



# **FY2018 Annual Report**

Alabama Law Enforcement Agency





KAY IVEY  
GOVERNOR

## ALABAMA LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY

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HAL TAYLOR  
SECRETARY

July 31, 2019

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

Dear Governor Ivey,

I am pleased to submit the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency's Annual Report for the Fiscal Year 2018, which represents the work of more than 1,300 dedicated employees.

We are committed to efficiency and effectiveness by maximizing our resources, streamlining our services, and enhancing our programs to promote public safety. As this state's police agency, ALEA protects the citizens of Alabama in myriad ways, from patrolling the state's roadways and waterways and issuing driver and boater licenses to assisting local, state and federal law enforcement agencies, and maintaining and protecting sensitive data.

It is an honor to continue to serve you, Governor Ivey, alongside the fine men and women who strive daily to fulfill the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency's mission.

Sincerely,

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

Hal Taylor  
Secretary of Law Enforcement

## Office of the Secretary



The Secretary of Law Enforcement statutorily appoints and oversees the Division Directors for the Department of Public Safety and the State Bureau of Investigation. The Office of the Secretary includes Homeland Security, Protective Services, Administration, Support Services and Integrity.

### Homeland Security

The Homeland Security Program works with federal, state and local partners to prevent and respond to terrorism in the state. Homeland Security works closely with the 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 is the administrator for the State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP), supporting state and local efforts to prevent terrorism and other catastrophic events, as well as to prepare the state for threats and hazards posing the greatest risks to the security of the United States. In FY2018, the department administered \$4,471,000 in grants to state and local partners.

### Protective Services

Protective Services consists of the Dignitary Protection and Uniform units. It 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 visiting dignitaries to the state as mandated by §36-33-1, et. Seq. Code of Alabama, 1975; and fulfilling numerous related duties.

#### Dignitary Protection Unit

The Dignitary Protection Unit is responsible for the security and protection of certain state officials and visiting dignitaries. Specifically, staff members provide protection for the Governor and family (from the date of election, throughout 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 Attorney General.

Unit personnel also provide varying levels of security and protection for any other persons as designated by the Governor or the Secretary of ALEA. In addition, they assist federal partners with visiting dignitaries.

## Uniformed Unit

The Uniformed Unit consists of Executive Mansion Security Detail, Capitol Security Detail and Capitol Patrol. Troopers in the unit provide a visible law enforcement presence and respond to calls for service while keeping safe citizens and state employees within the Capitol complex.

During FY2018, the unit performed 17,947 building checks, managed 195 special events and provided security for 18 dignitaries who visited Alabama. In addition, unit personnel taught one training course, responded to 1,252 building alarms, assisted other agencies 418 times, served 164 warrants, submitted 57 crash reports, issued 373 traffic warnings and 361 traffic citations, submitted 87 incident/offense reports and made five DUI arrests.

## Administration

### Accounting

The Accounting Unit has the following primary areas of responsibility in the overall operations for ALEA: managing departmental budgets and general fund appropriations; issuing all purchases, travel, rent, repairs, and utilities through Accounts Payable; preparing and processing Accounts Receivable; preparing and monitoring Grants accounting; and reviewing all orders and contracts for Purchasing.

### Information Technology

The Information Technology (IT) Unit provides all network, security and datacenter services for the agency, application development services, radio communications engineering, as well as technology and hardware support services. The unit runs a 24-hour call center for all ALEA employees and contract employees.

Additionally, The IT Unit monitors and maintains a wide area network (WAN) that services 293 branch office locations, providing Highway Patrol, SBI, Driver License, Fingerprint and NCIC services. The unit also coordinates technology initiatives with all NCIC partner agencies to provide secure access to FBI-CJIS services for law enforcement agencies and their partners within the state.

IT completed a state-of-the-art criminal justice network to provide secure, reliable and scalable technology for ALEA and statewide law enforcement exceeding FBI-CJIS guidelines, and it also migrated 196 remote locations and all of ALEA headquarters to the new criminal justice network.

The unit consolidated various services from multiple legacy centers into the new ALEA network, resulting in reduced operational costs and improved management of shared services. It implemented secure certificate services enabling ALEA to provide wireless services at HQ and selected remote locations using an encrypted network. The enhanced certificate services provide added protection to ALEA websites and electronic identity services used by Alabama Department of Revenue for online tag renewals and income tax processing.

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Additionally, any e-Commerce activities for the sale of driver history data, crash reports and online driver license renewals use these secure certificate services.

Personnel from this unit created an operating environment in Microsoft's Commercial Azure cloud for the GIS Office to migrate various applications used by state agencies as part of the modernization of Virtual Alabama.

**During this period, the unit's Support Center handled:**

ALEA help tickets: 11,480

Software support: 6,645

Account support: 13,607

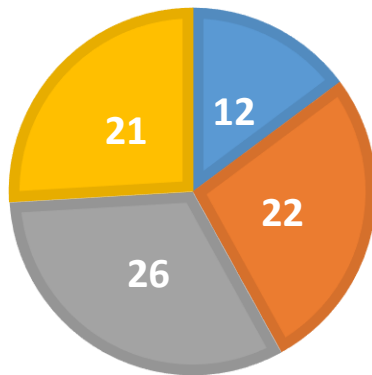
### Legal

The primary responsibility of the Legal Division is to represent the agency and its employees in all legal matters arising from the performance of their duties. The division consists of six attorneys and seven support staff members.

The responsibilities of the Legal Division are diverse and complex, and they include federal, state and administrative claims. Much of the work requires the attorneys and staff to travel to court. Legal handles such matters as responding to multiple inquiries from the Department of Justice, reviewing and drafting numerous contracts and agreements with outside agencies, representing the agency on Board of Adjustment Claims, teaching legal topics to classes at the Alabama Criminal Justice Training Center, responding to hundreds of subpoena requests in both state and federal court, and providing legal advice to agency members.

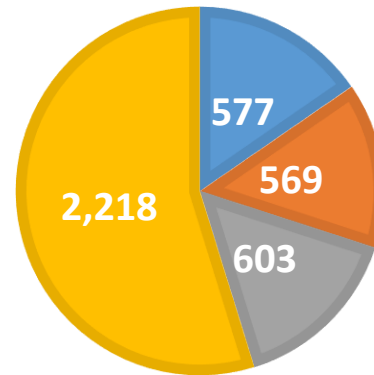
### MAJOR LITIGATION

■ New                      ■ Hearings Attended  
■ Depositions Attended   ■ Approximate Pending



### DRIVER LICENSE APPEALS

■ New                      ■ Hearings Attended  
■ Disposed                ■ Approximate Pending



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### Personnel Matters

Hearings attended 5

### Contracts/Leases

Contracts/MOAs/MOUs reviewed 150

Leases 16

Contract Review Committee meetings 7

### Board of Adjustment Claims

New 55

Hearings attended 2

### Sex Offender Registration

New 480

Disposed 254

Approximate pending 341

### Subpoenas

Received/responded 679

### Instruction at Academy

Basic Police classes 240 hours

## Personnel

Personnel is responsible for managing and coordinating the agency's human resources operations for approximately 1,320 employees.

Primary areas of responsibility include strategic planning; employee recruitment, selection 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, Personnel provides direction regarding workers compensation, Employee Assistance Program (EAP), donated/military leave authorization, Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance. The unit also investigates employee complaints and conducts due process hearings and conferences for employees facing severe levels of disciplinary action.

### Unit actions during FY2018 include:

New appointments: 194

Promotions: 112

Transfers (internal): 172

Separations (retirements, resignations, disciplinary): 145

## Public Information

Public Information provides information to the public, media outlets, law enforcement agencies, constituents, agency personnel and others concerning ALEA operations and all aspects of law enforcement and traffic safety. The unit, consisting of sworn and civilian members, conducts safety programs and campaigns; coordinates and maintains the agency's social media (Facebook and Twitter), and is responsible for archiving data, photographs, videos and all other statutorily required communication.

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At the beginning of FY2018, the unit was restructured, and its sworn field officers were assigned to Highway Patrol. In addition, SBI Agents assumed public information duties for officer-involved shootings, homicides, Internet Crimes Against Children and other SBI activities.

In most of the regions, there is one primary PIO for Highway Patrol and one for SBI, with one to five alternates. The new format was designed to enhance Highway Patrol's presence on Alabama roadways. Troopers and Agents new to media relations received basic PIO training to assist with media contacts, safety programs and such. Because alcohol enforcement is part of SBI, Agents began to put more emphasis on conducting Fatal Vision programs, using donated ATVs and special goggles to provide teens with a simulated experience of driving under the influence.

During this period, PIOs assisted the public information manager with publicity for several statewide and regional traffic enforcement campaigns during holiday travel periods and other times of the year.

The unit's Public Information Officers contacted media outlets approximately 30,000 times through interviews, news releases and requests for information. The unit also conducted approximately 450 safety programs during this period. Gradually, the number of safety programs is increasing as more Troopers and Agents gain experience and schedule more programs.

This unit also includes **Photo Services**, with two full-time Photography Tech IIs and two part-time retired state employees. In FY2018, Photo received 11,003 discs of images to be processed and made prints of 23,855 images. The unit provided photographers/videographers for retirements, graduations, portraits of staff members, funerals for sworn personnel (active and retired) and special projects.

## Services Division

### Alabama Criminal Justice Training Center

The Alabama Criminal Justice Training Center (ACJTC) is the largest law enforcement training facility in the state. On the campus of Wallace Community College in Selma, the center provides basic, advanced and in-service training for agency personnel, as well as training for other law enforcement and government agencies.

|                             |     |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| Training sessions conducted | 134 |
|-----------------------------|-----|

|                        |       |
|------------------------|-------|
| Total students trained | 2,598 |
|------------------------|-------|

|                        |     |
|------------------------|-----|
| Participating agencies | 379 |
|------------------------|-----|

The Alabama Police Academy conducted three Police Academy training sessions, graduating a total of 130 law enforcement officers. These officers represented various agencies across the state including municipal, county and other state agencies. In addition, there were two ALEA

Trooper classes, graduating 46 Troopers.

### Aviation Unit

The ALEA Aviation Unit, which uses both civil and former military aircraft, flew 821 missions for a total of 1,428 flight hours in general support of law enforcement during FY2018. These totals include 45 flights in support of the Marijuana Eradication program, totaling 380 flight hours, and 190 searches



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for a total of 235 flight hours. Also, ALEA Aviation had 30 executive travel flights for 57 hours of flight time. The unit was called out for 10 helicopter long-line rescue operations in remote areas.

Aviation participates in Project Lifesaver International, which uses bracelets (with transmitters) to aid in the search for individuals with Alzheimer's disease and other conditions that may lead to wandering. With the Southern Company Energizers, the unit raised money to provide bracelets at no charge to those in need. ALEA Aviation has trained all Sheriffs' Offices in Alabama, which has reduced the number of searches because individuals with bracelets who wander can be located by ground crews before Aviation's assistance is requested.

Currently, the unit's operational helicopter fleet consists of a Bell UH-1H (Huey), Bell 407, Bell Long Ranger L1 (the only aircraft purchased by the agency) and seven OH-58s. The UH-1H and Bell 407 have enhanced the unit's capabilities by allowing for tactical response, rescue operations and fire suppression. ALEA has four helicopters with Forward Looking Infra-Red (FLIR); and the Huey has a high-speed hoist to allow for safe extractions of individuals.

During this period, ALEA Aviation acquired through a Port Security Grant an additional new high-definition FLIR to assist in locating missing people and felony fugitives. The new equipment also will assist in protecting and securing Port of Mobile, the nation's seventh largest port.

There are 10 pilots, an ASA III, three mechanics and one maintenance supervisor (who also serves as a pilot for ALEA Aviation) with three bases of operation (Montgomery, Cullman and Fairhope).

### ALEA Communications Unit

The Dispatch Operations section of the ALEA Law Enforcement Communications Unit comprises three district communications regions, serving north, central and south Alabama. The unit has 64 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 those in need of ALEA services, particularly during emergencies.

### Special Services

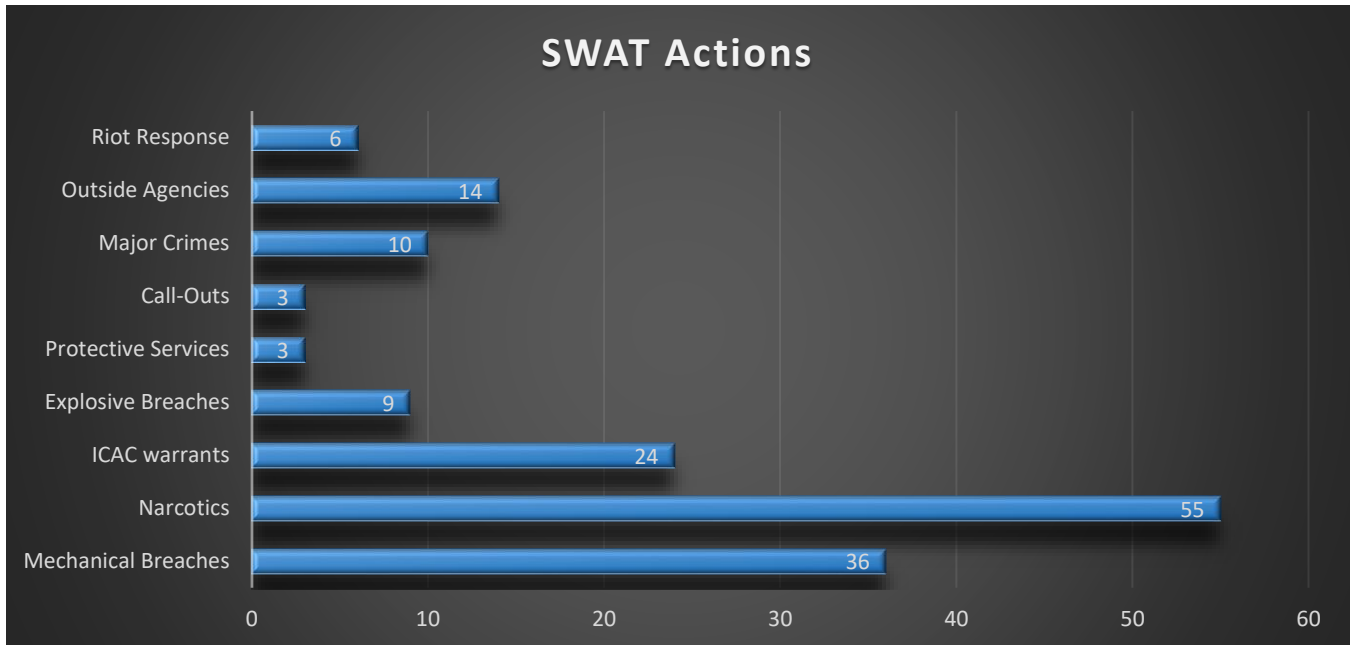
During this fiscal year, the Services Division created Special Services to combine the specialized teams within ALEA under one command. Combining SWAT, Critical Response Team, Dive Team, Bomb Squad and ALERRT training program, the division has streamlined response for all units.

### Tactical Operations – SWAT

Members of ALEA's SWAT team conducted 117 operations, resulting in 132 arrests during FY2018, including executing search warrants for State Bureau of Investigation's Major Crimes, Narcotics and Internet Crimes Against Children. The team's calls also included assisting outside agencies and handling high-risk felony traffic stops, prisoner transport and riot response. Many of the search

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warrants executed were dynamic entries using both mechanical and explosive breaching techniques and were conducted without injury to anyone. In addition, the team conducted one detail in support of Highway Patrol during inclement weather and one prisoner escort for the Attorney General's Office.



### Critical Response Team

The Critical Response Team conducted 12 Prevention of Radioactive and Nuclear Device (PRND) sweeps and was called out to assist with one missing person case. These calls included preventive sweeps at football games for the Auburn University and the University of Alabama, Talladega Super Speedway race weekends, Senior Bowl and Mardi Gras in Mobile area. The team's mission is PRND response, weapons of mass destruction response, confined spaces searches, collapsed structure searches, high-angle rescue, swift-water rescue and response to natural disasters.

In addition, the Dive Team was called out three times during this period.

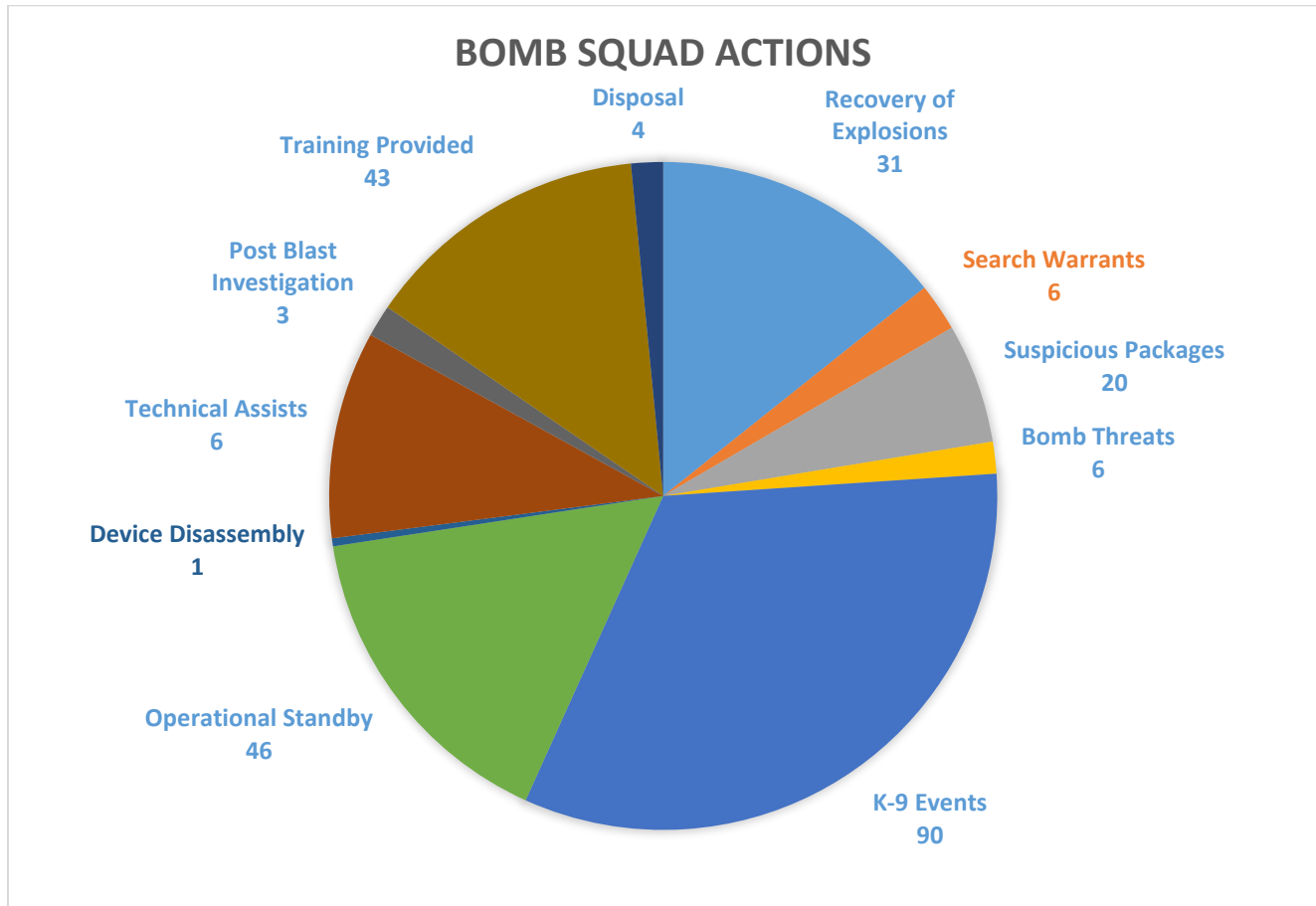
### Tactical Operations – Bomb Squad

The Bomb Squad responded to 213 calls during the fiscal year, which included both criminal and non-criminal recovery of explosives, suspicious packages, bomb threats, post-blast investigations, explosive detection canine sweeps, search warrants, technical assists to outside agencies and operational stand-by calls during major events throughout the state.

Each of the six Bomb Technicians is a Special Agent and routinely investigates explosive calls for service from the initial call to criminal adjudication. In addition to the actual calls for service, the Bomb Squad taught 43 classes to more than 500 students. They also routinely recover old explosives and military munitions as a service to the public. The Bomb Squad hosted the annual weeklong

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Alabama Bomb Technician Symposium, providing critical training to all Alabama bomb techs to ensure they all are trained on the latest tactics, techniques and procedures of bomb builders.



### ALERT Training Program

The program coordinated the training of 8,231 students during FY2018. These classes consisted of ALERT Level I Active Shooter Response, ALERT Level II Active Shooter Response, Exterior Response to Active Shooter Events for sworn officers, as well as Run, Hide, Fight program for civilians. ALERT also oversees all 200 certified instructors across the state.

By the end of this fiscal period, 13,228 law enforcement officers in the state (approximately 90 percent of all Alabama law enforcement officers) had completed ALERT Level I training.

### Fleet Maintenance Unit

Fleet Maintenance is responsible for the issuance and maintenance of all ALEA vehicles, vessels and equipment owned and operated by ALEA. Vehicle Fleet operations includes 15 full-time employees and one part-time employee throughout the state. The Vessel Marine Maintenance Shop in Montgomery consists of four full-time employees. This unit maintains and services approximately 1,300 different vehicles, vessels and related equipment.

## Logistics Unit

This unit conducts annual departmental inventory audits for each person responsible for property in his/her name in compliance with the law. Everyone at ALEA now has read access to Asset Works Inventory database to check his/her list. Personnel also installed and began using Quartermaster software for uniform inventory, distributed new bullet-proof vests to more than half of the sworn personnel in the agency, provided new hats for a number of Troopers, changed out some unit office areas to ensure better organization, expanded ALEA's museum, assisted ALEA employees by moving furniture and equipment to better fit their working needs, added two new employees (one in Inventory Management and one in mail room), and upgraded equipment in mail room.

### *Inventory Management*

Inventory Management personnel assign state identification numbers to agency purchases of \$500 or more, as well as some sensitive items that cost less than \$500. The unit uses the inventory database, tracks property for accountability, conducts an annual inventory, prepares and transports equipment to State Surplus and submits a general asset report annually to the State Auditor's Office.

At the end of FY2018, ALEA had 22,323 regular inventory items, with a total acquisition value of \$106,916,098.18, 887 sensitive items valued at \$293,701.83, and weapons at \$520,677.34. Personnel conduct annual internal audits and biennial property audits with the State Auditor's Office.

### *General Services*

The unit provides professional services for ALEA personnel and facilities, maintains necessary materials and equipment, and it coordinates all ALEA-owned building repairs.

### *Facilities*

The ALEA Facilities Unit provides a centralized location to coordinate all ALEA-owned building repairs and maintenance. The unit coordinates all agency-leased facilities in conjunction with the Legal Unit. Facilities also works with the state's Office of Risk Management and insurance companies to provide coverages for all ALEA buildings and contents, and to file claims.

### *Professional Services*

This unit coordinates all department-owned building repairs and maintenance, including electrical plumbing, HVAC, generators, fire extinguishers, locksmith tasks, elevators, boat lifts and general maintenance and construction services. It also runs such services as lawn care and pest control.

# Department of Public Safety

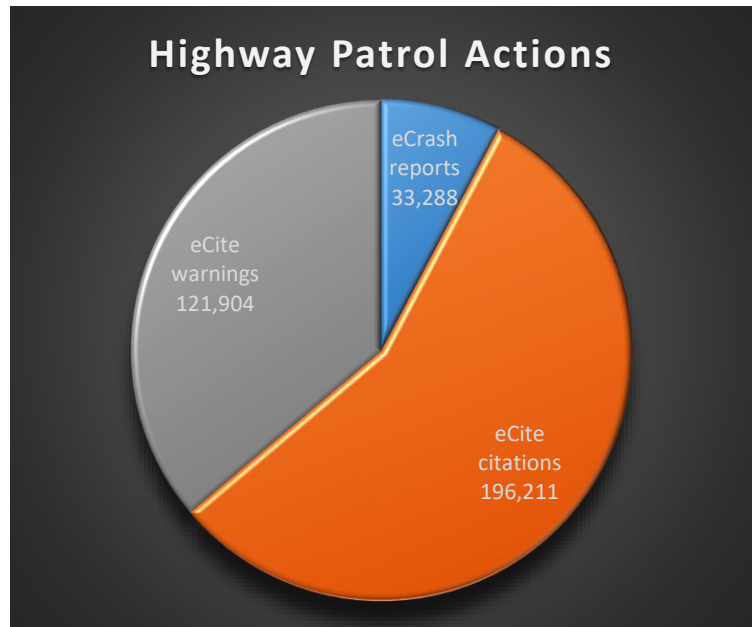


The Department of Public Safety (DPS) comprises Highway Patrol Division, Marine Police Division and Driver License Division. These three divisions consist of uniformed Alabama State Troopers, with civilian support staff, across the state.

## Highway Patrol Division

Highway Patrol Division comprises seven Highway Patrol Troops consisting of 17 Highway Patrol Posts, and it is the largest of the three divisions. The primary goal for the division is to preserve the safety of everyone traveling Alabama’s roadways and to reduce traffic fatalities. In FY2018, Troopers worked 33,288 traffic crashes, resulting in 9,082 injuries and 520 fatalities. Highway Patrol has specialized units including: Motorcycles and Traffic Homicide Investigation.

The transition to a paperless reporting system has greatly benefited Highway Patrol. Troopers use eCite/MOVE (Mobile Officers Virtual Environment) to issue traffic citations and warnings, and they use eCrash for reporting motor vehicle crashes.



## Motor Carrier Safety Division

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

In FY2018, 56 sworn officers, three civilians and three retired state employees/law enforcement officers were assigned to Motor Carrier.

In addition to division personnel, 88 Commercial Vehicle Enforcement (CVE) Troopers and 32 City Officer Program (COP) officers from 22 different law enforcement agencies were used to help reduce CMV-related crashes throughout the state. The

|                                       |         |
|---------------------------------------|---------|
| Commercial vehicles inspected         | 38,499  |
| Hazardous material vehicles inspected | 1,102   |
| Bus/passenger vehicles inspected      | 695     |
| CMVs weighed (fixed scales)           | 111,065 |
| CMVs weighed (portable scales)        | 85,580  |
| CMVs weighed (weight in motion)       | 880,347 |
| New entrant safety audits             | 600     |
| Compliance reviews                    | 75      |

division placed 351 drivers out of service for safety/compliance violations, and it placed 1,743 vehicles out of service for safety violations.

## 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 division's primary goal is to promote safe and responsible use of Alabama's waterways. Troopers in Marine Patrol use various enforcement and education efforts to achieve that goal. Despite a number of retirements and separations from service, overall patrol manpower was increased with the addition of 18 Troopers during FY2018, through transfers from other divisions and new hires. The division also received 10 new patrol vessels in service, replacing a number of aging patrol boats on such high-traffic bodies of water as Lake Martin and Lake Guntersville.

There was approximately \$1,197,200 worth of property damage related to boat crashes during this period. With approximately 275,542 boats registered in Alabama, property reduction is essential. During this period, Troopers in this division investigated 23 boating fatalities and 73 boat crashes. They logged more than 500 hours performing search-and-rescue or boater-assist operations, many of which took place during inclement weather and/or at night.

In addition, 118 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 FY2018, this unit replaced 347 aids to navigation statewide, including various buoys and signs on state waterways. In addition to waterway patrol, they were involved with other divisions of DPS in the following events: Shrimp Festival, Alabama National Fair, Mardi Gras, Foot Wash, Talladega races (fall and spring) and college football details. Marine Troopers also participated on Critical Response Teams and Special Operations.

|                            |                                    |        |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------|--------|
|                            | Citations Issued                   | 2,851  |
|                            | Warnings Issued                    | 7,491  |
| Water-Safety Class/Program | Attendees                          | 19,790 |
|                            | Boat Operator Certificates Granted | 35,348 |

## Driver License Division

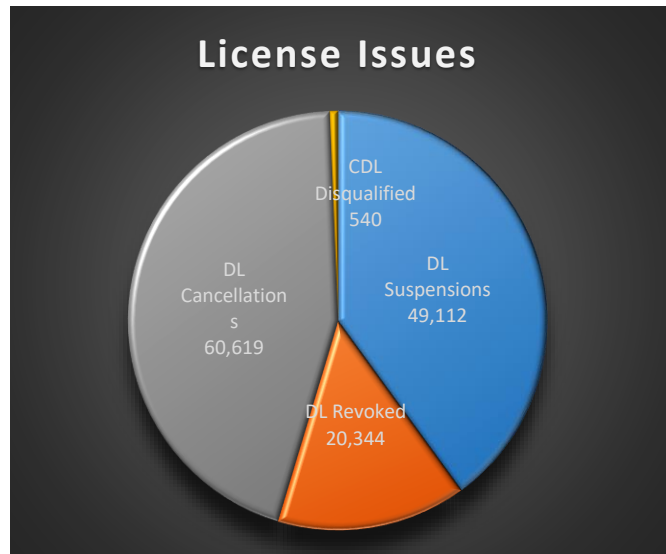
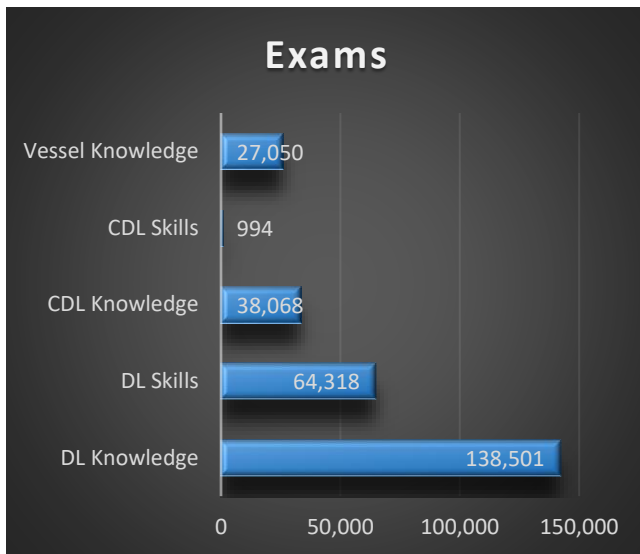
Driver License Services (DL) is responsible for testing and keeping records on Alabama's licensed drivers. These records include crash reports, traffic arrest forms, driver license applications and

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traffic violation convictions. In addition to administering the written and road skills driver license examinations for commercial (CDL) 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. During FY2018, the division deposited \$65,414,687.75 into the General Fund.

DL personnel encounter criminals daily. Some of these criminals attempt to fraudulently obtain a driver license or identification card, while others are wanted for various crimes. Examiners are trained to recognize fraudulent documents and run computer checks for outstanding warrants on each applicant. DL's uniformed Troopers and civilians have been responsible for effecting 1,179 arrests covering a range to include failure to appear, felony fraud cases, forgery, child neglect, rape, parole violations and firearms violations.

Accomplishments this period include expanding a CDL third-party testing program, designing and acquiring a CDL mobile testing vehicle and conducting Homeless Connect events across the state.



### Safety Responsibility Unit

The Safety Responsibility Unit implements the state law 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/injuries resulting from negligence.

|   |        |
|---|--------|
| SR-31s Accident Report                      | 3,928  |
| SR-21s Insurance Verification Report        | 67     |
| SR-22s Mandatory insurance                  | 26,277 |
| SR-26s Cancellation of insurance            | 10,635 |
| Releases of Liability from Accident damages | 41     |
| Status reports                              | 2,962  |
| Civil court judgments filed                 | 1,911  |
| Telephone calls                             | 28,957 |
| Walk-ins                                    | 97     |

**Commercial Driver License/Medical Unit**

|                                      |         |
|--------------------------------------|---------|
| Telephone calls                      | 58,718  |
| Medical forms reviewed               | 19,198  |
| Walk-ins                             | 267     |
| Drivers reinstated                   | 9,332   |
| Follow-ups                           | 9,441   |
| Forms scanned                        | 155,277 |
| Haz-Mat background approvals entered | 5,430   |
| Documents returned                   | 592     |
| Emails received/answered             | 43,839  |
| Medical certifications processed     | 70,124  |
| Self-certifications processed        | 11,806  |

CDL/Medical Unit conducted two CDL Examiners School and one third-party training class. The Sergeant at headquarters spoke at ALEA's DL Examiners training at the ACJTC in Selma. He also spoke at a State Department of Education training. Headquarters personnel were involved in and spoke at DL in-service and Basic Examiners trainings.

**Driver Improvement Unit**

Driver Improvement processed 2,067 suspensions for violation of the School Enrollment Act and responded to 32,143 customer phone calls. The unit reviewed 1,521 National Driver Registry hits that resulted in the cancellation of 314 drivers. Additionally, Driver Improvement corrected 5,489 errors on driving records and renewed 1,250 driver licenses for individuals temporarily out of state.

**Driver Services Unit**

During this fiscal year, Driver License Services answered 31,691 phone calls and 5,366 emails from licensees who had not received their driver licenses or non-driver IDs in the mail. The unit received 17,730 driver licenses/IDs that were returned by the postal service for bad addresses. This unit released 10,271 licenses/IDs not received by mail or returned. The scanning unit scanned 288,185 documents. In addition, the unit updated 10,508 records with new addresses.

**Reinstatement Unit**

The Reinstatement Unit assisted 13,562 walk-in customers. Additionally, the unit answered 42,978 telephone inquiries, processed 208 refunds, and processed 6,723 credit card payments for reinstatements, Motor Vehicle Reports (MVRs) and crash reports over the phone. Reinstatement also sold 3,674 MVRs, 318 Lifetime MVRs and 895 Accident Reports. In addition, the unit processed 12,438 faxes. A total of 16,712 reinstatements were processed.

**Records Unit**

The Records Unit answered 28,408 telephone calls, processed 16,813 driving abstracts requested by the courts, 11,160 accident reports via mail, walk-ins and from the Alabama Department of Transportation, 9,506 MVRs via walk-ins and mail. Additionally, unit personnel processed 64,286 in-state tickets and 56,110 out-of-state tickets and sent back 3,893 tickets because of errors.



### **Hearing and Fraud Unit**

The Online Hearing Request System, designed and built by ALEA's IT Department, allows an Alabama driver to schedule a hearing more quickly and efficiently. There were 3,042 hearing requests processed using the system. Hearing officers conducted 1,642 hearing during FY2018, and they conducted 32 annual inspections of facilities that have been approved to install the Ignition Interlock Device. All the facilities passed the inspection. The unit also checked 7,078 AST-60s, 2,192 of which were rescinded.

### **Mandatory Liability Insurance**

Driver License Division's newest unit, the Mandatory Liability Insurance Unit personnel are set up to respond to emails and phone calls concerning the state's requirement for drivers to maintain at least liability insurance on their vehicles. During this period, the unit received 5,452 calls, sent 13,262 initial MLI letters, sent 10,201 MLI suspension letters and collected \$469,838 in fees. (Fee collected were divided in the following way: \$156,612.86 for Motor Vehicle Replacement Fund, \$283,468.83 for Highway Traffic Safety Fund, and \$29,756.31 for Peace Officers Annuity and Benefits Fund).

# State Bureau of Investigation



The State Bureau of Investigation functions as the investigative, non-uniform division of the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency and consists of three Divisions: Criminal Investigation, Alabama Fusion Center and Criminal Justice Services.

These divisions 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 shootings; 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 escapees; polygraph examinations; technical surveillance; hostage negotiation; marijuana eradication; child and elder exploitation; in-custody death investigations; and outside agency-requested special inquiries.

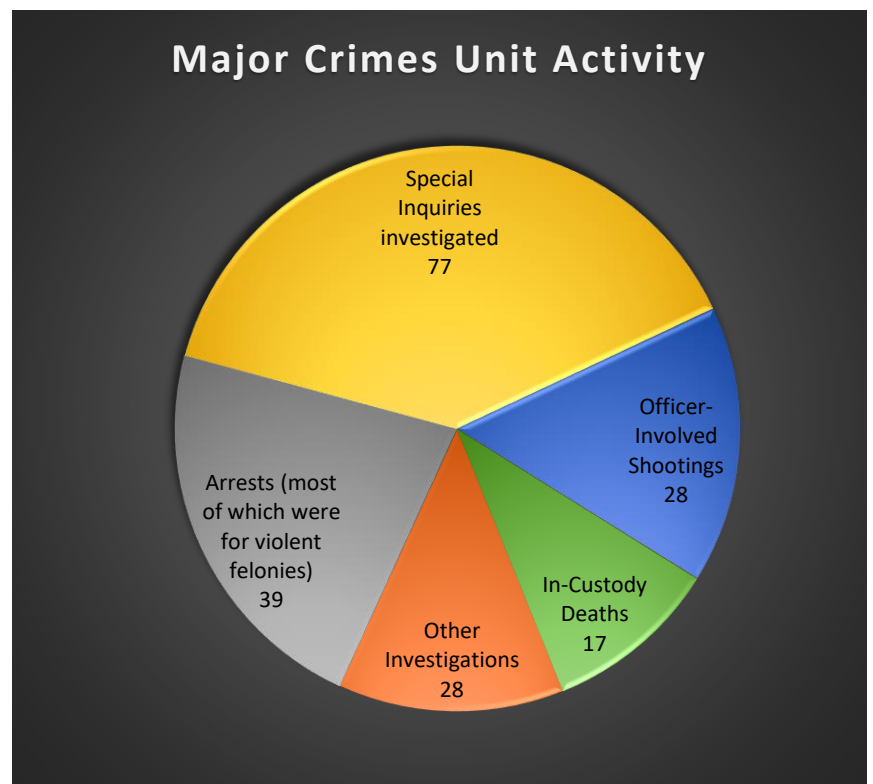
## Criminal Investigation Division

This Division's mission is to pursue justice by providing premier investigative services, building trusting relationships with its law enforcement partners and meeting criminal investigative needs with excellence. The Criminal Investigation Division (CID) comprises Major Crimes Unit, Special Victims Unit and Unsolved Violent Crime Unit.

### Major Crimes Unit

This unit predominately investigates serious felony crimes, as well as officer-involved shootings and deaths while in police custody, also called "in-custody deaths." Agents of this unit are responsible for conducting specialized investigations and providing investigative support to other law enforcement agencies.

The Agents perform criminal investigative procedures, process crime scenes for evidence, interview suspects and witnesses, conduct searches, make arrests and regularly present facts of criminal cases before the courts.



**Special Victims Unit**

Special Victims Unit (SVU) is the unit tasked with the investigation of technology-facilitated child sexual exploitation. SVU’s primary responsibility is the investigation of crimes involving the production or distribution of child pornography, the solicitation of children for immoral purposes, and the sexual and physical abuse of children when technology is involved. SVU’s 13 members have the critical mission of investigating and locating individuals who prey on the children of Alabama. These investigations ultimately lead to arrests and prosecution.

| SVU Actions                    |       |
|--------------------------------|-------|
| Criminal investigations opened | 216   |
| Search warrants executed       | 144   |
| Arrests facilitated            | 72    |
| Cyber-tips received            | 2,001 |
| Subpoenas served               | 1,153 |

SVU comprises Child Exploitation Unit (CEU), which concentrates on the investigative focus of these crimes; and Digital Forensics Unit (DFU), which analyzes seized electronic devices for evidence to support the CEU, other investigative units within ALEA and outside agencies. Additionally, SVU conducts presentations for the public, along with law enforcement-specific training. The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention partially funds the unit and the Alabama Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force through a national ICAC program with 60 other such task forces across the nation.

This unit manages a statewide task force of local law enforcement agencies to investigate and prosecute these crimes. ALEA has signed a memorandum of understanding with more than 60 local, state and federal law enforcement partners. Affiliate members may access training available only through ICAC national program. Additionally, these agencies are forwarded cyber tips (leads from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children) and other leads for investigation at the local level, combining resources throughout the state to make an impact on child predators.

During FY2018, SVU Agents conducted 55 group presentations to 5,624 attendees and attended 10 major public events as part of the unit’s public outreach mission. Through their dedicated and passionate work, SVU personnel rescued 10 Alabama children from abusive situations during this period.

**Narcotics Unit**

Narcotics Division Agents are responsible for combating the threat facing Alabama’s citizens with increased sale and distribution of such illegal narcotics as heroin, crack, cocaine, marijuana, pharmaceuticals and synthetic drugs.

During the past few years, SBI Narcotics has seen a spike in heroin/opioid and synthetic narcotics. The increase in these two categories of drugs directly relates to the increased overdoses and violence against the public and law enforcement.

The Narcotics Unit functions as the state’s Marijuana Eradication Team, which SBI Agents, ALEA Aviation Unit, Alabama National Guard Counter Drug Unit and local law enforcement agencies.

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The team's mission is to locate and eradicate domestically grown cannabis through a cooperative effort of multi-agency teams and resources with funding from a DEA grant.

During this period, the unit located investigated 894 cases, assisted other agencies 111 times and made 357 arrests and 173 violent arrests. The Eradication Team located 32 grow sites, seized 3,152 plants, processed 3,152 pounds seized marijuana, seized 44 weapons and seized 21 assets.

### *Clandestine Lab Container Program*

ALEA Narcotics operates and is custodian for the State Clandestine Laboratory Waste Container Program. Agents are tasked with logging and auditing containers around the state where hazardous waste from methamphetamine labs are held until a hazardous waste company can retrieve the waste. Yearly reporting to the DEA is required because the waste retrieval is funded through the DOJ.

### *Federal Task Force Agents*

SBI was a prominent supporter of its federal partners during the fiscal year. SBI provided Agents to serve on the following: U.S. Marshals Fugitive Task Force, DEA's High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas Task Force, FBI Safe Streets Task Force and Homeland Security Investigation Task Force.

### *Narcotics Seizures*

| Drugs Seized    | Grams       | Street Value | Cases |
|-----------------|-------------|--------------|-------|
| Cocaine         | 80,986.5    | \$2,285,410  | 69    |
| Crack           | 242.317     | \$11,113     | 70    |
| Heroin/Opioids  | 13,293.6    | \$940,719    | 60    |
| Methamphetamine | 54,016.1    | \$2,243,660  | 410   |
| Marijuana       | 211,144.215 | \$1,189,169  | 355   |
| Pills           | 22,141      | \$61,979     | 100   |

### **Agriculture and Rural Crime Unit (ARCU)**

The Agriculture and Rural Crime Unit investigates agricultural and forestry-related crimes. ACRU had recoveries of vehicles and property totaling \$249,075. Agents with the unit also investigated 54 property cases, 110 animal cases, 31 timber cases and 35 miscellaneous cases.

### **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.

SBI Alcohol Agents partner with the U.S. Food & Drug Administration and the Alabama Department of Public Health to enforce laws prohibiting minors from using and accessing tobacco. 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.

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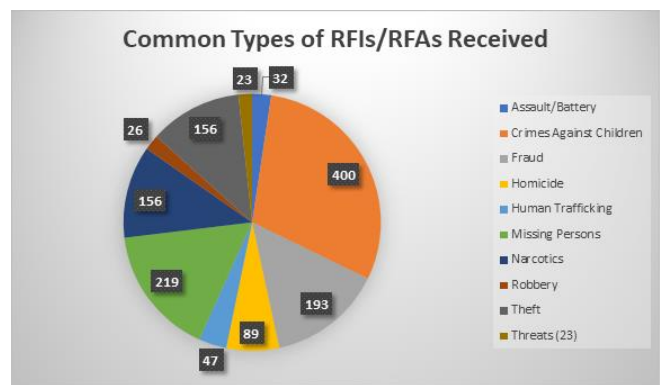
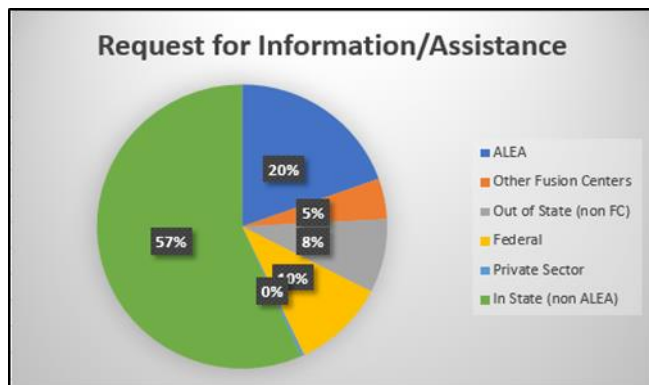
In addition, the unit meets requirements under federal SYNAR Legislation to protect approximately \$40 million in federal funding for the Alabama Department of Mental Health.

During FY2018, Agents completed 570 SYNAR checks, resulting in 36 cases (with a 6.32 percent non-compliance rate) and 2,986 FDA checks, resulting in 308 cases (with a 10.31 percent non-compliance rate).

In addition to the FDA and SYNAR checks, Agents completed 5,698 cases and investigated 339 complaints. They also made 188 assists, providing 349 hours of assistance to the Alabama ABC Board and 1,141 hours of assistance to other agencies.

## Alabama Fusion Center

The Alabama Fusion Center (AFC), a division of the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency, is the intelligence source for all Alabama law enforcement. A true force multiplier, the AFC is an invaluable tool for law enforcement as it researches, analyzes, drives collection and disseminates mission-critical information between federal, state and local government, private-sector entities, and the intelligence community. AFC provides real-time research support for law enforcement throughout the state in various areas, including cybercrime, terrorism, narcotics and human trafficking. Additionally, AFC coordinates and facilitates the issuance of AMBER, Emergency Missing Child, Blue and Senior Alerts for the state.



## Intelligence & Criminal Case Support

At a fundamental level, fusion centers most often produce situational awareness reports, officer safety bulletins, intelligence analysis, threat assessments and Be on the Lookout (BOLO) 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” (intel from other intelligence entities AFC sends on their behalf). During this fiscal year, AFC provided 29 intelligence bulletins, 209 pass-through intelligence bulletins, 13 threat assessments and 67 training sessions.

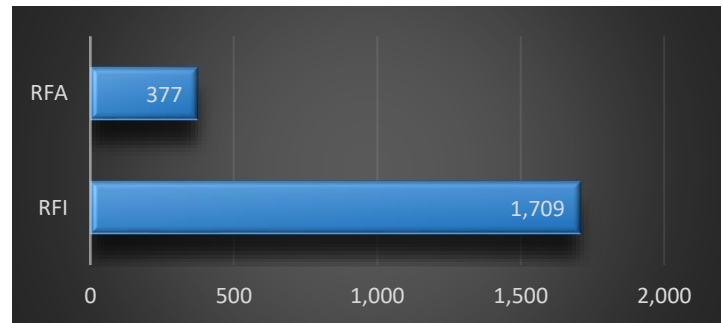
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Personnel from the fusion center also provide intelligence and analytical resources to AFC partners within our state. Alabama law enforcement agencies continually rely on fusion center analysts, who may provide link analysis where criminal activity in one area may be linked to the same criminal activity in another 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. AFC 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 the mapping/linking of criminal intelligence or raw data, working on-site at a major event command center or responding to crime scenes to provide analytical support.



### Alabama Center for Missing & Exploited Children

The Alabama Center for Missing & 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. ACMEC serves as the administrating agency of the Alabama AMBER Alert, Emergency Missing Child Alert, Senior Alert and Blue Alert systems. These systems are instrumental and irreplaceable mechanisms in recovering missing or abducted persons, including our state’s most precious asset, children.



During FY2018, personnel have issued two AMBER Alerts, 22 Emergency Missing Child Alerts and 17 Missing Senior Alerts.

### Joint Terrorism Task Force

The AFC provides two Special Agents to the FBI’s Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF). These Agents serve as a direct line of communication between intelligence received and analyzed by AFC intelligence analysts and the JTTF.

This tactical arrangement provides for a clear and rapid line of communication and, often, action regarding information received by the AFC from the public via the Suspicious Activity Reporting (SAR) system. Much of the activity conducted by these Agents is classified.

### **Alabama Geographic Information Office**

The Alabama Geographic Information Office (AGIO) provides statewide coordination of geographic information, geographic information systems and other geospatial-related technologies used by all of Alabama's state agencies. AGIO identifies, plans and implements efficient and effective ways to use and integrate geographic information as a strategic management resource for the state. The office acts as the operational arm of the Alabama Geographic Information Executive Council, which Alabama's Secretary of Law Enforcement chairs.

The AGIO established a statewide interactive platform providing for the discovery, access, exploration and visualization of geospatial data in a collaborative environment. This platform, the Alabama GeoHub, is used to provide important geospatial and analytical resources to support investigations and operations. The school safety dashboard, created in the Alabama GeoHub, is used to reflect threats and events taking place at or near schools across the state. The collected information is reflected geospatially on a map in a real-time environment to provide situational awareness to school administrators and law enforcement agencies. (Below is a sample of AGIO's work.)

## **Criminal Justice Services Division**

### **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 state and local law enforcement agencies to ensure offenders are not in violation of residency or employment restrictions. The database is updated daily and posted to the ALEA website for public viewing.

During FY2018, the Sex Offender Unit performed the following: added 1,276 new offenders, processed 4,861 address changes and mailed 15,878 fliers and 13,950 letters. To retrieve information for other agencies or to check information provided through phone calls or emails, the unit performed 37,871 record checks, including criminal histories and court records required to process new sex offender records. The SOR also updated 40,736 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 this period, 69,668 documents/files were prepared, and 146,279 were scanned.

## **Criminal History Section**

The Criminal History Section is mandated by law to maintain fingerprint files on all individuals arrested in Alabama. Trained fingerprint technicians verify the identity of criminals and applicants from fingerprint records submitted by law enforcement, government and private agencies. The 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 unit processed more than 86100 dispositions and 930 expungement orders to date. The section continues to work toward improving the quality of disposition matching against criminal arrest records received from state and local law enforcement agencies in Alabama.

## **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. This section also provides court testimony and training.

During the fiscal year, Latent Print staff assisted agencies by comparing latent prints in 1,083 cases, making five court appearances, conducting 17 crime-scene investigations, providing 12 lectures (training for law enforcement), and effecting 613 positive identifications.

## **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. It is the responsibility of this section to use discriminating judgment, combined with accuracy, when disseminating criminal history information found in ALEA files. The unit processed almost 2,700 MAP transactions (background checks strictly for law enforcement, pre-employment, contractors and vendors) and 17,052 NFUF transactions (standard background checks for individuals and various government and private agencies).

## **Automated Fingerprint Identification System Section**

The Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) Section uses a computer system to analyze, store, match and retrieve fingerprint images of non-criminal and criminal submissions. AFIS increases the ability of law enforcement to identify suspects quickly.

This section provides quality control, as well as Name and Ten Print verification of submissions to ensure accurate AFIS archive.

During FY2018, AFIS section processed 85,767 non-criminal submissions (including from Alabama State Department of Education and Department of Human Resources) and 228,637 criminal submissions (including from Alabama sheriffs' offices and Police departments). It produced 341,573 positive verifications.



**Criminal Justice Information Unit**

State Bureau of Investigation Agents working in the Criminal Justice Information Unit are tasked with investigating misuse of criminal justice information support and training to law enforcement.