



KAY IVEY
GOVERNOR

ALABAMA LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY

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HAL TAYLOR
SECRETARY

The Honorable Kay Ivey
Governor of Alabama
Alabama State Capitol
Montgomery, AL 36130

Dear Governor Ivey:

It is my pleasure to present the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency's Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2024. This report represents the work of approximately 1,400 ALEA employees who are committed to serving the citizens of Alabama. I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude for your unwavering support and commitment to prioritizing public safety in our great state.

Additionally, the support you and the legislature continue to provide is greatly appreciated. The recent legislative acts, particularly the proximity laws for certain bodies of water and the requirement for non-residents without a vessel license to complete boater safety certification, significantly strengthen our public safety framework. These initiatives not only enhance safety for all Alabamians using the state's waterways, but also encourage responsible engagement with our state's natural resources.

We are proud to report a continued decrease in traffic fatalities, including significant reductions in commercial motor vehicle-related incidents over the past year. This achievement is a testament to the relentless efforts of our dedicated personnel who work around the clock to promote safe driving habits and raise public awareness.

In addition to our advancements in traffic safety, we celebrate the establishment and ongoing support of the Metro Area Crime Suppression (MACS) Unit. This initiative makes a remarkable impact by confronting violent crimes, and we are increasingly optimistic about the progress we are making in enhancing community safety through collaborative strategies.

The dedicated employees of ALEA, both sworn and civilian, strive daily to fulfill our mission and ensure that we continue to serve the citizens and visitors of Alabama with excellence and integrity. It is my honor to continue to serve alongside them as we look forward to building on the Agency's successes into the future.

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Hal Taylor".

Hal Taylor
Secretary of Alabama Law Enforcement



**Alabama Law Enforcement Agency's
Fiscal Year 2024 Annual Report**

The Alabama Law Enforcement Agency (“ALEA”) represents the consolidation of multiple state departments and bureaus into a singular State Agency and was established under Act 2013-67, codified by § 41-27-1 et seq., Ala. Code 1975. The legislation created the Office of the Secretary and the State Bureau of Investigation (formerly the Alabama Bureau of Investigation) and combined those divisions with the Department of Public Safety to establish ALEA.

Office of the Secretary

Section 41-27-1 et seq., Ala. Code 1975, authorizes the Secretary of ALEA to appoint and oversee the Directors of the Department of Public Safety and the State Bureau of Investigation. The Office of the Secretary is currently composed of the following divisions: Homeland Security, Protective Services, Personnel Unit, Legal Division, the Administrative Bureau, External Affairs, Governmental Affairs, and Integrity.

Homeland Security

The Office of Homeland Security works with federal, state, and local partners to prevent and respond to terrorism in Alabama. This office also works closely with public and private sectors in law enforcement, emergency medical services, fire services, agriculture, public health, public safety, communications, environmental management, military, and transportation. Homeland Security administers the State Homeland Security Grant Program, which not only supports state and local efforts to prevent terrorism and other catastrophic events, but also helps the state prepare for threats and hazards that pose great risks to national security. In FY2024, the Homeland Security Office allocated \$4,426,686 in grants to state and local partners.

Protective Services Division

The Protective Services Division consists of two units, Dignitary Protection and Capitol Patrol, and is responsible for providing law enforcement services within the Capitol Complex in Montgomery, as mandated by § 32-2-100, Ala. Code 1975; and protection to and for certain state officers and visiting dignitaries as mandated by § 36-33-2, Ala. Code 1975, as well as various other law enforcement duties.

Dignitary Protection Unit

The Dignitary Protection Unit provides security and transportation for certain state elected officials and visiting dignitaries. Specifically, personnel assigned to this unit provide security for the Governor and his/her family (from the date of election through the term of office and five years after leaving office), Lieutenant Governor, President Pro Tempore of the Alabama Senate, Speaker of the Alabama House of Representatives, and the Attorney General.

The unit also provides security for other persons designated as “protectees” by the Governor or ALEA Secretary. Throughout FY2024, the Protective Services Division, along with personnel from Highway Patrol and the State Bureau of Investigation (SBI), assisted other state and federal agencies with visiting dignitaries as requested.

Capitol Patrol Unit

ALEA Troopers assigned to the Capitol Patrol Unit provide security at the Alabama State Capitol building, Executive Mansion, Alabama State House, and other executive office locations within the Capitol Complex in Montgomery. Troopers assigned to the Capitol Patrol Unit also provide a law enforcement presence on state roadways and respond to calls for service while keeping citizens and state employees safe within their area of responsibility. In addition to their unit responsibilities, Troopers assigned to the Capitol Patrol Unit also investigate traffic crashes and assist other divisions within the Agency, with special details, training, and enforcement activity.

During FY2024, the Capitol Patrol Unit conducted 13,973 building checks within the complex, managed 37 special events, 70 protests/rallies, responded to 88 building alarms, and completed 42 Incident/Offense reports. The unit also made 19 felony arrests, served eight warrants, issued 2,781 traffic citations/warnings, investigated 281 vehicle crashes, conducted 13 Commercial Vehicle Inspections, and made two DUI arrests.

Personnel Unit (Human Resources)

The Personnel Unit manages and coordinates the Agency’s human resources operations for approximately 1,400 employees. Primary areas of responsibility include strategic planning; employee recruitment, selection, onboarding, and retention; training; policy and procedure interpretation, development, and implementation; EEO/legal compliance; performance

appraisal and progressive discipline guidance and oversight; payroll and benefits; and job description preparation and maintenance.

In addition, the Personnel Unit provides direction regarding workers' compensation, the Employee Assistance Program, donated/military leave authorization, Family and Medical Leave Act, Americans with Disabilities Act compliance, and COVID-19 leave and benefits. During FY2024, the Personnel Unit handled 202 appointments (75 were law enforcement officers), 172 promotion raises, 45 retirements (20 were law enforcement officers), 134 resignations (26 were law enforcement officers), 400 probation raises, and approximately 1,200 annual raises.

Legal Division

Attorneys in the Legal Division advise and represent the Secretary and Agency personnel in various legal matters including federal, state, and administrative litigation. The division also works closely with state, county, and municipal agencies and serves the public by timely responding to hundreds of subpoenas and open records requests each year. The division consists of five attorneys and four support staff members.

During FY2024, Division attorneys zealously represented Agency personnel in litigation matters, advised the Secretary and Agency leadership; helped develop, implement, and enforce Agency policies; negotiated and executed contracts and interagency agreements; litigated Board of Adjustment claims and driver license appeals; assisted with employment law and procurement-related matters; taught at the Agency's Training Center; presented at conferences on behalf of ALEA; and generally helped the Agency achieve its mission.

ALEA Administrative Bureau

The Administrative Bureau is composed of professional and administrative staff members who are responsible for providing essential services in the following units: Information Technology (IT), General Services, Fleet Services Unit, Radio Engineering, Training, Aviation as well as Recruiting and Public Affairs.

Information Technology Unit (IT)

The Information Technology (IT) Unit is responsible for operating, maintaining, and securing a CJIS, AAMVA, and SSA compliant network, while maintaining and operating 100+ applications, 200+ systems, 3,000+ devices, and all electronic data specific to the ALEA

missions. This team provides IT services and support to over 1,300+ ALEA personnel, 45,000+ law enforcement and public safety professionals, 4.5+ million driver and identification credential records, and 50+ state and federal partners who rely on ALEA's systems and data daily. In addition, the ALEA Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Office and the State Geographic Information Office (GIO) are located within the IT unit. In FY2024, the IT Unit closed 27,172 service support requests for local, state, and federal partners across 362 locations in Alabama. ALEA IT completed two projects with statewide impacts. ADAPT Identity Modernization implemented Multi-factor Authentication (MFA) and other critical security measures to AlaCOP and applications using ADAPT authentication, impacting over 18,000 users. ALEA implemented an electronic victim notification system, currently comprised of over 7,000 registered users and over 400,000 offender records.

General Services Unit

The mission of the General Services Unit is to provide professional services for ALEA personnel and facilities, maintain necessary material, equipment and coordinate all ALEA owned building repairs and sustentation. The General Services Unit provides support in areas such as facility management, inventory control, mail services and supply acquisition and distribution.

Facilities and Professional Services provide a centralized location to coordinate all ALEA owned building repairs for 25 locations and 44 buildings including maintenance, electrical, plumbing, and HVAC. Other services provided by this unit include maintenance and repair of elevators, boat lifts, general maintenance, and construction services. Facilities and Professional Services also work with the state Office of Risk Management and insurance companies to provide coverage for ALEA buildings/contents, vehicles and vessels, as well as filing claims. This unit also provides professional services for ALEA personnel and facilities such as alarm monitoring, garbage pickup, lawn care, janitorial, and pest control. The unit has been tasked with overseeing the construction of a new facility being designed to replace the current Montgomery Driver License Office that was built in 1953. Services assisted in relocating six field offices around the state in FY2024 to better facilities. Professional Services in conjunction with the Legal Department, lease 31 facilities around the state for the different ALEA divisions.

Inventory Control is responsible for identifying, tracking, and disposing of state property

following statutory requirements outlined in the State Property Manual. Employees use various computer applications (ALEANet Equipment Tracking and Recoup by Asset Works) to actively track and account for approximately 27,169 items with an original cost of approximately \$115 million. Employees coordinate with the State Auditor's Office and the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs' (ADECA) Surplus Property Division to adhere to statutory inventory control requirements. During FY2024, the unit added 1,414 items with an original cost of approximately \$7 million to the inventory database, removed 1,585 items with an original cost of over \$6 million using approved dispersement methods and completed approximately 5,838 internal equipment transfers. The proprietary inventory control application known as Equipment Tracking, has improved the tracking of assets and supply items throughout the Agency.

Mailroom staff process over 4,500 pieces of incoming/outgoing mail each week and facilitate the shipping/receiving of packages for ALEA. Mailroom staff received 396 packages and shipped out over 600 packages during FY2024. The staff also handles shred service and pickup for ALEA Headquarters as well as maintaining and tracking four loaner vehicles used by headquarters' staff for travel.

Supply coordinates with inter/intra-agency entities to procure, receive, and maintain adequate inventory levels and to process supply requests from business units to sustain operations. The Supply Unit is responsible for equipping sworn personnel and civilian staff with equipment, supplies, and uniforms needed for day-to-day work requirements. The Supply Unit has an online application for ordering supplies. This provides users with an easier way of seeing what supplies are stocked and to place their orders. The Supply Unit processed over 2,500 supply requests during FY24 and submitted over 900 requisitions to procure supplies to fill orders.

The Supply Unit is also tasked with managing ALEA's fleet of leased network printers. The unit has approximately 130 network printers around the state for all of ALEA's divisions. Supply is responsible for keeping up with the locations of all the machines, coordinating the machines when they expire, and submitting requisitions for new leased machines.

The Supply Unit also works with the Inventory Unit to manage the Ballistic Vest Program for sworn officers. These vests have expiration dates and must be swapped out for new ones before

they expire. In FY2024 the unit issued 264 ballistic vests.

Fleet Services Unit

The Fleet Services Unit is responsible for enhancing ALEA's ability to fulfill mission-critical functions by researching, procuring, issuing, maintaining, and selling all vehicles, vessels, associated systems, equipment, and peripherals. Fleet staff members function as field service representatives who provide maintenance guidance and services to employees and vendors and ensure safe and reliable transportation for ALEA personnel. The unit currently manages approximately 1,600 pieces of inventory equipment (1,318 vehicles).

During FY2024, Fleet Services purchased 105 new vehicles, equipped new employees with vehicles, auction, negotiated sales and insurance settlements netting \$650,000; deployed the Mobile Command units 32 days to various locations; completed 141 wrecker trips covering 67 counties and 28,500 miles to recover seized vehicles or pick up vehicles requiring repair.

ALEA Training Center (ATC)

The ATC is a regional state law enforcement training academy accredited by the Alabama Peace Officers' Standards and Training Commission (APOSTC) and is located on the campus of the Wallace Community College in Selma.

The ATC is responsible for providing basic training to student officers from various municipal, county and state law enforcement agencies who attend the annual APOSTC basic police academy classes; basic training for ALEA Trooper Trainees in the ALEA Trooper Trainee academy classes; and continuing education training for arresting officers from various law enforcement agencies, including ALEA. ATC staff members also supervise and manage the ALEA Field Training and Evaluation Program as well as conduct annual certification trainings, recertification trainings, and classes to meet the training needs and requirements in the seven ALEA troops. ATC personnel also manage the Alabama Impaired Driving Enforcement Training Program, which administers impaired driving related training that is offered to all sworn law enforcement in Alabama through a grant from NHTSA and ADECA. The ATC is also responsible for all special-services training for ALERRT, Run/Hide/Fight, and the Alabama Sentry Program, as well as for documenting, recording, and entering all annual continuing education units into the APOSTC system and ALEA Personnel Training Record

File for all ALEA arresting officers. The ATC recently assumed the responsibility of supervising the ALEA Communications Training Officers.

Information for Annual Report (OCTOBER 2023-SEPTEMBER 2024):

1. Total number of Basic Police classes completed with total number of students graduated.
2. Number of Basic Police classes started but not yet graduated with number of students.
3. Total number of Trooper classes completed with total number of students graduated.
4. Number of Trooper classes started but not yet graduated with number of students.
5. List other training/classes conducted at the ATC with the number of students in each class.

1. Basic Police Classes:

APA 178 September 11, 2023 – December 14, 2023, - 31

APA 179 January 22, 2024 – April 25, 2024, - 18

APA 180 May 20, 2024 – August 22, 2024, - 33

2. APA 181 September 9, 2024 – December 12, 2024, - 24

3. Trooper Classes (Accelerated):

2024-A April 1 –June 7, 2024, 25

4. 2024-B September 15 –November 21, 2024, 21

5. Other training / classes:

ADECA Byrne State Plan Town Hall – 8

Attorney General’s Office Meeting – 8

ALEA Trooper Trainee Applicant PAFA – 24

ALEA VOIP Phone Transition Upgrade Meeting – 11

Bridge Crossing (Jubilee Meeting) – 51

Candidate P.T. Test’s – 24

Commercial Driver License Examiner – 11

Commercial Driver License (Forestry) – 11

Commercial Driver License – 49

CVE NAS Part A & B – 39

COPS Drug Identification & Recognition – 94

District Attorney's Office (D.A. Turner) – 33

DMT Recertification – 68

DRE – 5

Driver's License – 221

Driving (Remedial) – 8

Farozone 3-D Software – 18

Field Training Officer Certification Course – 31

Forestry – 9

Homeland Security Grant Writing Training – 17

Implicit Bias – 34

Motor's In- Service – 9

Nighthawk SWAT School (Advanced) – 8

Nighthawk SWAT School – 4

P.T. Specialist (Re-Certification) – 34

PCO Basic Police Communications – 26

PCO In-Service – 8

Radar – 10

Realistic De-Escalation – 26

SBI – 26

SFST Basic Course – 92

SFST Instructor Course – 21

Taser, O.C., Defensive Tactics, Firearms – 21

Taser, First Aid, C.P.R., Firearms – 9

Taser Re-Certification – 1

Traffic Homicide Investigation – 31

U.S. Marshall Training – 15

U.S. Marshall Training (Special Detail) – 6

Other Agencies utilizing the ATC: ADECA, Attorney General's Office, AL Forestry Commission, Selma Fire Department, Selma Police Department & U.S. Marshalls

Radio Engineering Unit

The Radio Engineering Unit is responsible for configuring, installing, maintaining, and repairing ALEA's statewide emergency communications infrastructure and associated equipment and peripherals. Employees provide 24/7 support for the Agency's Communications Centers, in-car, and handheld radio systems infrastructure that is licensed by the FCC to provide public safety communications for ALEA personnel.

In coordination with the ALEA Fleet Management Unit, Radio Engineering staff members provide additional services, including installing and removing radio and computer system peripherals (e.g., radios, radar, computer docking stations, printers, card readers, inverters, gun locks, and cameras); troubleshooting and repairing radio communication issues, programming radios for internal and external business units; supporting law enforcement officials during special/emergency operations; serving as a strategic partner with emergency response entities to ensure readiness for emergency situations; and providing expert guidance and counsel to the Commissioner of the Alabama First Responder Wireless Commission. Radio Engineering completed 1,616 work orders and supported eight special details during FY2024.

Aviation Unit

The Aviation Unit operates a mixed fleet of airplanes and helicopters, with eight Pilots, four Tactical Flight Officers (Forward Looking Infrared operators, rescue operators, and pilot trainees), four in-house maintenance staff members and an Administrative Assistant. In addition to the Agency staffing, there are two Tactical Flight Officers employed with other law enforcement agencies to reduce costs and foster interagency cooperation in law enforcement. Aviation's goal is to aid law enforcement officers on the ground with an air asset that serves as a force multiplier.

The aircraft are used to conduct a variety of missions ranging from searches for missing persons, including children, adults, Alzheimer's patients and fleeing felons, to natural disasters and personnel rescues. Flights in the helicopter fleet make up approximately 69 percent of the total flights of the unit. Aviation currently operates eight Bell OH-58 helicopters, five of which have Forward Looking Infrared (FLIR), daylight cameras, searchlights and other equipment specially designed to optimize searches in day and night conditions. The helicopter fleet also includes a Bell UH-1H with a rescue hoist, a Bell 407, and a Bell 206L-1. These aircraft are an

integral part of the rescue program, tactical operations, and storm/disaster response. Its fixed-wing fleet is composed of two twin-engine aircraft used for prisoner transport and executive transport. Aviation also operates three single engine aircraft primarily used for in-state transport and surveillance missions.

Operating from three bases (Montgomery, Cullman, and Fairhope) in FY2024, the Aviation Unit received 1,160 requests for service with 1,020 responses for a total of 1,859 hours of flight time.

The following is a general breakdown of the missions by number of flights:

Searches/missing persons and manhunts – 167

Investigative flights –139

Training – 354

Executive transport – 74

Storm, fire suppression, wildfire search, and disaster – 29

Other (maintenance, ferry, static display, etc.) – 182

Special details – 47

Beach rescue swimmer – 28

The Aviation Unit was not awarded any Homeland Security or Port Security grants for FY2024 and continues to operate solely within the Agency's operating budget. In previous years, the unit has received grants for some exceptional equipment still in operation today. It has maintained low operating costs for many years for a variety of reasons: most of the aircraft utilized are military surplus aircraft received through the 1033 Program at no cost to the taxpayers of Alabama. Through this program, Aviation is also able to acquire many parts when available. The unit also has an exceptional maintenance staff to perform most of the maintenance and equipment installations in-house, drastically reducing the cost of operation.

The Aviation Unit participates in Project Lifesaver International, a program that uses bracelets and transmitters to help search for individuals with Alzheimer's and other cognitive disorders that may lead to wandering. With multiple donors, bracelets are provided at no charge to

individuals in need.

The unit spearheaded the project many years ago, taking it to all 67 counties in the state, to reduce the number of searches and increase the chance of finding these individuals. Aviation's current goal with regard to Project Lifesaver is to continue to train and equip the local Sheriffs' Offices to carry on the program in their home counties.

External Affairs Division

The External Affairs Division is responsible for Agency marketing and branding and for providing information and records to the public, media outlets, other law enforcement agencies, constituents, ALEA personnel, and others concerning ALEA operations and all aspects of law enforcement and public safety.

Recruiting/Public Affairs Officers

The division includes ALEA Troopers that serve as Public Affairs Officers (PAO), each of whom is assigned to one of the Agency's seven Troops. Along with assisting the division with local media relations, each PAO also serves as an ALEA Recruiting Coordinator and works closely with individuals who apply to become ALEA Troopers and Special Agents. During FY2024, the External Affairs Division and its PAOs made 17,457 contacts with media outlets via on-camera interviews, phone and/or e-mail, news releases on various topics, and requests for information. Both sworn and civilian members of the External Affairs Division assist with statewide safety campaigns and coordinate all posts for ALEA's social media accounts (Facebook, Nextdoor, Instagram, and Twitter).

Photo Services Unit

The Photo Services Unit is part of the External Affairs Division and is responsible for archiving photographs and videos; providing photography and videography services at ALEA functions, including receptions, graduation ceremonies, funerals of sworn personnel (and some civilians), and news conferences; photographing portraits of Agency staff members, as well as for other state agencies; assisting the Governor's Office and other state agencies upon request; and equipping and training ALEA personnel with camera kits and coordinating repairs.

During FY2024, the unit consisted of one full-time manager and one full-time photographer. A retired state employee served as an assistant to the photographer during the first half of the fiscal year.

Photo Services personnel processed 18,456 proof sheets and prints and received/archived 8,326 CDs of photographs from ALEA's sworn personnel (at least 85 percent of which were photos taken at traffic crash scenes). The unit also generated \$89,521 in revenue from photo sales to law firms, insurance agencies, and other organizations.

ALEA Governmental Affairs Unit

The Governmental Affairs Unit actively engages with legislators and various entities to assist constituents, in addition to collaborating with ALEA units and divisions to rectify issues and address the unique challenges faced by those this Agency serves. This hands-on involvement reflects ALEA's dedication to being a resource for citizens, always mindful of the collective impact that these collaborative efforts can have on improving the lives of constituents.

In FY2024, the Agency's Governmental Affairs Unit contributed to positive legislative changes that had a direct impact on ALEA's dedicated workforce and enhanced the safety of Alabama citizens.

The Roadway Responders Act (*Act No. 2024-388*) passed both chambers unanimously. This legislation protects law enforcement officers and other first responders by clarifying that they retain their authority while standing in the roadway.

The statutes governing the **Commercial Driver License and Motor Carrier Safety Unit** were updated through *Act No. 2024-245* to align with current federal regulations. These updates eliminate confusion for commercial drivers and operators and ensure Alabama's compliance with federal standards. This effort also passed both chambers unanimously.

ALEA staff also supported legislative efforts to enhance waterway safety by establishing proximity laws for certain Alabama bodies of water and requiring nonresidents without a vessel license to complete a boater safety certification.

Department of Public Safety

The Department of Public Safety (DPS) is composed of three divisions: Highway Patrol, Marine Patrol and Driver License. DPS's primary functions are to enforce the law on roadways and waterways, along with administering the Alabama driver license and ensuring its integrity.

Highway Patrol Division

The Highway Patrol Division is the largest DPS division and is composed of seven Troops, 17 Highway Patrol posts, and eight Communications Centers across the state. The division has specialized units within its ranks, including Motor Carrier Safety, Traffic Homicide Investigation, K-9 Officers, Honor Guard, and Motorcycle Enforcement.

Highway Patrol's primary goal is to preserve the safety of those who travel Alabama's roadways. ALEA Troopers seek to gain motorists' voluntary compliance with and obedience of traffic laws through visual presence on roadways and by aggressively enforcing primary offenses that cause crashes, injuries, and death.

In FY2024, ALEA Troopers worked 32,308 crashes that resulted in 7,357 injuries and 490 fatalities. ALEA Troopers issued 283,509 citations and 143,662 warnings to gain compliance with traffic laws and reduce crashes, specifically those that could result injury or death.

Top 10 Types of Citations/Violations:

Speeding	155,765
No seat belt	36,781
Tag violations	15,305
Driving suspended/revoked	15,726
No insurance	15,548
No driver license	13,579
Weight violations	8,347
Improper lights	3,570
Child restraint	3,157

DUI 2,399

Top 10 Primary Contributing Circumstances for Trooper-investigated Crashes (accounting for 42 percent of all crashes statewide):

Unseen object/person/vehicle	2,436
Improper lane change/usage	1,706
Following too close	1,699
Over speed limit	1,525
Driving too fast for conditions	1,261
Failed to yield right-of-way from stop sign	1,224
Ran off road	1,214
Fatigue/asleep	895
Misjudge stopping distance	862
Swerve to avoid vehicle	804

During FY2024, the Highway Patrol Division used 25 retired state employees to complete many Highway Patrol tasks, thus reducing the burden on ALEA Troopers of working such enforcement as Superload escorts and wrecker inspections. This allowed Troopers and supervisors to focus their attention on reducing crashes and working to save lives.

To coordinate assets and focus on reducing traffic crashes (specifically fatalities), targeting impaired and aggressive drivers, and creating a safe, crime-free environment, the Highway Patrol Division partnered with the Alabama Department of Transportation and the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs to receive grants for enforcement and equipment.

This funding allows Troopers to work before and after shifts and on off days to further create visual presence, as well as to aggressively enforce traffic laws, to gain voluntary compliance with and obedience to traffic laws.

Highway Patrol K-9 Officers

Highway Patrol deployed and used five Highway Patrol K-9 Officers during FY2024, thereby assisting Highway Patrol, U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, ALEA State Bureau of

Investigation, U.S. Postal Inspections, Alabama Department of Corrections, Alabama Bureau of Pardons and Paroles, and other municipal and county law enforcement agencies. The K-9 Unit retired one member, Pici, due to age and health-related issues

ALEA Honor Guard

The Honor Guard is a group of dedicated officers who volunteer their time to honor the lives of our fallen, often missing family events and traveling great distances to assist. The Honor Guard is composed of approximately 22 members statewide. During FY2024, the ALEA Honor Guard presented ceremonial honors at 32 memorial services, including funerals for retired ALEA arresting officers and outside agency line-of-duty deaths. They also participated in several memorials and presentations of colors ceremonies at various locations across the state.

Traffic Homicide Investigation Unit (THI)

The Traffic Homicide Investigation (THI) Unit investigates traffic crashes in Alabama that warrant criminal charges, including reckless murder, manslaughter, criminally negligent homicide, assault, felony DUI, and felony leaving the scene of an accident. THI personnel are located at each of the seven ALEA posts and are responsible for the complete investigation, from mapping the initial crime/crash scene to final court disposition. They receive intensive, detailed training, including Commercial Vehicle Crash Investigation, Pedestrian/Bicycle Crash Investigation, Crash Data Retrieval Systems, and Traffic Reconstruction, as well as how to use FARO Drawing Software with Agency drones.

During FY2024, the THI Unit trained 15 ALEA Troopers and 17 outside agency officers as Traffic Homicide Investigators and worked 240 case files. All THI Unit Officers are trained in the use of FARO drawing software to utilize the information produced by the ALEA State Bureau of Investigation Drone program.

In addition, ALEA Troopers who investigate Traffic Homicide cases were able to attend the following courses:

- 90 ALEA Troopers completed a 2-day CDR data analysis course at the ACT in Selma.
- 8 ALEA Troopers attended the South Carolina Reconstructionist Specialist (SCARS)

Conference in Charleston, South Carolina.

- 3 ALEA Troopers completed the Georgia State Patrol Traffic Accident Reconstructionist course in Rome, Georgia.
- 2 ALEA Troopers attended a 3-day State Crash Reconstructionist Managers annual meeting in Savannah, Georgia.

Motor Carrier Safety Unit (MCSU)

The Motor Carrier Safety Unit works with the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) to reduce traffic crashes, injuries, and fatalities involving commercial motor vehicles and passenger coaches.

During FY2024, the Motor Carrier Safety Unit employed 68 sworn officers, two civilians, and two retired state employees/law enforcement officers.

In addition, the unit used 65 Commercial Vehicle Enforcement (CVE) Troopers, as well as 14 City Officer Program Officers (COPs) from seven different law enforcement agencies to help reduce Commercial Motor Vehicle-related crashes across the state.

CVE-certified ALEA Troopers, cited 79,554 violations placing 3,041 drivers and 7,166 vehicles out-of-service.

FY2024 Motor Carrier Safety Unit Activity:

Commercial Motor Vehicles (CMV) Inspected	47,066
Hazardous-Materials Vehicles Inspected	2,469
Buss/Passenger Vehicles Inspected	505
CMVs Weighed by Fixed Scales	169,416
CMVs Weighed by Portable Scales	85,833
CMVs Weighed by Weight in Motion	590,842
New Entrant Safety Audits	742
Compliance Reviews	0
CMV Moving Violations	5,190

Motor Enforcement Unit

The Highway Patrol Division employed nine Motor Enforcement Officers who, in addition to other duties, worked more than 230 days on their motorcycles conducting aggressive enforcement, as well as providing escort assistance at the University of Alabama and Auburn University home football games, Talladega Superspeedway races, Mardi Gras, Trail of Tears, and funerals for fallen officers and family members. Unit officers assisted at many community and public relations events, including the Toys for Tots escort, memorial rides requesting escorts, and numerous school visits for special safety events.

Communications Unit

As of Oct. 1, 2023 (FY2024), the Communications Unit is composed of 53 Police Communications Officers (PCO), including one Communications Director, six Communications Supervisors (PCO III) and 46 Communications Officers (PCO I and II). ALEA Communications Centers are staffed 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, in Decatur, Dothan, Jacksonville, Mobile, Montgomery, Sheffield, Tuscaloosa, Birmingham and Evergreen.

The Montgomery Communications Center serves multiple critical functions. Notably, it dispatches Capitol Patrol Troopers and stands as the primary response point for Threat-to-Life calls originating from the FBI National Threat Operations Center. Additionally, it handles inquiries from the Missing Person hotline and oversees the alarm board for state buildings, ensuring safety and prompt response to any potential threats. PCOs answer calls from the public and other agencies and dispatch the appropriate first responders as required to a wide variety of emergency situations, including traffic crashes, reports of reckless drivers, vehicle pursuits, calls from motorists who require assistance, roadway blockages, and *HP calls (calls from anywhere in the state via cell phones).

PCOs dispatch ALEA personnel to assist other law enforcement agencies upon request and during coordinated multi-agency responses, as well. They also serve as the first point of contact for citizens who need ALEA's services and the aiding factor for the safety and welfare of responding officers.

Marine Patrol Division

ALEA's Marine Patrol Division provides primary oversight of the State of Alabama's United States Coast Guard-approved Recreational Boating Safety Program. As part of that oversight, the Marine Patrol Division is responsible for meeting the requirements of the RBS Program's core components:

- An approved vessel registration and vessel identification numbering system.
- Marine safety law enforcement program.
- An adequate boating safety education program.
- Marine accident casualty reporting system.
- An Aids to Navigation (ATON) program on state waters.
- Entry into a Memorandum of Agreement with the United States Coast Guard detailing expectations and compliance with these requirements in order to facilitate law enforcement, boating accident investigation, search and rescue and educational efforts on Alabama's waters that are under concurrent jurisdiction with the United States Coast Guard.

With the RBS Program in mind, the division's mission is to enhance safety and promote responsible use of resources on Alabama's waterways through law enforcement, educational activities, and community-oriented initiatives.

The division serves the boating public in Alabama through operation of three law enforcement districts that encompass all of Alabama's waterways (including small rivers, lakes and streams) that align in coverage with the natural, geographical layout of Alabama's river systems and coastal waters. Alabama has more than 1,700 square miles of navigable waters and over 1-million acres of public waters available for recreational use.

The division's Northern District covers 27 counties with major waterways along the Tennessee and Coosa Rivers, and numerous smaller rivers and lakes, including Lake Guntersville, Logan Martin Lake, Smith Lake and Weiss Lake.

The division's Central District covers 32 counties in the central portion of the state with major waterways along the Alabama, Black Warrior, Coosa, Tallapoosa and Tombigbee rivers, as well as numerous smaller rivers and lakes including Lake Martin, Lake Jordan, Mitchell Lake, and Lake Tuscaloosa.

The Southern District covers eight counties in southwest Alabama with the Alabama, Mobile and Tombigbee Rivers, all coastal waters including the Gulf of Mexico and Mobile Bay, and numerous smaller rivers and lakes.

The division has a sworn strength of 51 troopers with eight civilian employees.

In FY2024, the division investigated 96 boating incidents on Alabama waterways that resulted in nine deaths, 47 injuries and more than \$1.1-million dollars in property damage. FY2024 marked a 20-year low for the number of fatalities that occurred on state waters.

The following were the top contributing factors for boating incidents in FY2024:

- Improper Lookout
- Operator Inattention
- Operator Inexperience
- Reckless/Careless Operation
- Operating Too Close to Another Vessel or Person in the Water
- Alcohol Impairment

In FY2024, ALEA Marine Patrol Troopers made 18,916 contacts with the members of the public and conducted 5,672 vessel inspections. Troopers issued 7,166 citations and 9,017 warnings for water safety and highway safety violations. Marine Patrol Troopers also reported 564 assists to boaters and 980 assists to motorists for the period.

The top Water Safety Violations for the Year were:

	<u>Citations</u>	<u>Warnings</u>
Boating Under the Influence	68	N/A
Insufficient Personal Flotation Devices	224	205
Vessel Registration Violations	305	1,999
Operating a Vessel Without a License	70	223
Careless/Reckless Operation of a Vessel	205	310
Violation of Restrictive Signs or Buoys	211	450
Chile Younger Than 8 Not Wearing PFD	94	24

The division's Vessel Registration Unit processed 281,547 vessel registration transactions to include new registrations, renewals, transfer, duplicate and replacement registrations. In FY2024, there were 252,648 vessels registered in the State of Alabama. FY2024 also saw the number of licensed vessel operators exceed 800,000.

The division's Troopers offered 65 Boat Alabama boating safety courses throughout the state in FY2024, with 546 certificates of completion being issued, which enabled those boaters to meet the statutory requirements to obtain a vessel operator certification, also called a boater's license.

The division also continued its annual participation in Operation Dry Water from July 4, through July 6, 2024. Operation Dry Water is a national initiative sponsored by the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) designed to raise awareness about the dangers of operating a vessel under the influence of alcohol or drugs. More than 450 agencies participated in the campaign nationwide, which featured on-water saturation patrols, directed details, safety checkpoints and a national media campaign that utilized all major social media platforms. Nationally, 584 arrests were made for BUI, with 12 of those arrests being made on Alabama waters.

Marine Patrol Troopers offered more than Boat Alabama boating safety courses at numerous locations throughout Alabama, as it also made full use of social media and traditional media outlets through ALEA's External Affairs Division to convey safe-boating messages to the public, focusing on increased awareness during Memorial Day, Independence Day and Labor Day holiday periods.

The division issued 139 permits for marine events on Alabama's public waters in FY2024. Troopers directly patrolled many of these events, which included on-water fireworks displays, boat parades, boat races and on-water musical events.

Troopers also conducted 153 vessel hull inspections, a service that provides assistance to boaters with older vessels or builders of homemade vessels secure the correct Hull Identification Number for their vessel for required registration purposes.

The division has also continued its work with the Gulf of Mexico Alliance to identify and remove large marine debris from the waters of Mobile and Baldwin counties through a grant awarded through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Marine Debris Removal Grant Program. The division identified 38 such vessels for removal utilizing award funds.

Three of the division's supervisors attended and completed the NASBLA Leadership Academy at their Headquarters in Lexington, Kentucky. Six sworn supervisors and two civilian supervisors attended the NASBLA Annual Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana. Both of these programs offered by NASBLA are integral to the successful operation of the State's RBS Program.

Driver License Division

The Driver License Division is responsible for testing and maintaining records on Alabama's licensed drivers, including crash reports, traffic arrest forms, driver license applications, and traffic-violation convictions. In addition to administering knowledge and road-skills examinations to commercial and non-commercial drivers, the division is responsible for applying penalties that may result in a driver license being revoked or suspended.

Accomplishments for FY2024:

- Implemented new interfaces in LEADS (Law Enforcement Agency Driver System)
- Federal Mandates implemented:
 - Exclusive Electronic Exchange (EEE). EEE helps state driver history records such as convictions, withdrawals, and disqualifications related to commercial drivers.
 - FMCSA Drug and Alcohol Clearinghouse direct connect implemented ensuring CDL/CLP holders with DACH violations do not operate a CMV until they are cleared to return to duty.
- Legislation Implemented
 - Alabama Hands-Free Law
 - 32-5A-350.1
 - Following the sunset of pre-trial diversion ignition interlock requirement, interlock ordered as a condition of bond was introduced into statute.
- State Department of Education PowerSchool automation implemented with LEADS for knowledge test scores to post electronically.
- Partnership with the Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services to allow learner license

knowledge testing for their clients. System development is currently underway.

- DL partnered with ADOC to assist with reentry services. Development and testing have been completed ahead of the installation of a Driver License Workstation at Elmore Correctional Facility.
- Implemented virtual backdrop functionality in LEADS.
- Emergency contacts are now required for applicants between the ages of 12 to 18.
- Two CDL Examiner Certification Courses conducted.
- DL conducted 13 Community Outreach events
 - Alabama Department of Youth Services (DYS) Partnership- four events held to issue credentials to incarcerated youths at DYS facilities
 - Participated in multiple Homeless Connect events, taking identification services to homeless persons in Alabama
 - Housing First Annual Homeless Connect
 - Love, Inc., of Tuscaloosa
 - Alabama Department of Human Resources. Three events were held to issue IDs to children in the care and custody of DHR.
 - Macon County Fest
 - Federal Correctional Institution in Aliceville
 - STAR ID events were held ahead of the May 7, 2025, deadline for REAL ID. More events to come in FY2025.
 - Montgomery County Sheriff's Office (2) issued 36 Star ID's
 - Legislative ID Day at the State House
- 18 STAR IDs and 16 Legislative IDs were issued

In FY2024, ALEA's Driver License Division also conducted 2,002 in-office vessel knowledge exams, 19,993 CDL skills exams, 66,990 CDL knowledge exams, 95,540 driver license skills exams, 168,401 driver license knowledge exams, disqualified 777 CDLs, suspended 193,125 driver licenses, revoked 40,748 driver licenses, and canceled 11,821 driver licenses.

Safety Responsibility Unit

The Driver License Division's Safety Responsibility Unit implements state law by requiring 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/her negligence.

The unit received and/or processed the following forms and other activity:

SR-31 Accident Report filing	1,879
SR-22 Mandatory Liability Insurance	16,474
SR-26 Cancellation of Insurance	1,715
Status reports	1,763
Civil Court Judgments filed	1,009
Security Deposits/Bonds	7
Releases	1,342
Telephone Calls	14,770
Emails	2,478
Faxes	600

Commercial Driver License/Medical Unit

The Commercial Driver License (CDL) Unit processes DOT medical cards for CDL/CLP holders. Unit personnel work closely with the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) to ensure compliance. Hazardous Material Endorsement certification is added daily with information received from the Department of Homeland Security. Unit personnel also work closely with other state agencies to resolve CDLIS pointer and data issues.

The Medical Unit mails medical forms and reviews them upon return to ensure drivers are medically safe to operate a motor vehicle. Notifications alerting the unit to drivers needing review are received from law enforcement, driver license offices, and state-certified physicians. Follow-up reports are sent in accordance with state law and department policies.

Phone calls received	65,238
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Letters mailed out	28,622
Walk-in customers served	47
Follow-ups worked	5,710
Paper Vision forms scanned	38,271
Haz-Mat background approvals entered	4,828
Faxes received	14,600
Emails received/answered	52,361
Returned documents received	418
Medical certifications processed	84,469
Self-certifications processed	2,787

Driver Improvement Unit and Review Officers

The Driver Improvement Unit and Review Officers work closely with Alabama drivers and courts to resolve issues with licensees' records. Unit personnel process verdicts and sanctions relating to the withdrawal of driving privileges, Ignition Interlock orders submitted by courts, student enrollment violations, and Hardship License applications. Credentials are issued via mail requests, and ALEA employee IDs are also processed by this unit.

Ignition interlock orders processed	2,387
Emails received and responded to	53,262
Record corrections	3,667
Hardship applications reviewed	10,320
Email resets	9,726
Records reviewed	38,402
Credentials issued via mail-in request	1,088
Student Enrollment Forms processed	1,950
Phone calls received	7,427

Driver Services Unit

The Driver Services Unit handles all inquiries from applicants who have not received their credentials, processes all renewals by mail for individuals temporarily out of state, and monitors email from the public.

Phone calls received	33,447
Temporary license reprint	2,075
Credentials returned by post office (not deliverable as addressed, etc.)	12,672
Credential reprint orders after no receipt of credential in mail	10,275
Documents scanned (received from individuals, law enforcement)	108,026
Address updates	721
Credentials emailed or picked up by individual	366

Reinstatement Unit

The Reinstatement Unit assists customers who either walk in, mail, or email requests to have their driving privileges reinstated and are prepared to pay the necessary fees.

Phone calls	28,641
Reinstatements	25,573
Credentials issued	4,732
MVRs sold	1,142
Address updates	975
Crash reports sold	307
Faxes and emails processed	10,109

Records Unit

The Records Unit works closely with insurance companies and the public to provide driver license records, and process citations received from both Alabama and out-of-state courts.

Telephone calls answered	26,373
Court-requested driving abstracts processed	15,240
Crash reports via mail, walk-in service and from ALDOT	1,560
MVRs via walk-in service, mail, and email	375
Lifetime MVRs processed	310
In-state tickets processed	35,622
Out-of-state tickets processed	42,584
Tickets returned due to errors	889

Hearing Unit

The Hearing Unit processes requests for hearings from individuals whose licenses were suspended, processes various DUI correspondence for the state, and conducts hearings for suspended drivers. If a licensee receives notification of a pending withdrawal of driving privileges, the licensee or attorney may request a hearing online, by written request or in-person notification. Once the request is received and the hearing is granted, Hearing Unit personnel conduct hearings at locations throughout the state. The Hearing Officer completes the appropriate case, and the information is forwarded to the Hearing Review Board, at which time a final determination is made. Notification of the decision is mailed to the licensee and the attorney, if applicable.

Hearing Requests Received	4,242
Hearings Conducted	1,253
Hearings Denied	861
Hearings Discarded	179
AST-60s Received	5,929
AST-60s Rescinded	2,425

Mandatory Liability Insurance Unit (MLI)

The Mandatory Liability Insurance Unit works closely with the public on matters concerning the Alabama Mandatory Liability Insurance Law, which provides that no person shall operate, register, or maintain registration of a motor vehicle designed to be used on a public roadway without liability insurance coverage. The MLI Unit’s personnel respond to phone calls and emails from Alabama’s licensed drivers who have received letters of suspension or have questions concerning their coverage.

Telephone calls received	20,804
Initial MLI letters mailed out	12,714
MLI suspension letters mailed out	28,303
Fees collected	\$3,469,375.08

Breakdown of fees:

- Peace Officers Annuity and Benefit Fund \$205,198.92
- Motor Vehicle Replacement Fund \$1,161,628.47
- Highway Traffic Safety Fund \$2,102,547.69

Alabama Law Enforcement Agency Driver License System (LEADS) Help Desk

The LEADS Support Help Desk was created with the inception of the new LEADS modernized system in April 2022. This Unit supports all ALEA Driver License personnel and county partner users with LEADS work processes, financials, and hardware troubleshooting. The State Pointer Exchange System (SPEXS) was also implemented with LEADS, and the Help Desk is responsible for monitoring the S2S Support mail, processing Change State of Record (CSOR) and Possible Duplicate Pointer work items.

CSOR 5,259

Mark Unique	26,893
S2S support emails received	19,456
Track-it tickets opened	842
Phone calls answered	16,760

State Bureau of Investigation

The State Bureau of Investigation (SBI) functions as the investigative, non-uniform division of ALEA and is composed of the following divisions: Criminal Investigations, Criminal Justice Information Services, and the Alabama Fusion Center.

Criminal Investigation Division (CID)

The Criminal Investigation Division (CID) is responsible for conducting investigations and providing assistance to city, county, state, federal, and international law enforcement agencies including the following services: criminal investigations related to felony offenses; police use of force; misuse of criminal justice information; agriculture, forestry, and rural crime investigations; alcohol, narcotics, and tobacco enforcement/investigation; auto theft investigations; human trafficking; crime-scene processing; searches for missing persons and escaped inmates; polygraph examinations; technical surveillance; hostage negotiation; marijuana eradication; child and elder exploitation; in-custody death investigations; and special inquiries requested by outside agencies. This division is divided into separate working units: Special Operations Group (SOG), Vice Unit, Major Crimes, Digital Forensics and Special Victims Unit (SVU).

Special Operations Group (SOG)

The Special Operations Group (SOG) is responsible for planning, budgeting, and implementing current and new initiatives intended to keep SBI on the cutting edge of technology and providing the section's working groups, as well as local agencies, with investigative tools and options that might not be readily available at the local level. These initiatives include the Unmanned Aerial Unit (Drones), Crime Scene Digital Scanning, Marijuana Eradication, Polygraph Examination, Digital Forensics, Hazardous Device Unit (HDU), and Special Weapons and Tactics Team (SWAT). Except for SWAT and HDU, the

other services provided within SOG are considered an additional duty, meaning SBI Special Agents provide these services to other state and local agencies on a volunteer basis and without any additional compensation.

Hazardous Device Unit (HDU)

ALEA HDU's mission is to provide prompt and professional assistance in the prevention, detection, investigation, removal, and disposal of suspected hazardous devices, explosives, pyrotechnics, ammunition, ordnance, Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs), and Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMDs) throughout the state of Alabama. ALEA's HDU responds to all explosives-related calls for service to render explosives, IEDs, and WMDs safe by mitigating the threat while ensuring the protection of lives and property and investigating explosives-related crimes.

The HDU provides hazardous device sweeps of state property, along with dignitary protection sweeps, and assists other local agencies in their investigations, and in certain instances that require statewide resources, the HDU will become the lead investigating agency.

The HDU provides training around the state in conjunction with our federal law enforcement partners to state and local law enforcement.

During FY2024, ALEA HDU responded to 11 bomb threats, seven device disassembly/disposals, 87 Operational Security Events, 150 K-9 Sweeps and 27 suspicious packages, provided 36 training sessions to 2,712 students, and safely performed 30 explosive recoveries, investigated three post/blast explosions, and provided seven tactical assists and 32 technical assists.

Special Weapons and Tactics Team (SWAT)

The ALEA SWAT Team is a highly trained unit of individuals with specialized capabilities primarily responsible for serving high-risk search and arrest warrants; mitigating the removal of barricaded suspects, hostage rescue operations, dignitary protection and security details; and providing those services to agencies who do not have that capability.

During FY2024, ALEA SWAT responded to 185 calls for service. Those requests were a combination of high-risk narcotics search warrants, barricaded homicide suspects and hostage

situations, internet predators, dignitary protection, and surveillance missions, which were in support of SBI units, as well as local and federal agencies.

Metro Area Crime Suppression (MACS) Unit

In a concerted effort to combat crime throughout the City of Montgomery and surrounding areas, ALEA, in collaboration with the Alabama Attorney General's Office, the Montgomery Police Department, the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosive (ATF), established the Metro Area Crime Suppression Unit, known as MACS on June 24, 2024.

SBI heads up the MACS Unit, which was created to confront and reduce violent crimes through sustained, proactive and coordinated investigations. MACS Officers seek to obtain prosecutions for violations such as organized crime, drug conspiracy, robbery, motor vehicle theft and firearms violations. MACS further expands cooperation and communication among federal, state and local law enforcement agencies through the existing infrastructure of the Alabama Drug Enforcement Task Force (ADETF).

In FY2024, the unit conducted approximately 1,900 traffic stops, served 504 outstanding arrest warrants, which range from Failure to Appear for traffic offenses to Capital Murder, arrested 200 individuals on various charges, recovered 33 stolen vehicles, seized 156 firearms and seized 100 machine gun conversion devices, commonly known as "switches." Additionally, MACS made 44 drug seizures.

Unmanned Aerial System Operations

Unmanned Aerial System Unit, also referred to as the Drone Unit, operates on a "24/7" basis. The Unit is currently composed of the Drone Unit Coordinator, a UAS operator manager, and 20 drone pilots located in all seven regions across the state, operating 30 drones. The unit responds to natural disasters, various crime scenes, traffic homicide crash scenes, hostage negotiations, and search- and- rescue missions.

Unit personnel also monitor search warrant executions, scan for explosive devices, respond to officer-involved shooting scenes, and assist ALEA's SWAT, Special Operations, and Aviation Units. During these missions, drones are used to map scenes for investigative purposes to be used in court.

During FY2024, the Drone Unit completed 675 reports totaling 1,870 flights. This included 449 training flights and 1,421 mission flights, totaling 576 hours of flight time. These missions included 180 mapped crash scenes, 129 wrecker-yard vehicle flights, nine search-and-rescue missions, 38 community-relations flights, 28 mapped crime scenes, 44 investigative flights, two natural- disaster flights, 11 searches for stolen property, 16 searches for suspects, and 62 surveillance details.

SBI uses FARO scanners for crime scenes, as well as traffic-homicide scene investigations. FARO scanners are non-contact measurement laser systems used to accurately capture 3D data. The scanner preserves physical evidence in a three-dimensional setting, which ensures scenes may be used as a reference for accurate data measurements. Users can perform animations, which allows a jury to be placed in the middle of a crime scene when wearing virtual reality goggles. SBI currently has seven Faro scanners statewide.

Polygraph Examiners

Polygraph Examiners conduct criminal and pre-employment polygraph examinations for ALEA and other state and local agencies. SBI maintains 14 licensed examiners throughout the state. During FY2024, SBI Special Agents completed 171 pre-employment polygraphs and 13 criminal polygraph examinations.

Marijuana Eradication

The Marijuana Eradication Unit is composed of five Special Agents and a Unit Coordinator. Its mission is to combat the growth of marijuana statewide. With the help of ALEA Aviation, the Unit travels throughout the state to locate and confiscate marijuana plants. During FY2024, the team located 35 grow sites, seized 442 plants, and made 17 arrests.

Digital Forensics

The Digital Forensics Unit performs forensic analysis on digital media including computers, storage media, optical media, drones, digital video recorders, GPS, video cameras, digital cameras, video collection, and image enhancements. The Unit performs analysis for criminal investigations, internal affairs, child exploitation, and child sex abuse cases.

Currently, SBI has two full-time Digital Forensic Technicians and one part-time Retired State Employee. The technicians are certified to testify in state and federal courts. Additionally, SBI has the only certified Forensic Composite Artist in Alabama. This service is available for

investigators across the state to enhance low-quality surveillance photos, create an image of suspects from a victim's memory, produce age-progression photographs of suspects or missing persons for identification and reconstruction of human remains. During FY2024, Digital Forensics received 233 new cases and completed 179 cases, which included clearing some of the backlog pending cases. The 179 closed cases included 835 devices containing 210,166GBs of data.

Vice Unit

The Vice Unit's mission is to perform investigations into the illicit alcohol and narcotics trade, as well as to investigate crimes against the agriculture industry by using specialized methods, equipment, and tactics that target specific criminal behavior. It is composed of the Alcohol and Rural Crimes Unit and the Narcotics Unit.

Alcohol and Rural Crime

The Alcohol and Rural Crime Unit (ARCU) is tasked with investigating and enforcing the laws and regulations governing the use and consumption of alcoholic beverages and tobacco products, along with investigating agricultural, timber, livestock, and farm-equipment theft within Alabama.

SBI Special Agents in ARCU partner with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) to enforce laws prohibiting minors from using and accessing tobacco. Additional legislative appropriations from the Children's First Trust Fund through the Alabama Department of Children's Affairs help to cover the costs of regulating and enforcing tobacco sales. Also, the unit meets requirements under federal SYNAR legislation to protect approximately \$40 million in federal funding for the Alabama Department of Mental Health (ADMH).

During FY2024, Special Agents completed 566 SYNAR checks, resulting in 33 cases (with a 5.8 percent non-compliance rate); and completed 5,655 FDA checks, resulting in 278 buys (with a 4.9 percent non-compliance rate). Special Agents conducted approximately 6,221 tobacco compliance checks (with a non-compliance rate of 5 percent). Special Agents conducted approximately 9,659 Alcohol compliance checks, resulting in 319 cases (with a non-compliance rate of 3.3 percent). Special Agents also conducted 358 livestock investigations, along with three cases of timber theft and 21 cases of theft of various farm equipment. In addition, Special Agents recovered 136 stolen vehicles.

Narcotics

The Narcotics Unit is responsible for combating the threat facing Alabama's citizens from the increased sale and distribution of such illegal narcotics as methamphetamine, heroin, crack, cocaine, marijuana, pharmaceuticals, and synthetic drugs.

SBI's Narcotics Unit heads up the Alabama Drug Enforcement Task Force (ADETF), with partners from local law enforcement agencies throughout the state. The ADETF allows local law enforcement to follow drug activity outside of their normal jurisdiction, providing Task Force Agents opportunities to disrupt and/or dismantle drug operations. The unit's supervisors serve as commanders for the regional task force.

The unit also operates and is the custodian for the state's Clandestine Laboratory Waste Container Program, through which Special Agents log and audit containers around the state where hazardous waste from methamphetamine labs are held until a hazardous waste company can retrieve the waste.

Also, SBI has been a prominent supporter of its federal partners during this fiscal year. SBI provided Special Agents to serve on the U.S. Marshals Fugitive Task Force, DEA's High-Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas Task Force, FBI Safe Streets Task Force, FBI Joint Terrorism Task Force, and the Homeland Security Investigation Task Force. SBI Special Agents assisted with 185 fugitive arrests during this period.

SBI Narcotics Seizures FY2024

Cocaine	164,700 grams	\$ 12,352,500.00 street value
Crack	160,000 grams	\$ 16,000,000.00 street value
Fentanyl	12,400 grams	\$ 1,860,000.00 street value
Heroin	6,900 grams	\$ 1,035,000.00 street value
Marijuana	349,300 grams	\$ 17,465,000.00 street value
Methamphetamine	100,600 grams	\$ 7,846,800.00 street value
Pills	6,300 pills	\$ 63,000.00 street value

Major Crimes Unit

The Major Crimes Unit is responsible for investigating such complex felonies and violent crimes as financial theft and murder, but the most complex investigations performed involve those of police use-of-force. Many agencies across the state rely upon Special Agents assigned to the Major Crimes Unit to conduct investigations of their officers, especially when officers use lethal force, including officer-involved shootings. These investigations typically attract a tremendous amount of attention from the media, the public, and the federal government, and they require Special Agents to be meticulous, thorough, and exhaustive in their investigation.

Major Crimes initiated a total of 737 investigations during FY2024. These instances ranged from officers responding to emergency calls for service (911 calls), executing arrest warrants, conducting traffic stops, processing crime scenes, interviewing witnesses/suspects, and handling other police/citizen encounters.

Major Crimes Activity FY2024

Criminal cases	268
Special inquiry investigations	85
Assists (local/federal agencies)	384
Use-of-force investigations	43
In-custody death investigations	24
Other investigations	37
Arrests	105

Latent Fingerprint Unit

The Latent Fingerprint Unit's certified latent print examiners are responsible for comparing fingerprints taken at crime scenes to the fingerprints in the state and federal repositories. In FY2024, the Latent Print Unit received 417 requests from local law enforcement agencies, processed 30 crime scenes and provided 501 positive identifications.

Examiners also provided court testimony 10 times and gave 17 lectures on latent prints and fingerprinting. ALEA employs five certified examiners. Certified examiners must also complete continuing education hours each year and take a re-certification exam from the

I.A.I. (International Association for Identification) every five years in order to keep their certification. There are approximately 1,100 certified examiners in the world.

Special Victims Unit

The Special Victims Unit's mission is to aggressively perform investigations to identify, apprehend, and prosecute perpetrators of technology-facilitated crimes against children, as well as human trafficking. Included in this unit is the Alabama Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force, which SBI manages. The task force consists of local law enforcement agencies across the state that investigate and prosecute these crimes.

Special Victims Unit Activity FY2024

Investigations opened	1,848
Search warrants executed	791
Cyber tips received	9921
Subpoenas served	5222
Arrests made	362

Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Division

SBI's Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Division has 53 employees responsible for providing and maintaining mission-critical criminal justice information systems and services for the state. CJIS provides guidance and training to local law enforcement agencies on the information systems provided by ALEA and governed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the Alabama Justice Information Commission (AJIC). The division oversees the state's Criminal History Repository, Fingerprint Repository, Sex Offender Registry, Incident Reporting Program, and Compliance Section.

Criminal History Repository

The Criminal History Repository receives disposition information from state and municipal courts. This section is responsible for processing expungement requests from circuit courts and pardons from the Alabama Bureau of Pardons and Paroles. The unit received 53,953 dispositions and processed 2,096 requests for expungements and 819 pardons in FY2024.

Automated Biometric Identification System (ABIS)

The Automated Biometric Identification System (ABIS) Unit receives fingerprint cards from law enforcement agencies taken at the time of arrest, applicant cards submitted for

background checks, and employment and sex offender registry cards. The unit then processes and digitally or manually submits the fingerprint cards. In FY2024, the ABIS system processed 360,413 fingerprint cards; 258,072 cards were captured because of an arrest, 310 were captured from sex offender registrations, and 102,031 were captured from applicant background checks requested by citizens.

Sex Offender Registry

The Sex Offender Registry Unit maintains state sex offender information submitted by local law enforcement agencies into the state-approved Offender Watch database system. The unit is also responsible for ensuring accuracy of entered records submitted into the FBI's National Criminal Information System (NCIC). The sex offender information submitted to NCIC is available nationally and subject to public notification on the State of Alabama's Sex Offender Registry. The Sex Offender Unit created 916 new sex offender records, updated 8,610 records, and entered or modified 7,780 records in NCIC in FY2024. At the end of this fiscal year, there were 11,374 active sex offenders registered in the system, 9,630 of whom required public notification. There were 185 offenders listed as absconded.

Incident Reporting/Uniform Crime Report (UCR) Program

The Incident Reporting Program Unit is Alabama's repository for crime reports submitted by local law enforcement agencies. The UCR Unit collects information on incident/offense reports, arrest reports, full-time law enforcement employees, asset forfeitures, bias crime reports, and law enforcement officers killed or assaulted in the line of duty. The collected data is published in Crime in Alabama, and the data is submitted to the FBI for Crime in the United States. The Incident Reporting Section trained 98 law enforcement personnel, instructing them to properly report UCR information. In addition, this unit is responsible for the National Instant Criminal History Check System (NICS) records for the state. NICS checks are conducted at the point of sale for firearm purchases. The unit entered 2,350 involuntary commitment records to the NICS indexes and completed 17,804 criminal record disposition requests for NICS.

Criminal Justice Compliance Unit

The Criminal Justice Compliance Unit ensures criminal and non-criminal agencies comply with rules created by the FBI and AJIC. Criminal Justice Compliance Specialists travel to local law enforcement agencies to provide training on information systems and to conduct audits to ensure compliance. The Unit conducted 169 agency visits and 214 audits in

FY2024. Section personnel also provided 90 training sessions to local law enforcement agency employees and responded to 1,537 calls for service.

Firearms Prohibited Person Database

The 2021 Legislature passed Act 2021-246 requiring ALEA to create a database containing persons forbidden for possessing a firearm. This Firearms Prohibited Person Database (FPPD) receives data from two systems, has the ability for all 67 sheriff's offices to enter records, and the results are displayed for law enforcement officials in ALEA's Law Enforcement Tactical System. At the end of FY2024, there were 192,551 persons accounting for 385,310 records in the FPPD. All persons in the FPPD are entered based on federal and state law prohibiting persons from owning a firearm.

Alabama Fusion Center

The Alabama Fusion Center (AFC) is the intelligence center for all Alabama law enforcement. The AFC is used as a force multiplier and is an invaluable tool as it researches, analyzes, drives collection, and disseminates mission-critical information between federal, state, and local government, private sector entities, and the intelligence community. It provides real-time research support for law enforcement throughout the state in various areas, including cybercrime, terrorism, narcotics, and human trafficking.

Additionally, the AFC coordinates and facilitates issuing AMBER, Emergency Missing Child, Blue, and Missing and Endangered Person alerts for the state.

Intelligence and Criminal Case Support

At a fundamental level, fusion centers most often produce situational awareness reports, officer safety bulletins, intelligence analysis, threat assessments, and Officer Safety and BOLO (Be-on-the-Lookout) products to assist law enforcement and private-sector security entities.

The AFC shares information with its law enforcement and private-sector partners through training sessions, intelligence bulletins, threat assessments, and pass-throughs (products from other intelligence entities the AFC sends on their behalf).

During FY2024, the AFC produced 33 intelligence bulletins, created four threat assessments, and provided and/or attended 46 training sessions.

AFC personnel also provide intelligence and analytical resources to AFC partners within the state. Alabama law enforcement agencies continually rely on AFC analysts, who may provide link analysis where criminal activity in one area may be linked to the same criminal activity in another area, or to assist on a dormant “cold case.”

AFC analysts have the technical capability to produce products to assist agencies lacking similar resources within their organizations. These analysts provide investigative services by fulfilling requests for information (RFI) or requests for assistance (RFA).

RFIs involve database searches and inquiries, or location and retrieval of records (often from other fusion centers). RFAs are more involved and include mapping/linking criminal intelligence or raw data, working on-site at a major-event command center, or responding to crime scenes to provide analytical support. The AFC fulfilled 1,592 RFIs/RFAs during FY2024.

Alabama Center for Missing and Exploited Children

The Alabama Center for Missing and Exploited Children (ACMEC) serves as a liaison between citizens, private organizations, and law enforcement officials regarding missing and exploited children and adults. It also serves as a central repository for information regarding missing persons and unidentified deceased persons, as an analytical resource for law enforcement, and as an information-sharing hub regarding missing person alerts.

In addition, ACMEC serves as the administering Agency of the Alabama AMBER Alert, Emergency Missing Child Alert, Blue Alert, and Missing and Endangered Person Alert systems. These systems are instrumental and irreplaceable mechanisms in recovering missing or abducted persons.

In FY2024, the AFC issued two AMBER Alerts, 34 Emergency Missing Child Alerts, 66 Missing and Endangered Person Alerts, and zero Blue Alerts. In addition, ACMEC had 81 website-only postings for missing children and 46 for missing adults.

Joint Terrorism Task Force

The AFC provides a direct link to the Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF) by way of a dedicated terrorism analyst and the AFC’s Suspicious Activity Reporting (SAR) program.

The AFC is responsible for vetting and routing SARs received from the public, private sector security, public safety, and other AFC partners. SARs are similar in nature to tips and leads, and many of those the AFC receives typically find their way back to ALEA's public safety partners in this form.

However, some SARs vetted by AFC analysts are determined to contain a nexus to terrorism and are then shared with the JTTF for follow-up and preliminary assessment.

In FY2024, the AFC identified four terrorism-related SARs and 1077 SARs the AFC provided to its public safety partners in the form of tips and leads.