currency	\$504,135
Narcotic pills	0
Firearms	0
Inspections	1,160

## FAP/K-9 2013 Criminal Activity

The FAP Unit made 276 custodial arrests including alias warrants, fugitives and discovered crimes.

Contraband	Amount seized during FY2014
Marijuana	50 pounds
Cocaine	116 grams
Methamphetamine	49 grams
Ecstasy	0 pills
Heroin	8 grams
U.S. currency	\$1,134,796

## Other Criminal Activity

Below are other significant actions taken by the FAP/K-9 Units (all significantly up from FY2013):

Trafficking narcotics	31 (None in CMV)
Possession of narcotics	10 (None in CMV)
Fugitive/parole/wants	93 (4 in CMV)
Felony/misdemeanor criminal charges*	276 (6 in CMV)
Possession of firearms	18 (None in CMV)
Fraudulent credit cards recovered	158

Counterfeit goods seized	\$15,000
Stolen license plates recovered **	30
Stolen vehicles recovered**	14

*\*Criminal charges include identity theft, credit card fraud, check fraud and copyright infringements.*

*\*\*2014 was the first year where LPR (License Plate Recognition) systems were used, and the results continue to be impressive. Along with the stolen plates and vehicles recovered, the system identified a violent registered sex offender determined to be in violation of the SORNA Act by residing in a hotel in Russell County with a minor child. The system is used daily in all facets of criminal investigations within this agency and assisting agencies throughout the United States. LPR assets are looking to be expanded to all FAP members.*



The early days of what is now the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency (1935).



Marine Patrol Division is part of ALEA's Department of Public Safety.

## Marine Patrol Division

The Marine Patrol Division comprises three districts dividing the state. The Northern District covers 27 counties with major waterways along the Tennessee, Coosa, and Black Warrior rivers and numerous smaller rivers and lakes.

The Central Division covers 32 counties with major waterways along the Coosa, Tallapoosa, Alabama, Tombigbee and Chattahoochee rivers and numerous smaller rivers and lakes. The Southern Division covers eight counties with the Alabama and Tombigbee Rivers, all coastal waters and numerous smaller rivers and lakes.

The primary goal of Marine Patrol is the safe and responsible use of Alabama's waterways. The men and women of Marine Patrol use various enforcement and education efforts to achieve that goal. Recreational boating is extremely popular throughout the state. More than 260,000 boats were registered during FY2015. Marine Troopers issued a total of 1,646 citations and 3,787 warnings throughout this fiscal period. During the same time, Marine Troopers made various boating and water-safety presentations to more than 350,000 people.

In addition, more than 34,000 people received boat operator certifications during FY2015. FY2015 saw Marine Troopers work 20 more boat crashes than the previous year. This increase in crashes resulted in five additional boating-related fatalities. A similar increase was noted in drownings in public waterways not involving boating.

These statistics are trending upward as patrol presence decreases. Initiatives are underway in FY2016 to focus patrol efforts on high-traffic areas through various saturation patrols to curtail this increase in crashes.

Marine Trooper patrols on state waterways go beyond mere enforcement efforts. Troopers logged more than 800 hours performing search-and-rescue or boater-assist operations. Many of these took place in inclement weather and/or at night. Also, more than 200 events on public waterways were permitted through the division. These events range from concerts, fireworks displays and boat parades to large bass tournaments and skiing exhibitions.

Marine Troopers also maintain the state waterway navigation system. In FY2015, Troopers replaced 381 aids to navigation statewide, including various buoys and signs on state waterways.

In addition to waterway patrol, Marine Troopers were involved with other divisions of DPS in the following events: Inauguration, Mardi Gras, 2015 Selma 50th Anniversary Bridge Crossing Jubilee, Foot Wash, Talladega races (fall) and college football details. Marine Troopers also participated on Critical Response Teams and Special Operations.



**Troopers provide security as they patrol a variety of events each year.**



# Information Bureau

## Information Services

### Major Accomplishments

- Completed and implemented the new Driver License Interlock law requirements
- Completed coding and implemented the ALEA activity system for Marine Patrol
- Coded and implemented the ALEA activity system for State Bureau of Investigation
- Coded and implemented the internal and public website for the Alabama Fusion Center's activity and tracking system for (RFI/RFAs, Product, SAR, TSC, Pass-through Product)
- Coded and implemented the internal and public website for the Driver License Hearing Requests
- Coded and implemented the body camera service that transmits video and sound to headquarters
- Completed and implemented the conversion program for audio and video, as well as the intranet application used to retrieve and view the captured files
- Successfully changed all applications, reports, databases, etc., to remove the old DPS organizational structure and nomenclature and replaced with ALEA's organizational structure and nomenclature
- Migrated all source code to Visual Studio 2013
- Coded and implemented the new reinstatement printer service so that reinstatement will run on windows 8 and windows 10
- Coded and completed the newly redesigned FULL MVR Abstract for all Driver License applications and vendors
- Completed the Social Security project to remove the numbers from all application databases and interfaces unless required

## Computer Operations

DL expiration notices printed and mailed (renewal cards)	295,842
Manual Accident Reports processed	1,957
Uniform Traffic Citations /convictions processed	383,758
Fail to Appear transactions processed	159,845
Fail to Pay transactions processed	54,404
DL, Safety Responsibility/Child Support removal notices processed (the numbers for 2014 were severely over reported)	990
DL Coordinators' help desk calls in support of L1/MorphoTrust USA	30,095

## ***Help Desk***

The Support Center generated 24,268 trouble tickets in 2015.

Category	Number of Tickets
ADAPT Administration	11,025
NCIC	3,936
ALEA Desktop Support (TrackIt)	2,825
MOVE Product Support	2,613
OpenFox/Messenger	1,215
AlaCop	1,205
Virtual Alabama	479
Email issues (AlaCop)	369
Instructions/training	148
PC hardware support	111
e-Crime	70
Software	38
Non-ACJIC/ALEA users	36
Field agents/field operations	33
Scrap metal website	31
Network hardware/T1 issues	29
JIMS	24
Marine Patrol applications	20
NPLEX	18
Miscellaneous, unspecified	34
ALEANET	9
Total Tickets Opened	24,268

The Desktop Techs completed a total of 5,504 trouble tickets in 2015.

Technician	Tickets Completed
Rickey Battle	193
David Colley	551
Sean Eiland	406
Terri Eiland	605
Bruce Green	855
Chris Hart	103
Rick Hayslip	801

Winston Jordan	383
Michael O'Malley	335
Jacquie Peoples	371
LaTandra Shepherd	39
Toshima (T.R.) Scott	8
David Tucker	846
Gaylan Wagner	8

Total Tickets Completed By Desktop Techs      5,504

## **Identification**

### ***The Alabama Sex Offender Unit***

The ALEA Records and Identification Division is the repository for Alabama's Sex Offender Registry. ALEA is required by state and federal law to maintain a registry of sex offenders within Alabama. Personnel track sex offenders by working closely with local law enforcement agencies to ensure offenders are not in violation of residency or employment restrictions.

The unit also works closely with the Alabama Department of Corrections, Alabama judicial system, the Attorney General's Office and other states' sex offender units to notify law enforcement when an offender moves into an area. The database is updated daily and posted to the ALEA website for public viewing.

During FY2015, the Sex Offender Unit performed the following: 1,753 new offenders were added, 4,932 address changes were processed and 14,618 fliers and 14,823 letters were mailed. To retrieve information for other agencies or to check information provided through phone calls or emails, the unit performed 19,201 record checks, including criminal histories and court records required to process new sex offender records. The SOR also updated 39,870 records to ensure compatibility with the National Registry.

The federal Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 requires that all sex offender files/documents be scanned for immediate dissemination when requested by other agencies. During FY2015, 66,135 documents/files were prepared, and 136,081 were scanned. The Sex Offender Unit had seven employees as of December 2015.

## Records and Identification Division

### *Criminal Record Section*

The Criminal Record Section is mandated by the Code of Alabama to maintain fingerprint files on all individuals arrested in Alabama. Trained fingerprint technicians verify the true identity of criminals and applicants from fingerprint records submitted by law enforcement, government and private agencies.

This criminal information is provided to law enforcement agencies throughout the nation. This section maintains repeat-offender files, court dispositions, youthful-offender status records and court-ordered record expungements. The Criminal Record Section received/processed 248,975 criminal fingerprint records into the Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS), as opposed to 235,662 in 2014; with 22,597 being hard-copy card submissions, as opposed to 33,911 in 2014.

A sub-section of the Criminal Record Section is the Imaging Section, which scans and stores all applicant/criminal fingerprint cards and documents associated with a specific record.

### *Latent Print Section*

The Latent Print Section personnel process crime scenes and crime-scene evidence to obtain fingerprints of individuals for suspect identification and criminal prosecution. The certified latent print examiners use modern techniques and the Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) to effect positive identifications. The section provides court testimony in state, federal and military courts.

It provides training in the science of fingerprints to law enforcement agencies throughout the state. During the fiscal year, Latent Print staff assisted agencies by comparing latent prints in 1,436 cases, making 10 court appearances, conducting 39 crime-scene investigations and five lectures (training for law enforcement), and effecting 1,108 positive identifications.



**Certified latent print examiners use modern techniques to effect positive identification.**

### ***Record Check Section***

The Record Check Section is mandated by law to provide criminal history information when requested by law enforcement, governmental and private agencies. This section provides important information that is useful to all communities and for those responsible for the safety of children and adults. It is the responsibility of this section to use discriminating judgment, combined with absolute accuracy, when disseminating criminal history information found in ALEA files.

During the fiscal year, this section received and processed the follow:

	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
Fingerprint cards	21,186	11,510
Dispositions	67,756	69,230
Persons fingerprinted (other agencies)	1,737	1,138
Teachers (paper submissions)	6	447
Teachers (live-scan submissions)	17,264	17,640
DHR (live-scan submissions)	14,248	13,585
DHR (manual-input submissions)	41	732
Total live-scan submissions (applicants)	36,503	35,503

### ***Automated Fingerprint Identification System Section***

The Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) Section uses a computer system to analyze, store, match and retrieve fingerprint images and the matching features of these images. AFIS increases the ability of law enforcement to identify suspects quickly. During the fiscal year, fingerprint cards were searched through AFIS and Latent's unsolved database. Fingerprint submissions were live-scanned from the Alabama State Department of Education and various law enforcement agencies. The unit had 40 employees in 2015.

	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
Hits	367,168	394,554
Miscellaneous	1,590	3,806
Returns	552	2,029
Live-scans	262,881	270,727
Applicants	51,323	35,065
Total	683,514	706,181



**Driver License Examiners conduct road skills tests in addition to issuing and renewing licenses.**

## **License Services**

License Services is responsible for testing and keeping records on Alabama's licensed drivers. These records include crash reports, traffic arrest forms, driver license applications and traffic violation convictions. In addition to administering the written and road skills driver license examinations to commercial and non-commercial drivers, the division is responsible for the application of penalties that may result in the revocation or suspension of a driver license. Alabama claims one of the most secure, technologically advanced driver-licensing systems in the nation.

During the FY2015, Driver License lost 21 arresting officers through the implementation of consolidation, transfers, promotions or separation.

### **Accomplishments**

- Installed new issuance equipment in ALEA's DL offices, as well as the offices of Probate Judges and License Commissioners.

- Online services implemented include purchasing renewals or duplicates of driver licenses or ID cards; scheduling appointments for DL services at district offices; ordering vehicle crash reports.
- Commercial Driver License Pilot Program was started in May 2015 to allow on-site skills testing to participating truck driving schools. (DL Examiners administer the skills tests, each at a cost of \$100. Since the program was initiated it has generated \$51,640 with only two participating schools. Requests to participate have been received from other schools.)
- Processing of reinstatement fees over the phone, to alleviate the need for applicants to appear in a reinstatement office in person.
- Yearly performance appraisals, mid-appraisals and probationary appraisals were reviewed and processed for the approximately 230 employees of the Driver License Division.
- The Driver License Policy and Procedure Manual and the Examiner's Guide were reviewed and revised during FY2015.
- For the 2015 Driver License in-service, arresting officers received 13 hours of division-specific training, and Driver License Examiners and Specialists received 12 hours of training. This training included: Recognizing Sovereign Citizens, Ignition Interlock Training, Fraudulent Documents Updates, Division Policy and forms review, CDL Medical Updates and Progressive Discipline Training. In addition, all arresting officers successfully completed the agency's mandatory re-certifications.
- Numerous DL offices around the state were closed affecting approximately 11,114 applicants. These closings were because of personnel shortages, sick, annual and military leave, or weather conditions.

### **Total Monies Deposited to the General Fund**

For FY2015, the Driver License Division deposited \$66,096,876 into the General Fund. A detailed breakdown by category is listed below:

Four-year Class A DL	\$2,247,745.253
Four-year Class B DL	\$782,092.75
Four-year Class C DL	\$28,529.75
Four-year Class D DL	\$28,470,119
Four-year Class M DL	\$6,441.25
All duplicates	\$7,171,701
ID duplicates	\$760,042.50
ID cards	\$1,648,026.25
Age 62+ ID cards	\$10,853.50
Age 62+ ID first duplicate	\$5,866
Disabled ID cards	\$800
Learner's permit duplicates	\$34,528
Graduated driver licenses	\$1,522,120.50
Boat-only license	\$40,702.75
MVRs mail	\$11,216,473.25
MVRs building	\$221,530.25

Lifetime MVRs for CDL	\$34,815
Accident Reports	\$185,415
DI-12 letters	\$2,325
Drug additional fee	\$134,450
Regular exam fee	\$658,550
Vessel exam fee	\$124,640
CDL application fee	\$414,075
CDL retest fee	\$234,690
CDL skills fee	\$38,140
CDL permits	\$14,792
Drug reinstatement	\$3,873,650
Non-alcohol/drug reinstatement	\$452,025
Regular reinstatement	\$3,815,300
Interlock installation	\$2,850
Child support	\$49,950
Vessel reinstatement	\$250
Late fees	\$1,882,450
Postage fees	\$10,539
Miscellaneous fees	\$398

### *Arrests*

Driver License personnel come into contact with criminals daily. Some individuals attempt to fraudulently obtain driver licenses or ID cards, and others who come to the offices are wanted for various crimes. DL Examiners are trained to recognize fraudulent documents and run computer checks in search of outstanding warrants on each applicant.

Criminals attempt to illegally obtain a license or identification card for various reasons. It may be to assume another's identity (identity theft), to obtain identification because they are in the country illegally or to commit terrorist acts against the United States. DL Examiners and arresting officers work hard to ensure these criminals are arrested.

Both uniformed Troopers and DL Examiners are responsible for such arrests as failure to appear, felony fraud cases, forgery, robbery, larceny, child neglect, rape, parole violations and firearms violations, a few examples of which are listed below.

### *Notable Arrests*

Nov. 10, 2014: Randal Eugene Cook applied for a CDL at the Decatur Driver License Office. DL Examiner II Mary Ann Thomas found one felony warrant for sexual abuse, second degree, and one misdemeanor warrant for indecent exposure from the Cullman County Sheriff's Office. Cpl. Gary Hicks arrested him and transported him to Cullman County.



Jan. 15, 2015: Lashawn Murray Turner applied for a driver license at the Huntsville Driver License Office. DL Examiner I Erin Lough found one felony warrant for domestic violence strangulation/suffocation from the Madison County Sheriff's Office. Sgt. Chris Carter detained him until a Madison County Sheriff's Deputy arrested him and placed him in the Madison County Jail.

March 25, 2015: Reginald Leroy Littlejohn applied for a non-driver ID card at the Dothan Driver License Office. DL Examiner I Kristy Watson found one felony warrant for uttering a forged instrument from St Johns County, Fla.; one felony warrant for uttering a forged instrument from Nassau County, Fla.; two felony warrants for uttering a forged instrument and theft of property from Marion County, Fla.; and one felony warrant for uttering a counterfeit check from Bay County, Fla. Examiner Watson also related that when Reginald Littlejohn pulled his Social Security card from his front pocket, she saw what she believed to be a bag of marijuana in Mr. Littlejohn's possession. Trooper Kenneth Ware confirmed the warrants. As Trooper Ware was attempting to arrest/detain Mr. Littlejohn, the man fled on foot from the DL office into a wooded area. A search of the area was conducted, and the subject was apprehended a short time later by a Dothan City Police Officer who was assisting in the search. Dothan PD charged Mr. Littlejohn with a misdemeanor warrant for possession of marijuana that was found on him at the time of his arrest. Trooper Ware charged Mr. Littlejohn with a class C felony escape, third degree, and placed a hold on Mr. Littlejohn at the Houston County Jail for the out-of-state warrants.

June 8, 2015: Derrick Crawford came into the Montgomery Driver License Office to obtain an ID card. DL Examiner Tonya O'Banion found three felony warrants for child neglect. The warrants were confirmed through the issuing agency, Lee County Sheriff's Office, Tupelo, Miss. The subject was arrested by an Alabama State Trooper.

### *Missing Persons Recovered*

During the year, six missing persons were recovered by DL Examining personnel. Two examples are noted below.

Jan. 22, 2015: Dontri Jernate Bartholomew came into the Mobile DL Examining Office to obtain an ID card. DL Examiner I Valencia Cureton found a missing person-juvenile from Mobile Police Department. The subject was detained by Cpl. Matthew McKenzie until a Mobile Police Officer arrived.

Aug. 26, 2015: TaDarrian Juwan Floyd came into the Mobile DL Examining Office to reinstate his driver license. DL Specialist Denise Allison found a missing person-juvenile from the Mobile Police Department. Subject was detained by Cpl. McKenzie until Mobile Police Department arrived.

## Safety Responsibility

The Safety Responsibility Unit implements state law, which requires every operator/owner involved in a traffic (vehicular) crash in Alabama to establish financial responsibility when it is determined the operator/owner is answerable for damages and injuries resulting from his or her negligence.

The Safety Responsibility Unit's total of seven employees and a supervisor accomplished the following:

SR-13s Accident Report filing	1,490
SR-21s Insurance verification report	70
SR-22s Mandatory insurance	23,572
SR-26s Cancellation of insurance	8,553
Releases of liability from accident damages	31
Status reports	545
Civil court judgments filed	1,900
Hearing files	47

The DL Specialists accomplished the following:

Telephone calls	13,470
Walk-ins	295
Faxes	1,940
Files combined	25
Security posted	59
Letters and correspondence	912
Security received	\$65,044.41
Security disbursed	\$96,856.45
Surety bonds received	\$55,858.38
Surety bonds disbursed	\$171,689.78
Unclaimed property	\$25,623.70

## CDL/Medical Unit

- Reviewed, along with the Records Unit, the process of sending out-of-state CDL convictions and streamlined the process that resulted in 91 percent of all out-of-state convictions being sent to the state of record within the 10-day reporting time frame. If not done properly, the state would not have been in compliance with Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA).
- Received 104,000 CDL/DOT medical certifications pursuant to the FMCSA mandate regarding the CDL Medical Card merger.
- Conducted two CDL Examiners School.

- Implemented CSTIMS to electronically transmit CDL skills test results from third-party examiners to ALEA.
- Conducted five medical hearings across the state.
- Received three employees, who were transferred to the CDL/Medical Unit from other units or divisions.

***The CDL/Medical Unit Stats are as follows:***

- Received 33,410 phone calls
- Reviewed 12,288 medical forms
- Mailed out 15,838 letters
- Helped 248 walk-in customers
- Reinstated 5,861 drivers
- Received 10,114 pieces of mail
- Worked 2,178 tics
- Scanned 202,384 forms to Paper Vision
- Entered 6,527 Haz-Mat background approvals
- Received 24,783 faxes
- Received and answered 25,032 emails
- Returned 724 documents
- Processed 73,832 medical certifications
- Processed 7,447 self-certifications

***Federal grants allowed the CDL/Medical Unit to:***

- Maintain five clerical aides to assist in records cleanup and CDL Medical Merger
- Purchase video cameras for CDL offices to help prevent fraud
- Send two employees to the CDL Coordinators conference in Charlotte, N.C.

**Driver Improvement**

With four full-time employees and a DL Supervisor, the Driver Improvement Unit processed 619

suspensions for violation of the School Enrollment Act and responded to 26,889 customer phone calls. The unit reviewed 2,956 National Driver Registry hits that resulted in the cancellation of 376 drivers. Additionally, Driver Improvement corrected 5,042 errors on driving records and renewed 3,388 driver licenses for individuals temporarily out of state. In addition, the unit assisted the Reinstatement Unit by processing credit-card reinstatements over the phone and assisting at the counter when needed.

## Driver Services

During the past year, Driver License Services answered 30,573 phone calls and 5,815 emails from licensees who had not received their driver licenses or non-driver IDs in the mail. The unit received 20,920 driver licenses/IDs that were returned by the postal service for bad addresses. This unit released 6,253 licenses/IDs not received by mail. The scanning unit scanned 386,832 documents and retrieved 3,791 documents for review. In addition, the unit entered 7,268 licenses received from individuals and law enforcement agencies. The staff also received 646 faxes.

This past year, DL Services distributed driver license email inquiries from the Alabama Centralized email system to units within the division for reply. This email system has been a great asset for answering questions regarding DL issues. In June 2015, mailing services for ALEA transferred from the Driver License Unit to the General Services Unit, ALEA.

The Alabama Driver Manual was updated, printed and distributed in August 2015. ALEA's environmental recycling activity report FY2015 from Gilmore Services, Pensacola, Fla., showed a financial value of \$161,430.16 materials processed for recycling. The agency saved 532 trees, along with 218,960 gallons of water and 156 cubic yards of landfill.

## Reinstatement Unit

The HQ Reinstatement Unit has been understaffed with only one ASA I, one ASA II, two DL Specialists and a part-time retired state employee, along with a supervisor. The unit assisted 46,165 walk-in customers and 12,078 customers by mail. Additionally, the unit answered 56,969 telephone inquiries and processed 171 refund requests. Reinstatement also sold 4,618 Motor Vehicle Reports (MVRs), 296 Lifetime MVRs and 1,114 Accident Reports. In addition, the unit processed 13,458 faxes. A total of 14,234 reinstatements were processed. Two employees received new scanners in anticipation of additional work requirements generated by the STARRS accounting system.



Driver License uses tablets and other technology to complete daily tasks, saving paper, water and other resources.

## **Records Unit**

The Records Unit answered 23,605 telephone calls, processed 33,164 driving abstracts requested by the courts, 12,118 accident reports via mail, walk-ins and from the Alabama Department of Transportation, 16,117 MVRs via walk-ins and mail, and 755 Lifetime MVRs. Additionally, the staff processed 112,815 in-state tickets and 6,801 out-of-state tickets and sent back 4,372 tickets because of errors. In August 2015, the Records Unit began accepting credit-card payments for MVRs and Accident Reports over the phone and processed 151 MVRs.

## **Hearing/Fraud Unit**

The Hearing Unit incorporated three new personnel to conduct hearings within the state. Retirees were hired in Tuscaloosa, Dothan and Birmingham primarily to sustain the Hearing request process. This brought the number of retirees to four in Hearing and Fraud Unit, which means Highway Patrol Troopers will not be required as often to leave their patrol duties to address hearings. During May 2015, the unit's Sergeant was transferred to Opelika Exams, and the Lieutenant from Montgomery Exams was assigned as the Chief Hearing Officer and Unit Commander.

In addition during the year, the ASA II was promoted to DL Specialist, a new ASA I was hired and the Investigative Tech was tasked with handling supervisory duties. The Hearing Unit also brought on board -- on an as-needed basis -- three Highway Patrol Troopers who applied to conduct Hearings and Investigations as an additional duty. During the peak time of year, there were up to 21 arresting officers trained and able to support the Hearing and Fraud Unit's mission.

All four Trooper-rank arresting officers were promoted to the rank of Senior Trooper. Unit personnel trained Foley's municipal court administrative personnel, judge, local attorneys and law enforcement during the early summer with emphasis on the interlock device and driver license services, new driver license exams initiatives, vendor operation and a brief legal update.

The Hearing and Fraud Unit conducted 41 annual inspections of facilities that have been approved to install the Ignition Interlock Device. Four sites required follow-up inspections in order to meet requirements for installation. At least 11 sites closed post-inspection, primarily because of the volume of installations. A written after-action report was requested, and lessons learned will be used for the 2016 inspection and archived for future references.

The unit reviewed and vetted its criteria to conduct an Interview and Investigation hearing. There now is an I and I hearing if a citizen has three DUIs in a five-year period, five in a 10-year period and one felony DUI conviction in a 10-year period. These are counted back from the date of request. This has reduced the need for a Trooper to conduct a detailed investigation.

To enhance customer service, accountability and transparency within DL Services, a directive was given to establish an online Hearing request process. This proposal includes the ability for a citizen to request an expedited hearing on the third Tuesday of each month in Montgomery.

The initial meeting and guidance from the Chief of DL Services was held in August. Since that meeting, there have been monthly or weekly progress review meetings to exchange feedback and recommendations with IT personnel. This project has been a collective effort of Headquarters personnel and Troopers in the field.

To ensure there is movement and ongoing investigations of fraud cases, a quarterly fraud case file review has been initiated. It involves intent, accountability of each case, current status, closure process and recommendations from the Investigative Tech or others on the case status. Two of the retired Troopers have met the requirements to work as sworn officers, and they are allowed to carry weapons and take enforcement action if needed to augment the full-time arresting officers.

The Fraud Unit has more than 171 fraud cases open. Approximately 24 were opened in 2015. Fraud personnel assisted other law enforcement agencies or Driver License personnel in more than 70 occasions during the year. Hearing Officers received approximately 1,200 files and conducted 1,144 hearings. Of the 1,144 hearing requests, 380 were “no shows.”

There were 8,675 AST-60s checked in 2015. Out of those, 2,268 were rescinded because of errors or not being delivered to the Hearing Unit in time. That is a 26.1 percent rescind rate, which means administrative action was taken on the remaining 5,433 AST-60s.

## **REGION ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

### **Region A**

#### *Decatur*

All Decatur DL offices received new issuing systems, as well as new touch-screen test stations. The new test stations have proved to be an excellent addition to the license testing and issuing experience. They are easy to use, and applicants seem comfortable using them.

All arresting officers within Decatur/Quad Cities completed annual in-service training and received new service weapons and shotguns. The Decatur office continued to use the capability of online reservations for testing in Decatur and for CDL skills in Cullman. This continues to be an asset for the public and DL Services.

The Decatur office was able to hire two Examiners.

The Decatur, Athens and Cullman offices continue to have a large number of non-local customers seeking service in an attempt to avoid the Huntsville and Birmingham offices. The Moulton office reduced services to one day per month using two Examiners.

So far, this has benefited operations at the District office and does not appear to have had any negative effect on the public based on the number of applicants applying for service at this location. The Decatur office continues to have issues staffing the offices and maintaining the workload at the Cullman CDL site and ESD CDL test site. Because of personnel shortages, the number of days had to be limited for conducting CDL skills testing each week at the Cullman CDL site.

### *Quad Cities*

During FY2015, Quad Cities saw accomplishments through the acquisition of a self-service kiosk in the Sheffield office, which has provided additional service opportunities for applicants while reducing wait times.

Both Sheffield and Hamilton Driver License Offices received upgraded issuing systems, as well as new touch-screen test stations.

The Sheffield Office also received a Nemo-Q System, which has greatly assisted with expediting services, and it has provided online scheduling opportunities for customers. The Quad Cities Post CDL Test Site was successfully moved from Hamilton to Tuscumbia, allowing greater scheduling capabilities to the Sheffield office at no cost to the department. The Quad Cities Post facility, which houses the Sheffield Driver License Office, received much needed building upgrades, including a new metal roof.

### *Huntsville*

A severe shortage of staff in the Huntsville Office continues. The following positions are vacant: one DL Supervisor, one DL Examiner II, one ASA II and eight DL Examiner I positions. During this fiscal year, the Huntsville office two Examiners who transferred to another state agency. The Scottsboro and Fort. Payne offices have been closed intermittently because of staffing issues. An excessive number of people are turned away, primarily in Huntsville, for the same reason.

The use of the Nemo-Q and Scheduler Application has been expanded. A larger number of appointments are available to the public. Depending on the type of service, an applicant still must schedule an appointment approximately two weeks in advance. Again, this is due to staffing issues at the Huntsville Office. The number of applicants on the appointment list for Huntsville averages 40 to 45 people on a daily basis. Public perception and comments have been positive.

A Self-Service Kiosk was installed in the Huntsville Office in December 2014. However, the kiosk is rarely used in Huntsville because Madison County License Director Mark Craig's offices are located throughout the county and remain the primary means to renew a license or obtain a duplicate DL.

The Huntsville CDL site layout was measured and remarked to ensure compliance with new CDL testing requirements. Road Skills/CDL testing tablets were refurbished and updated with new CDL testing parameters.

The Fort Payne Office (DeKalb County) is now able to process foreign nationals. For years, applicants from all four counties in the Huntsville District had to drive to Huntsville or another District Office to be processed.

New testing stations and All Purpose Workstations were installed throughout the district. New tables and chairs were purchased to accompany each testing station. The Huntsville Office's interior also was painted.

## **Region B**

### *Birmingham*

Region B lost six DL Examiner Is during this fiscal year to retirement, resignation or transfer to another state agency. The region, however, was able to fill four of the vacancies.

The Birmingham Office on April 11, 2015, helped make the Birmingham Homeless Connect Project another success. This service provides homeless and indigent persons the ability to make application for an Alabama ID card or driver license with payment for this service provided by a charitable organization. A total of 160 applicants were assisted on this date, and \$5,109.25 was collected from the charity to cover costs.

Region B Reinstatement collected \$2.3 million in fees. Birmingham alone took in more than \$1.6 million.

Region B cleared a total of 72 felony arrests and 273 misdemeanor arrests during the fiscal year. Birmingham cleared 57 felonies and 205 misdemeanors, while Jacksonville cleared 15 felonies and 68 misdemeanors. Arrest numbers for last year decreased dramatically in Region B because it lost four arresting officers. Currently, two arresting officers must cover Region B Examining.

## **Region C**

### *Montgomery*

The Montgomery Driver License Office was equipped to accept online customer appointments. In addition, a self-service DL Renewal Kiosk was added, and antiquated DL equipment was replaced with more up-to-date APWs, test stations and tables. Road Test tablets were upgraded with the 2005 Model CDL testing procedure (included on DLPROD domain).



Surveillance video/audio also was installed at the Montgomery DL Office. This equipment monitors customer waiting areas and customer service areas, as well as a portion of the skills testing area. Commercial 242-prefix telephone numbers were disconnected and replaced with less-costly extensions.

In an effort to address personnel attrition, two full-time Examiners were hired in 2015. Three part-time retirees were also hired to address customer wait times and CDL backlogs.

The Montgomery Driver License Office parking lot and skills test area was re-striped and the curbs were repainted. One new handicapped parking space was added to include blue stripes and signage. Additionally, two large dead trees (presenting a safety hazard from falling limbs) were removed, and the area was landscaped.

Examiner Tonya O'Banion was nominated for Examiner of the Year for the Montgomery Driver License District the fiscal year. Montgomery DL personnel also participated in the 2015 Annual River Region Homeless Connect.

### *Opelika*

New APWs and AutoTest equipment were installed in Opelika and Phenix City. The Phenix City office had new flooring installed and lobby chairs replaced; and the county provided a large-screen television, which was placed in the lobby for the applicants.

Sgt. Ronni Fetty joined the Opelika DL staff as post commander in May 2015, when Lt. Darin Holifield transferred to the Montgomery DL post.

### *Tuscaloosa/Selma*

The Tuscaloosa/Selma Driver License Office has seven vacant DL Examiner I positions and one Reinstatement Specialist position. Retired Trooper Clarence Terry started part-time conducting hearings in this office and has been an asset helping answer the phone when he is not holding hearings.

Sgt. Eddie Wilder participated in the 50th anniversary of the Civil Rights march in Selma. DL Examiner I Susan Wheat won the Driver License Examiner of the Year award. Members of the staff also worked Tuscaloosa's Homeless Connect.

The Tuscaloosa Driver License Office received a self-service DL renewal kiosk. The office was also responsible for 73 misdemeanor arrests and 15 felony arrests. The Selma office had 92 misdemeanor arrests and 14 felony arrests.

## **Region D**

### *Mobile*

The Mobile Driver License office was updated with new APW computers from MorphoTrust USA, along with new AutoTest computers. The Mobile and Evergreen Driver License Offices installed cameras to observe customer processing and testing.

The Greenville Office was transferred to Mobile District from Dothan office. The Atmore office was closed and moved to the Brewton office. The Monroeville office was renovated and the carpet was replaced. The Chatom Office relocated in the same building.

The Mobile office continued to use Community Service workers for janitorial services at no cost to ALEA. Sgt. Roy B. Napp was transferred to Highway Patrol Division's Grove Hill Post, and Capt. John Malone was transferred to Mobile Highway Patrol Region A as Commander. Sgt. Hugh Stinson retired from the Evergreen office. Cpl. Matthew McKenzie conducted hearings in Baldwin County to help with the Hearing Unit personnel shortage.

Examiner II Angela Hill assisted with the implementation of the SDE program for two additional private schools, St. Paul's and St. Luke's. She also assisted with the teaching of Basic Examiner School in Selma.

Mobile Area Driver License Offices hired three DL Examiners, and DL Specialist Melia Champagne was promoted to DL Supervisor. DL Specialist Denise Allison won the annual award presented by the Alabama Retail Association and the Specialist for the Second and Fourth Quarters. DL Examiner I Sara Walton was Examiner of the Second Quarter for the Alabama Retail Association. Examiner I Mark Sansone was nominated for Examiner of the Year. Mobile Area Driver License personnel completed CDL monitoring by July.

### *Dothan*

The Dothan Office began using a self-service kiosk to facilitate renewals and duplicates for customers. It also was used to test updated programming for the CDL Testing Tablets. Dothan DL Cpl. Charles Rogers was transferred to Highway Patrol effective Jan. 1, 2015.

The Dothan Office uses one retired state employee to supplement and maintain services throughout the area. Retired Trooper James Barnwell was hired to facilitate the CDL Pilot Program and supplement current CDL testing needs.

The Dothan District continues to implement and expand scheduling of all services provided by Driver License by phone, in person and online as an answer to the ever-increasing demands. Lt. Nelson began negotiations with two separate CDL Truck Driving Schools concerning the CDL Pilot Program. Southern States Truck Driving School is currently in operation, and Wallace Community College's public/private partnership will start in early 2016.



ALEA's Aviation Unit is part of search and rescue missions , as well as working with such equipment as Bambi buckets. above. to extinguish fires in wooded areas.

## **Law Enforcement Support Services**

### **Aviation Unit**

The ALEA Aviation Unit, which uses both civil and former military aircraft, flew 1,078 missions (up 121 from previous fiscal year) for a total of 2,003.9 flight hours in general support of law

enforcement during FY2015. These totals include 35 flights in support of the Marijuana Eradication program, totaling 461.2 flight hours and 183 searches (up 51 flights from previous year) for a total of 380.6 flight hours. Also, ALEA Aviation had 121 executive travel flights (up nine flights from previous year) for 185.9 hours of flight time.

A summary of the unit flight hours over the past several years is as follows:

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Total Hours</b>
2010	2,057.2
2011	2,439.4
2012	1,710.4
2013	1,584.9
2014	1,700.5
2015	2,003.9

The above comparison shows a slight increase of flight hours for FY2015 because of the slight increase in Marijuana Eradication Program and the slight increase of executive/personnel transport flights. As predicted from previous and current statistics, however, Aviation's requests for searches has increased 38 percent because of an increase in the number of missing elderly with Alzheimer's and autistic children who wander. This number will continue to rise if Project Lifesaver does not continue to grow.

Project Lifesaver, a program designed to locate missing individuals within minutes, is something Aviation has been part of for several years. Because of the training Aviation provides to Sheriffs' Offices and other law enforcement agencies, the unit expects there will be full participation and sponsorship from every county of the state by the end of FY2016. This inclusion should begin to positively affect not only the length of searches, but the overall number of searches with which the unit is called on to assist.

Currently, the unit's operational helicopter fleet consists of a Bell 407, Bell Long Ranger L1 (the only aircraft actually purchased by the agency) and seven OH-58s. The Bell 407 has enhanced the capabilities of the unit by allowing for tactical response, rescue operations and fire suppression. ALEA has four Forward Looking InfraRed-equipped helicopters and three single-engine airplanes located in Cullman, Montgomery and Fairhope.

One of the single-engine airplanes is capable of using a FLIR unit to complement surveillance missions. In addition to thermal imaging, these aircraft are able to use real-time color images and transmit either of the images to video receivers on the ground through a bonded streaming video process. (ALEA Aviation is the only unit in the nation using this concept.)

The process was developed to enhance ALEA's situational awareness during disasters and other emergency events. A backup FLIR helicopter is now used for sustained operations when one of the primary search aircraft is down for scheduled and unscheduled maintenance. The airplanes in operation consist of a King Air 200 (twin engine), a Piper Navajo (twin engine) and three Cessna 182s (single engine).

The unit's arresting officers now consist of an ALEA Chief Pilot, three ALEA Senior Pilots, one ALEA Pilot, one ALEA Pilot Trainee, and two Tactical Flight Officers (TFO). The unit continues to seek the addition of three ALEA Pilots and two TFO positions for operations who would be responsible for FLIR searches and rescue requests.

In 2009, the unit became operational for daytime rescue requests, including long-line and hoist operations; personnel have been responsible for saving 15 people over the last five years in such areas as Little River Canyon, Cheaha State Park, Oak Mountain State Park, Chewacla State Park and remote areas of Alabama's wilderness areas.

The maintenance section of the unit consists of two mechanics and one maintenance supervisor (who also serves as a pilot for ALEA Aviation), all of whom are based in Montgomery. They are responsible for maintaining 14 flyable aircraft in all three bases of operation (Montgomery, Cullman and Fairhope). In addition, maintenance staff members are trained to perform rescue operations when needed because of limited TFOs. The administrative support is accomplished through the assignment of a secretarial ASA II position.



The Unit often patrols events from the air.

## **Alabama Criminal Justice Training Center**

The Alabama Criminal Justice Training Center is the largest law enforcement training facility in the state, and it is on the campus of Wallace Community College in Selma. The facilities include an academic building containing classrooms, physical fitness center, dining hall, auditorium and dormitory.

The center provides training for agency personnel, as well as training and/or accommodations for other law enforcement and government agencies.

Training courses presented at the ACJTC included:

Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training (ALERRT)

Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement (ARIDE)

Air to Ground Search

ALEA Annual Training & In-service (arresting officers)

ALEA Employee Orientation

Basic Accident Investigation

Basic Traffic Homicide Investigation

Below 100

Beretta 1301T Shotgun Armorer

Boat Operations



**Physical fitness is an important part of training at ALEA's  
Alabama Criminal Justice Training Center in Selma.**

CDL Updates  
 CDL Examiner School  
 CVE Commercial Vehicle Enforcement  
 Complacency, Cannibalism & Critical Thinking  
 Crash Zone  
 Critical Emergency Response Team (CERT)  
 Defensive Driving  
 Department of Conservation In-service  
 Draeger Recertification  
 Driver License In-service  
 Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) School  
 Gangs in Alabama  
 Firearms Instructor School  
 Fraudulent Document Training  
 Field Training Officer (FTO) Program  
 Immigration Law Update  
 Identifying Risk Indicators at the Scene (IRIS)  
 Leadership & Supervision  
 Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) Recertification  
 Patrol Rifle  
 Physical Fitness Specialists  
 Police Motorcycle Operator  
 PPCT Instructor Recertification  
 Radar Certification  
 Run, Hide, Fight (Active Shooter)  
 Select Fire Operator  
 Sig Armorer's Course  
 Standardized Field Sobriety Training  
 Strategic Survival Ground Tactics (SSGT) Vanguard Level I & II  
 Tactical Team Training  
 Taser Instructor  
 Taser Recertification  
 Advanced Traffic Homicide  
 Traffic Stops

Other agencies conducting training at the ACJTC included: Selma Police Department, Department of Forensic Sciences, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, and Board of Pardons & Paroles.

The Alabama Police Academy conducted three Police Academy training sessions, graduating a total of 125 law enforcement officers. These officers represented various agencies across the state including municipal, county, state, as well as other law enforcement agencies. There was one ALEA Trooper class conducted during this time, with 21 graduates.

Training sessions	131
Total students	2,407

ALEA employees	1,824
Other agencies	583
Other agency officers taking Basic Police course	125
ALEA Trooper recruits	21



ALEA's Dispatch Operations section comprises communications centers in three regions of the state: North, Central and South.

## **ALEA Communications Unit**

### ***Dispatch Operations***

The Dispatch Operations section of the ALEA Law Enforcement Communications Unit comprises three distinct communications regions, serving north, central and south Alabama. The unit has 63 Police Communications Officers (PCOs), who are tasked with providing 24-hour emergency telecommunications services for the agency. These professional communicators answer calls from the public and dispatch appropriate first responders as required to effect an appropriate response to a wide variety of emergency situations. They coordinate multi-agency responses and serve as the first point of contact for citizens in need of ALEA services.

Dispatch Operations is involved in a significant consolidation and streamlining effort designed to provide improved services without additional cost to taxpayers and allowing for the more effective use of infrastructure. Fourteen small dispatch sites at Highway Patrol posts



throughout the state are being consolidated into three large well-equipped regional Communications Centers.

This consolidation provides for more effective and timely response to emergency calls, while more efficiently using limited manpower. Each centralized center is capable of serving as a backup to the other centers, ensuring continuity of operations in the event a single center becomes inoperable.

Dispatch Operations is involved in ongoing efforts to recruit and retain quality personnel to serve as PCOs. Infrastructure improvements to radio systems, computer-aided dispatch systems, telephone systems and other necessary technology are a continuous process.

### ***Communications Engineering***

The Communications Engineering Unit provides support for ALEA, as well as for other state agencies, using land mobile radio systems. This unit installs and maintains VHF communications equipment for 18 Trooper Posts/field offices, as well as for more than 1,400 mobile radios, 500 portable radios and 700 800-megahertz portable radios for the five systems. This unit provides maintenance for five 800-megahertz systems located at Quad Cities, Mobile, Decatur, Huntsville and Jacksonville Posts.

The unit consists of a supervisor, an ASA I and 10 employees in the position of Communication Technician II. Unit personnel install and maintain the following ALEA equipment: telephone systems, sirens, base and mobile radios, cellular telephone car kits, RADAR, backup AC power generators, mobile camera systems, emergency lighting and controls, and vehicular radio repeaters. Communication technicians maintain and support 34 tower sites, antennas and coax.

Communications Engineering is capable of maintaining radio communication in emergency situations through the use of four mobile communication trailers. Each trailer has the capacity to operate as a temporary tower site. When the ALEA mobile command post is activated and deployed, it is accompanied by a communication technician and a mobile communication trailer to establish effective radio communications necessary to accommodate response and recovery during critical incidents.

### **Critical Response Team**

For background/foundation purposes, the agency formed the Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) Unit/Team in response to the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. WMD was retooled

beginning in 2007 and now operates as the Critical Response Team (CRT). The primary mission of CRT is now one of search and rescue, with a secondary mission of support.

CRT receives grant funding from the Alabama Department of Homeland Security. These grants allow for an abundance of training and event participation at no cost to what is now ALEA. During 2015, CRT troopers attended numerous training and certification courses and participated in several High Angle rescue missions that resulted in the preservation of human lives.

Below are a few highlights from Oct. 1, 2014, to Sept. 30, 2015, when CRT Troopers were trained in a variety of things during this period:

- Feb. 23-24: Members attended the Virtual Alabama School Safety Summit at the Perdido Beach Resort. The Virtual Alabama School Safety Summit brought together education, law enforcement, fire/rescue, emergency management and homeland security officials from across Alabama to gain valuable information for protecting our state's most precious assets: our children. Participants built their knowledge and skills for:

1. Using Virtual Alabama and other school safety technologies
2. Understanding and mitigating behavioral issues in schools
3. Developing and exercising effective emergency operations plans for schools

- March 6-7: CRT personnel were assigned to the 50th Commemorative Anniversary of the Selma Bridge Crossing in Selma. Assigned personnel supported the mission of the Alabama National Guard's 46th Civil Support Team.

- March 30: Three members of CRT attended a five-day course on Tank Car Specialist at the Security and Emergency Response Training Center in Pueblo, Colo. This 40-hour course is designed to address specific fundamentals and skills associated with an emergency response to a rail surface transportation incident involving HazMat/WMD. The TCS course provided technical knowledge pertaining to tank cars, including damage assessment, oversight for product removal and movement of damaged tank and other rail cars present.

They conducted site assessments of incidents and damage assessments of the containers; and they conducted product removal using different transfer techniques on the various U.S. Department of Transportation containers used in rail transportation. The skills acquired at this specialty course are above and beyond that of a HazMat/WMD technician. The TCS course provided technical information and included extensive hands-on practice of incident actions on full-scale scenario-based rail HazMat/WMD surface transportation incidents.

- April 22-23: Training was held at the ACJTC in Selma. The first day of training, members cleaned and organized deployment trailers in preparation for the upcoming Talladega races and tornado season. The second day of training was advanced rope training.

- June 6-7: CRT Troopers attended training at the ACJTC and certified in Vanguard Level 1.

- July 22-23: CRT Troopers attended training at the ACJTC and were certified in Vanguard Level 2.
- Aug. 5-6: There was more training at the ACJTC. The first day of training, deployment trailers were cleaned and organized in preparation for upcoming Talladega races and hurricane season. The second day of training was at the Boutwell Auditorium, in Birmingham, where team members attended an eight-hour Domestic Extremism Officer Safety Training.
- Sept. 21: Three members of the CRT attended a five-day course on Back Country Tracking at Camp Shelby in Hattiesburg, Miss. This 40-hour course is designed to address the ability to apply tactical tracking skills in remote backcountry settings and urban environments. These skills aid in search and rescue operations, locating missing persons, as well as border security, poaching and fugitive apprehension.

## EOD

The Hazardous Devices and Technical Services Unit is one of ALEA’s specialized units. The agents assigned to this unit are highly trained and have a great deal of expertise in dealing with a multitude of hazardous situations. They receive extensive training in Explosives, Post-Blast Investigations, Advanced Explosive Destructive Techniques and Homemade Explosives Identification Process and Disposal.

They also take part in additional training each year through outside agency courses, and they participate in training scenarios across the state. In addition, these agents are tasked

with electronic surveillance and conduct Electronic Countermeasures Sweeps. During this fiscal year, two Agents attended Basic Electronics for Surveillance Operations, while all assigned Agents worked continuously to maintain all their skill sets. Both explosive and electronics training are essential to ensure the safety of bomb technicians and the successful outcome of surveillance missions.



**Bomb Technicians are trained to respond to improvised explosive devices (IEDs), unused or discarded explosives, suspicious packages and bomb threats.**

There currently are six members of the Hazardous Devices Unit. All assigned personnel are Certified Bomb Technicians, and four are Explosive Detection Canine Handlers, requiring an additional six weeks of training. This fiscal year alone, two Bomb Technicians completed Immediate Action Hand Entry training for Large Vehicle Bombs, and One Bomb Technician attended Advance Hand Entry of IED's Training.

The unit commander was selected by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) and the National Bomb Squad Commanders Advisory Board (NBSCAB) from a group of 500 national, state and local bomb technicians to begin a two-year advanced training program consisting of 12 Advanced Explosive Training Courses and four graduate-level college courses. All of this training and the internal Bomb Squad-specific Field Training Program allowed two

ALEA Bomb Technicians to respond to a call with seven bombs in an active methamphetamine production lab. These two Bomb Technicians safely rendered the four electrically initiated (two of which were booby traps) and three pyrotechnically initiated bombs safe in less than six hours, using zero energetic tools. They also preserved 100 percent of all evidence for prosecution of the offender.

Bomb Technicians are responsible for responding to improvised explosive devices (IEDs), unused or discarded explosives, suspicious packages and bomb threats. Agents also assist in the arrest, search and prosecution of explosive-related crimes in conjunction with local, state and federal agencies. Agents aided by explosive-detection canines are responsible for providing security for large-scale events to prevent or detect the surreptitious placement of an IED.

Bomb Technicians have been in place during presidential visits, other dignitary visits, collegiate sporting events, space and missile defense conferences and NASCAR racing events. This unit also instructs first responders in responding to suspicious packages, IEDs and bomb threats. This has been accomplished through such venues as the Alabama Criminal Justice Training Center, the North Alabama Law Enforcement Academy, the Southwest Alabama Law Enforcement Academy, the ATF, the National Center for Explosive Training and Research, and classes held at local police and fire departments. The unit commander was selected by the ATF to provide training to police chiefs during the International Association of Police Chiefs Annual Training Conference in Chicago.

The unit also offers Bomb-Threat Management training for schools, government buildings and private enterprises for the purpose of educating those entities on bomb threat response and the services bomb technicians provide.

### **Hazardous Devices and Technical Services Unit**

Explosions	3
Hoax devices	0
Explosive recoveries	50

Suspicious/unattended packages	20
Bomb threats	11
Canine searches	67
Disposal operations	6
EOD security/Op security	51
Search warrant assists	4
SWAT/robot assists	2
Technical assists	14
Training provided	25/608 students
Electronic Surveillance Operations	17
Total	254 (23 percent increase over previous year)

## **Facilities Maintenance**

Facilities Maintenance provides a centralized location to coordinate all ALEA-owned building repairs and maintenance. On any given day, numerous maintenance issues arise. A single facility may encounter a variety of maintenance and repair issues every day, week and month. Regular preventive maintenance and repairs go a long way in helping to maintain an acceptable appearance and facility operation.

Facilities Maintenance also acts as coordinator for all agency-leased facilities in conjunction with the Legal Unit. The unit works with Risk Management and insurance companies, as well, to provide insurance coverage for all ALEA buildings and contents, and to file claims when necessary.

## **Fleet Maintenance**

Fleet Maintenance is responsible for the issuance and maintenance of all ALEA vehicles and equipment, including supplying automotive parts to the other five fleet maintenance shops throughout the state, as well as providing support during special details. This unit maintains and services approximately 1,400 vehicles including trailers, command posts, BAT Mobiles, motorcycles, lawn mowers and other related equipment.

During FY2015, Fleet Maintenance took at least one command post to eight details: Governor's Inauguration, two Talladega races, Selma Bridge Crossing, EMA hurricane training, Prichard warrant detail, Foot Wash and Mardi Gras.

Fleet Maintenance held two auctions, selling 243 vehicles for approximately \$351,950. The unit conducted 121 wrecker trips to pick up damaged or non-running vehicles and performed

more than 3,470 mechanical tasks to include routine maintenance and other mechanical repairs. Fleet's body shop performed 720 repairs to ALEA vehicles.

## **Inventory Management**

Inventory Management personnel assign state numbers to agency purchases of \$500 or more. The unit inputs and tracks property for accountability, conducts an annual inventory, prepares and transports equipment to State Surplus and submits a general asset report annually for the State Auditor's Office. At the end of FY2015, ALEA had 23,556 items valued at \$500 or more, with a total acquisition value of \$99,349,788.25.

The Inventory Control Office conducted an internal inventory audit to address assignment of property, as well as personnel location assignment. Each custodian was given his or her inventory list to review and was asked to report any discrepancies. (Of the 1,180 property custodians, 650 have been cleared as of Dec. 1, 2015. The unit will work until all matters are resolved.)

During the 2014-2015 fiscal year, Inventory processed 7,555 completed transfers through the Equipment Transfer System. This new system has made accessibility and the process of transferring equipment easier. Streamlined, the system has cut down on paper and document retention.

On Jan. 1, 2015, 12 state agencies became ALEA, bringing in 7,862 assets. Each asset was re-tagged with a "35# sticker," and data entry was completed on each to reassign in the ALEA database to a new custodian. This consolidation took nine months to complete. Of the 7,862 assets, only 13 could not be identified and were written off as lost until they are discovered. This will happen when the item is transferred.

## **Photographic Services**

Photographic Services personnel provide support for all units of ALEA by processing still, analog and digital photographs, and by producing completed videotape. This involves processing film and printing pictures from film and digital files of crime scenes, wreck scenes and criminal suspects.

Photo lab personnel assisted with aerial photography concerning murder, narcotic cases and ALEA TACT teams. In addition, ALEA photographers provide support for The Blue Light (newsletter). Unit personnel provide publicity photos and photographic display of departmental activities. The section also offers film processing and printing services to other state, county and federal law enforcement agencies upon request.

A recent agreement with the Governor's Office provides a savings over the work going out to a commercial lab and speeds up the process, making it financially beneficial to both parties. ALEA computer personnel set up an FTP server to facilitate the electronic transfer of images for printing, which saves considerable time and provides savings for involved parties.

The importance of the lab manifests itself by processing and providing photo/video service and preserving the chain of evidence while maintaining confidentiality. This is fulfilled by this unit instead of a commercial photographic laboratory, thereby preserving the chain of evidence.

The unit also provides processing and printing services to other law enforcement agencies requesting assistance. Preserving the chain of evidence, maintaining confidentiality and processing film from scenes of brutality are law enforcement requirements that must be fulfilled by this unit's staff rather than a commercial photographic laboratory.

The unit is moving closer each year to full digital photography and video. From Oct. 1, 2014, to Sept. 30, 2015, the unit processed 10,090 jackets (film or disc) and 28,219 prints.

## **Print Shop**

The Print Shop prints forms that are not available online via ALEANet. If the Print Shop cannot reproduce the forms or manuals, personnel outsource the order. It supplies more than 1,200 cartons of paper per year to cover the copy needs of the agency. It also pays for rental of 81 copiers placed throughout the state, and it currently supplies replacement toner cartridges for desktop printers.

## **Public Information/Education Unit**

The Public Information/Education Unit (PI/E) provides information to the public, media, law enforcement agencies, constituents, agency staff and others concerning ALEA operations and all aspects of law enforcement and traffic safety; conducts safety programs and campaigns; and is responsible for archives and headquarters information/security. PI/E field officers support recruiting efforts by producing and distributing recruiting materials and making individual and group contacts.

This unit also produces the annual report and provides some graphic layout and design in the production of *The Blue Light* (newsletter), brochures, manuals, charts and other printed materials. In addition, the unit responds to constituent inquiries received via e-mails submitted through the agency's website, telephone, postal mail and in person.

Members of the unit represented the agency at numerous fairs, career days, festivals and other events throughout the year. The unit made hundreds of personal contacts, providing information about the agency and its mission and distributing brochures and other educational

materials designed to inform the public about traffic safety issues, promote departmental initiatives and recruit prospective job applicants.

In conjunction with the ABI (then SBI) staff, Alabama broadcasters and law enforcement agencies, PI/E participated in several AMBER Alerts, Missing Child Media Alerts and Silver Alerts. PI/E staff conducted publicity and educational efforts for several statewide and regional traffic enforcement campaigns during holiday travel periods as well as other times of the year.

The goal is always to reduce the number of trooper-investigated traffic crashes, injuries and deaths in the state. This was accomplished through news releases, interviews, safety campaigns and public service announcement, along with the distribution of safety literature.

During the year, the unit issued news releases and coordinated news conferences to inform the public concerning a variety of other traffic safety and enforcement activities and other matters related to the ALEA initiatives. PI/E field officers and headquarters staff were available to respond to subsequent public and media inquiries resulting from these media events and notices.

There were three PIOs (one Sergeant, two Troopers) in October and November 2014. The staff tripled in December 2015, with one Sergeant, one Corporal and six Troopers assigned to different divisions across the state.

### **FY2015 Totals**

News media interviews including releases and replies to media (field officers and headquarters staff): 36,460

Radio and TV spots: 8

Radio and TV programs: 213

Enforcement Hours Including Assisting HP: 954.5

Driver improvement programs: 23

Safety programs: 759

Safety program attendance: 55,540

Public Inquiries/Assists: 17,481

Patrol contacts: 1,067

### **Recruiting**

During FY2015, Recruiting activities continued to be trimmed as state spending was reduced across the board and fewer positions became available with ALEA.

A State Trooper Sergeant directs recruiting efforts, with the goal of attracting the most qualified applicants to the positions of State Trooper, Capitol Police Officer and the non-law enforcement officer classifications in the agency. This is accomplished by telephone, email,



U.S. mail and in person at various recruiting events. Recruiting officers provide brochures and application forms, as well as information regarding employment with Public Safety to potential applicants at college/university career fairs, job fairs conducted at military facilities, state fairs and other locations. The PI/E Unit compiles recruiting statistics and maintains records. They are provided to interested personnel as needed.

During FY2015, PIOs made 1,174 recruiting contacts and conducted 104 career programs.

## **Special Response Unit**

This unit did not exist officially until Jan. 1, 2015.

### *ALEA Divisions and EMA Divisions*

ALEA divisions now follow the same county boundary lines as the Alabama Emergency Management Agency (EMA) divisions, which speeds response efforts during natural disasters. This consistency allows ALEA to have a unity of command to respond with all available assets and resources to an event.

### *Assignment of SBI Agents to EMA division offices*

As of Jan. 1, 2015, ALEA provided State Bureau of Investigation (SBI) Agents for all EMA division offices to support division-level response to natural events. Each EMA division has two to three Agents whom they may call upon during a disaster. Each one of these agents is empowered to answer requests from local or county EMAs and respond with all available ALEA manpower and assets necessary.

### *Consolidation of ALEA desks in Emergency Operations Center (EOC)*

Prior to consolidation, there were four desks at the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) occupied by ALEA legacy agencies. Following the concept of unity of command, ALEA now occupies one desk at the SEOC, which streamlines all operations and handles requests for resources.

### *Contraflow in May*

ALEA, along with state EMA and the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) participated in the 2015 Contraflow exercise May 5-6. This formal plan to reverse the southbound lanes of Interstate 65 from Mobile to Montgomery to facilitate evacuation traffic. Eighty-three ALEA Highway Patrol Troopers participated in the exercise.

After consolidation, ALEA has more personnel to use when responding to a tropical event that threatens the coast.

### *Unified Command Group between State Agencies*

ALEA joined the Unified Command Group along with ALDOT, the Alabama National Guard, the Alabama Department of Public Health and the Alabama State Department of Education. The group meets regularly and conducts conference calls prior to events to better coordinate response between agencies within the state.

### *Special Response Unit Policy*

ALEA is committed to responding to all events in the state, and not only for natural disasters. At the direction of the Secretary's office, ALEA's Special Response Units (SRU) are sent to an event to support the efforts of the local agencies and coordinate ALEA's response to events when needed. They simultaneously provide continuous updates to the Secretary's office to allow the entire organization to stay current on any given situation.

ALEA already has seen success with such natural disaster responses and planned event as:

- Winter Storms, February 2015: ALEA responded with 29 Troopers/Agents. ALEA had representation at the EMA division level coordinating the front-line response and SEOC division level supplementing response as needed.
- 50th Anniversary of Selma to Montgomery March, March 2015: The historic 50th Anniversary involved numerous events throughout the month. ALEA's coordination with EMA resulted in one of the largest historic events with an unprecedented law enforcement response (400-plus) with more than 80,000 citizens in attendance for a Presidential address.

The President of the United States, along with many other dignitaries (federal and state levels), contributed to the complexities of ALEA's response. With ALEA and EMA coordinating with local law enforcement, it was successful. There were only three arrests during the entire month of events. (It helped that Alabama citizens honored the event and its many out-of-state guests.)

## **Supply**

The Supply Unit purchases supplies and equipment other than those provided through Fleet Maintenance, Communication Engineering and Information Services.

Office supplies are ordered according to state contracts and/or vendors. Items then are pulled, packaged, delivered and drop-shipped to ALEA offices across the state on a daily basis. Stock is continuously checked and kept current to accommodate all employees to ensure they are effective and efficient at their jobs.

The Supply Unit assists Troopers who are assigned to special detail with items of importance for their health and well-being. Such items as gloves, hand sanitizer and bottled water are supplied when Troopers must work with the public for a number of hours at a time. These items reduce the risk of contraction or transmission of disease.

The unit is required to receive and issue all weapons to ALEA Troopers. Each weapon is stored, and the proper paperwork is maintained for accountability. These weapons are



**Dot Alexander of Supply Unit inspects campaign hats for Troopers.**

required to be monitored and secured in a safe environment. This fiscal year, the Supply Unit was tasked with a swap/trade of the agency's old Winchester 1300 Shotguns to the new Berretta 1301 Semi-Shotguns.

Unit personnel purchases and issues uniform items daily throughout the year to all uniformed employees.

Uniforms are provided for Troopers (all ranks), Reserve Troopers, Driver License Examiners, Police Communications Officers, Marine Patrol Division, State Bureau of Investigation and civilian employees.

The unit also handles protective equipment (bullet-proof vests), as well as office furniture, office supplies, janitorial supplies, protective equipment and reimbursement.

## **Tactical Teams**

In addition to monthly training, all teams attended and participated in various training events relevant to the duties required by tactical operations between Oct. 1, 2014, and Sept. 30, 2015. A more detailed breakdown of the above referenced information is provided below:

- FBI Basic Sniper School
- SIG Rifle Armorer Certification
- FBI Patrol Rifle Instructor School
- Beretta Shotgun Armorer Certification
- Advanced SWAT Tactics School
- Firearms Training Simulator Instructor Certification

- FBI Firearms Instructor Certification
- Live Fire Shoot House Instructor Certification
- T.E.E.S. Advanced Explosive Breaching School
- Vehicle Ambush and Counter-Ambush School
- Glock Handgun Armorer Certification
- Physical Fitness Specialist Certification
- Vehicle Convoy Security School
- Identifying Risk Factors School
- Advanced Tactical Handgun/Carbine School
- Advanced Team Tactics School
- Israeli Counter-Terrorism School
- MRAP Vehicle Operations Instructor Certification
- EMT Basic Certification
- Safariland Less Lethal Munitions Instructor Certification
- Tactical Medic School
- Tactical Man-tracking

The members of the newly created full-time ALEA Tactical Unit (formed in September 2015) attended Night Hawks SWAT School, Long Range Marksman School, and 3M Peltor School during the month of November 2015.

Team 1 participated in zero call-outs, eight warrant service details and two escorts for high-threat targets.

Team 2 participated in three call-outs, and 36 warrant service details.

Team 3 participated in three call-outs, and 18 warrant service details.

Team 4 participated in one call-out, one dignitary escort and 10 warrant service details.

Inauguration – Team 2

State of the State Address – Team 3

CODEL Escort with USCCP – Teams 2 and 3

Selma Civil Rights 50th Anniversary Bridge Jubilee – Teams 1 and 3

Prichard Roundup – Teams 1, 2 and 4

Mardi Gras in Mobile and Prichard – Teams 1, 2 and 4

Footwash Detail in Union Town – Team 2

Hang Out Music Festival in Gulf Shores – Team 4

Totals: 7 High-Risk Call-Outs

72 Search Warrants Served

9 Protection/Escort/Arrest Warrant Round-Up/Specialized Details

Because of its recent creation, the full-time ALEA Tactical Unit participated in three call-outs and seven search warrant details.



Following the State of the State, Secretary Stabler, center, chatted with Trooper Michael Lingo, left, of Capitol Patrol and Trooper Reginald Harkins, right, of Dignitary Protection.

## **Protective Services**

Protective Services is responsible for providing general law enforcement/police services at all state facilities, buildings, and other designated properties (primarily within the state Capitol complex in Montgomery), as mandated by §32-2-100, Code of Alabama, 1975; providing for the protection of certain state officers and visitors to the state as mandated by §36-33-1, et. Seq. Code of Alabama, 1975; and fulfilling numerous related duties.

These include such homeland security initiatives as threat assessments and related operational/response planning for known and potential targets of any form of terrorism, intelligence gathering and analysis, and investigation of persons of interest and/or those who have made threats against public officials/facilities.

Additionally, a large function of Protective Services is to aid and assist other law enforcement agencies in matters of concurrent jurisdiction or mutual interest, or upon request for such assistance.

## **Headquarters**

Members of the Division's headquarters staff, along with members of the agency's Legal Unit and Administrative Bureau, serve in the capacity of Legislative liaison to the Alabama Legislature. This function includes reviewing proposed matters of legislation and administrative procedure proposals, including the impact on ALEA, and testifying before legislative committees concerning such matters per these reviews. Members provide weekly, written reviews of legislation to the Governor's Office as requested. This process serves to foster professional relationships between ALEA and the Alabama Legislature and ensures accurate information is communicated for use in budget planning and other related areas.

## **Dignitary Protection**

The unit is responsible for the security and protection of certain state officials and visitors. Specifically, staff members provide protection for the Governor and family (from date of election, throughout term of office and for five years after leaving office), for the Lieutenant Governor, for the President Pro-Tem of the Alabama Senate, for the Speaker of the Alabama House of Representatives and for the Attorney General.

Staff members also are charged with providing protection for the successful candidate for each of the above-referenced offices subsequent to the results of such elections held to determine the respective successor (Lieutenant Governor-elect, Attorney General-elect, etc.).

Unit personnel also provide varying levels of security and protection for any other persons as designated by the Governor or the director of Public Safety, and assists other agencies (U.S. Secret Service, U.S. Capitol Police, State Department, etc.), via protection assistance, sharing of intelligence related to perceived or known threats, transportation assistance in conjunction with visiting protectees, and other matters related to these types of operations when they occur within the state.

General information relating to the activities of the Executive Security Unit for FY2015 follows:

- Assisted with three visiting Governors
- Assisted with four international dignitaries
- Assisted with two former Presidents' visits
- Assisted with two visits from current President
- Assisted with one U.S. First Lady's visit
- Assisted seven U.S. dignitaries
- Conducted security for three conferences

Conducted a Basic Dignitary Protection Training class  
Conducted two investigations of threats against a Legislator

### **Executive Mansion Security Detail**

The Executive Mansion is a secured facility staffed by uniformed, arresting officers of the Protective Services Unit. The Mansion Security Detail operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week throughout the year with the current protocol being at least two officers on duty at all times.

Although the Mansion Detail is closely aligned with and shares operations and supervision with Dignitary Protection, its operations and related challenges are unique. The personnel assigned to the Mansion Detail operate from fixed monitoring posts equipped with electronic security equipment and from roving foot patrols of the property. Each person visiting the Mansion property and each article delivered is greeted and/or received by personnel of the Mansion Detail. This provides a means to properly identify, screen and process each of these to help ensure the safety of the First Family and the executive residence grounds.

The Mansion Security Detail provides extra coverage during special events that take place on the grounds throughout the year. The personnel keep in regular contact with the Mansion staff and with the First Lady to provide the most secure environment possible for the First Family. The Mansion Security Detail is also responsible for providing security at the Wynfield Estate when the First Family stays at that location overnight, with at least one officer on the estate's grounds at all times while the First Family is staying there. When the current First Family stays overnight at the Governor's Tuscaloosa residence, the security detail provides one officer during the hours of 10 p.m. to 6 a.m.

### **Capitol Patrol**

Troopers assigned to Capitol Patrol operate in a manner substantially the same as a modern, comparable police department. The area of jurisdiction is commonly referred to as the "Capitol complex" or "campus."

Furthermore, the unique atmosphere and variables related to this area of responsibility -- primarily the scheduled mass influx of persons and traffic into the complex and the scheduled mass exodus of the same (between 6 a.m. and 6 p.m. Monday through Friday) -- create the environment commonly experienced by similar-sized large universities and their respective police departments.

By review and sharing of information from both general police departments and those that operate exclusively within the university/institution-type setting, a template for planning, operations and response can be drafted.

Personnel consist of uniformed, arresting and non-arresting officers (i.e., patrol officers, supervisors and police communications officers), and by non-sworn support personnel who aid in overall operations and services. Capitol Patrol work 24 hours a day year-round. The patrol officers provide a visible law enforcement presence and respond to calls for service or to observed incidents/offenses that occur in their presence.

During FY2005, a bike patrol was established, with three officers receiving 32 hours of training each at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. These officers patrol the Capitol complex, as well as other state properties. This patrol has proven to be an effective means of providing security. In 2015, bikes were re-introduced and are proving effective.

Capitol Patrol's activities for the fiscal year are as follows:

- Special event hours -- 940
- Legislative security hours -- 839
- Building checks -- 20,033
- Alarms -- 455
- Incident/offense reports -- 93
- Arrest reports -- 18
- Hazards/non-hazards -- 87
- Warnings -- 71
- Assists -- 996
- Accident reports -- 14
- Warrants served -- 31



**Capitol Patrol's Trooper Vic Lee ensures public safety during a rally at the Capitol.**



## **State Bureau of Investigation**

The State Bureau of Investigation functions as the investigative division of the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency and consists of the Major Crimes Division, the Narcotics Division, the Alcohol Enforcement Unit, the Agriculture and Rural Crimes Unit and the Criminal Justice Information Enforcement Unit.

These divisions and units are responsible for conducting investigations and providing assistance to city, county, state, federal and foreign law enforcement agencies in the following areas: criminal investigations; officer-involved shooting; misuse of criminal justice information; agriculture, forestry and rural crime investigation; alcohol, narcotics, and tobacco enforcement/investigation; crime-scene processing; searches for missing persons and inmate escape; polygraph examinations; technical surveillance; hostage negotiation; marijuana eradication; and outside agency-requested special inquiries.

During FY2015, SBI conducted a total of 8,009 investigations, performed 3,205 assists to other agencies, and investigated cases resulting in 1,150 arrests (custodial and non-custodial).

As of Sept. 30, 2015, SBI had 160 total employees; 145 were sworn officers and 15 were support personnel.

### **Major Crimes Division**

The Major Crimes Agents are responsible for meeting the challenge of providing excellent investigative services in matters pertaining to major crimes, specialized investigations and investigative support. They conduct investigations into violations of state and federal laws at the request of official sources, including the Attorney General, district attorneys, police chiefs and sheriffs. The Agents and support personnel also assist local, state and federal agencies in a variety of investigative matters.

SBI Agents trained in criminal investigative procedures process crime scenes for evidence, interview suspects and witnesses, conduct searches and make arrests. During FY2015, SBI Agents opened 239 criminal investigations, provided 667 agency assists and performed investigations that resulted in 70 arrests. Additionally, the Major Crimes Agents performed 123 special inquiries, 63 of which have been closed. Agents continue to work on the 60 inquiries that remain open.

During FY2015, SBI agents also conducted 54 polygraph examinations and gathered intelligence on criminal activities and trends, which is disseminated to the Alabama Fusion Center for further analysis.

At the close of FY2015, the Major Crimes Division had 65 agents and six administrative personnel.

## Narcotics Division

Narcotics Division Agents are responsible for fighting the threat facing Alabama's citizens by the increased use of such illegal narcotics as heroin, crack, cocaine, marijuana, pharmaceuticals and synthetic drugs.

Through the enforcement of state and federal narcotics laws and by providing investigative assistance to local, state and federal law enforcement agencies, SBI's Narcotics Agents have seized the following:

<b>Drugs Seized</b>	<b>Grams</b>	<b>Street Value</b>	<b>Cases</b>
Cocaine	49,853.15	\$4,605,300	17
Crack	8,374.9	\$837,230	35
Heroin	3,772.4	\$490,440	25
Methamphetamine	3,804.95	\$391,085	46
Marijuana	65,127.32	\$656,620	57
Pills	809		13
<b>Total street value</b>	<b>\$6,980,675</b>		

14 vehicles seized valued at \$140,000

145 weapons seized valued at \$43,500

Total U.S. currency seized \$1,073,316

Additionally, Narcotics Agents made 218 arrests and provided 1,800 agency assists.

At the close of FY2015, the Narcotics Division had 38 total personnel, consisting of 37 Agents (this figure includes those assigned full-time to federal task forces), and one administrative person.

### ***Marijuana Eradication (ERAD)***

SBI's Marijuana Eradication Unit is tasked with traveling to various counties within the state to locate, seize and destroy marijuana plants being covertly cultivated by drug dealers in Alabama. The ERAD program receives funds from the U.S. Department of Justice, Drug Enforcement Administration, to assist in accomplishing this mission.

This unit consists of members from ALEA's Aviation Unit, members from the Alabama National Guard Drug Unit and Agents from SBI's Alcohol Unit and Narcotics Unit.

The ERAD Unit, in cooperation with local law enforcement agencies, made significant increases in seizures for FY2015. Seizure operations covered more than 35 counties and netted the following:

- 12,288 plants seized
- 91 pounds bulk marijuana seized
- 38 arrests
- 69 weapons seized



**The SBI's Marijuana Eradication Unit is tasked with traveling to various counties within the state to locate, seize and destroy marijuana plants being covertly cultivated by drug dealers in Alabama.**

## Agriculture and Rural Crime Unit (ARCU)

The Agriculture and Rural Crime Unit was created as a task force in 2013 and consisted of Investigators from the Alabama Alcohol Beverage Control (ABC), the Alabama Bureau of Investigation (ABI) and the Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries.

At that time, Investigators concentrated on crimes pertaining to livestock and the theft of agricultural equipment.

Beginning Jan. 1, 2015, ARCU expanded and took on the additional responsibility of investigating forestry and timber crimes previously performed by law enforcement officers from the Alabama Department of Forestry.

Additionally, ARCU Agents performed 210 assists to other agencies and made 23 arrests as a result of their investigative efforts.

Shown below are totals for the cases worked by this unit during FY2015. Also shown are the calls for service, which represents the number of complaints that came in to ALEA during FY2015 either through an ARCU hotline or by calling ALEA radio dispatch:

### Cases

Property crime cases	100
Animal crime cases	85
Timber crime cases	10
e-Crime cases	82
Total	277

### Calls for Service

Property crime calls	27	Miscellaneous calls	7
Animal crime calls	95	Total calls for service	165
Timber crime calls	36		



ARCU was created in 2013 as a task force concentrating on crimes pertaining to livestock and the theft of agricultural equipment.



SBI Special Agents assigned to the Alcohol Enforcement Unit investigate such cases as moonshine stills.

### Alcohol Enforcement Unit

The Alcohol Enforcement Unit is tasked with investigating and enforcing the laws and regulations governing the illegal use and consumption of tobacco products and alcoholic beverages within Alabama. Agents investigate such crimes as the illegal manufacture, possession, transportation or sale of alcoholic beverages, as well as minors who consume, access or have possession of alcohol or tobacco products.

Federal grant funding through the U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) and the Alabama Department of Public Health allows additional man hours and resources to concentrate on underage tobacco use issues. Additional Legislative appropriations from the Children First Trust Fund through the Alabama Department of Children’s Affairs help to cover the cost of regulating and enforcing tobacco sales.

The completion of requirements under federal SYNAR Legislation protects approximately \$40 million in federal funding for the Alabama Department of Mental Health. During FY2015, Agents completed 582 SYNAR checks, resulting in 46 cases (with a 7.9 percent non-compliance rate) and 1,596 FDA checks, resulting in 160 cases (with a 10.03 percent non-compliance rate).

In addition to the FDA and SYNAR checks previously listed, shown below are the FY2015 totals for checks and cases worked by the Agents that make up the Alcohol Unit:

<b>Alcohol</b>		<b>Tobacco</b>	
Total compliance checks	3,182	Total compliance checks	3,029
Total cases	211	Total cases	256
Non-compliance rate	6.63 percent	Non-compliance rate	8.45 percent

Agents also located and destroyed 16 stills, yielding 755.62 gallons of moonshine and 5,260 gallons of mash. They performed 7,843 assists to other agencies and wrote 513 administrative citations. Additionally, Agents made 798 arrests (custodial and non-custodial) and investigated 295 complaints.

### **Criminal Justice Information Unit**

SBI Agents working in the Criminal Justice Information Unit are tasked with investigating misuse of criminal justice information and equipment, and providing support/training to law enforcement agencies on the laws and regulations regarding its use.

As of Sept. 30, 2015, there were 32,227 users accessing from the 1,053 agencies that use ALACOP.

During FY2015, Agents assigned to this unit performed the following:

Investigations conducted	336	Investigations closed	236
Investigations pending	100	Assists to other agencies	948
Visits to other agencies	576	Agency audits performed	27
CJIS training classes	51 (1,041 students)		



**ALEA sworn officers are prepared for active-shooter response, and many of them are certified to teach programs to such civilian groups as churches and schools.**