



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 2020, which represents the work of over 1,500 employees who are committed to serving the citizens of Alabama.

The Agency's mission is to efficiently provide quality service, protection, and safety for the state of Alabama by utilizing consolidated law enforcement and investigative and support services. While we are dedicated to ensuring efficiency, maximizing resources, and streamlining our existing services, we constantly look for additional ways to promote public safety.

With the vital resources you and state legislators provide and in spite of COVID-19 challenges, ALEA was able to successfully protect and serve Alabama's citizens and visitors during Fiscal Year 2020. We were able to patrol state roadways and waterways, maintain and protect sensitive criminal data, issue driver and vessel licenses, and assist local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies.

ALEA's dedicated employees, sworn and civilian, daily strive to fulfill this Agency's mission and to serve the people of our state. It is my honor to continue to serve alongside them.

Sincerely,

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

HAL TAYLOR  
Secretary of Law Enforcement



# **Alabama Law Enforcement Agency**

## **Fiscal Year 2020 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 the ALEA umbrella.**

## **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 units: Homeland Security, Protective Services, Administration, External Affairs, and Integrity.

## **Homeland Security**

The Homeland Security Unit works with federal, state, and local partners to prevent and respond to terrorism in Alabama. This Unit also 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.

The Homeland Security Unit administers the State Homeland Security Grant Program (~~SHSGP~~), which not only supports state and local efforts to prevent terrorism and other catastrophic events, but assists the state in preparing for threats and hazards that pose great risks to national security. In FY2020, the Homeland Security Unit allocated \$3,583,328 in grants to state and local partners.

## **Protective Services**

The Protective Services Unit consists of three divisions (Dignitary Protection, Capitol Patrol, and Aviation) and is responsible for providing (1) law enforcement services within the Capitol complex in Montgomery, as mandated by § 32-2-100, Ala. Code 1975, and (2) protection to and for certain state officers and visiting dignitaries as mandated by § 36-33-2, et seq., Ala. Code 1975, as well as various other duties.

## **Dignitary Protection**

The Dignitary Protection division provides security and protection to and for certain state officials and visiting dignitaries. Specifically, Dignitary Protection personnel 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. Division personnel also provide security for any other persons as the Governor or the ALEA Secretary may designate and assist other state and federal partners with visiting dignitaries as requested.

## **Capitol Patrol**

ALEA Troopers in the Capitol Patrol division provide security at the state Capitol, Executive Mansion, and other locations within the Capitol complex. The division's ALEA Troopers 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 responsibilities to the Capitol Patrol division, ALEA Troopers investigate traffic crashes and assist other divisions within the Agency with special details, training, and enforcement activity. In an effort to assist Highway Patrol Division's Motor Carrier Safety Unit, several ALEA Troopers in the Capitol Patrol division received specialized training by conducting commercial vehicle inspections on Alabama roadways.

During FY2020, the Capitol Patrol division conducted 12,826 building checks, managed 40 special events, responded to 163 building alarms, and completed 39 Incident/Offense reports. The division also served 28 warrants, issued 1,761 traffic citations/warnings, investigated 10 vehicle crashes, conducted 44 Commercial Vehicle Inspections, and made one DUI arrest.

## **Aviation**

The Aviation division, which uses both civil and former military aircraft, flew 899 missions (total of 1,734 flight hours) in general support of law enforcement during FY2020. This total includes 95 flights (total of 376 flight hours) in support of the Marijuana Eradication Program, and 189 searches (total of 421 flight hours). ALEA Aviation also performed 16 executive travel flights (total of 35 flight hours) in FY2020. In the past year, ALEA Aviation responded to

multiple calls and performed 15 helicopter long-line rescue operations in remote areas of Alabama, predominantly in the Little River Canyon area of north Alabama.

The Aviation division participates in Project Lifesaver International, a program that uses bracelets and transmitters to help search for individuals with Alzheimer's disease and other conditions that may lead to cognitive issues and wandering, and regularly works with the Southern Company Energizers to raise money toward providing bracelets at no charge to anyone in need of one. In an effort to reduce the number of searches, Aviation division personnel trained members of Sheriffs' Offices throughout the state to locate wandering individuals with bracelets before requesting action from the Aviation division. The Aviation division's involvement in Project Lifesaver has saved and will continue to save lives across Alabama.

The Aviation division's current operational helicopter fleet consists of a Bell UH-1H (Huey), Bell 407, Bell Long Ranger L1 (the only aircraft purchased by the Agency) and eight OH-58s. The Bell UH-1H and the Bell 407 enhanced the division's capabilities by allowing for tactical response, rescue operations, and fire suppression. ALEA Aviation possesses five Forward Looking InfraRed-equipped helicopters to assist with manhunts and missing persons searches and uses the high-speed hoist on the UH-1H to safely extract individuals during rescue operations.

While previous years yielded several grant awards that, combined with federal funding, allowed ALEA Aviation to purchase much-needed equipment to perform search, rescue, and enforcement missions in and around the Port of Mobile, ALEA Aviation received no Homeland Security funding for the Port of Mobile, the nation's seventh largest port, during FY2020.

In terms of personnel, the Aviation division is staffed by 10 pilots and 2 Tactical Flight Officers ("TFOs"), who perform search and rescue operations using the division's Forward-Looking Infrared Cameras (~~FLIRs~~). Four mechanics and a maintenance supervisor (who also serves as a pilot for ALEA Aviation), all of whom are based in Montgomery, comprise the maintenance section and are responsible for maintaining 16 flyable aircraft in all 3 bases of operation (Montgomery, Cullman and Fairhope). In addition, maintenance staff members are trained to

perform rescue operations when the number of TFOs is limited. The division staff includes an Administrative Support Assistant III for administrative support.

## **Administration**

### **Accounting**

The Accounting division is primarily responsible for 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.

Near the end of FY2020, ALEA combined certain functions of the Services division with the Accounting division to consolidate and streamline similar operations in both divisions.

### **Logistics**

The Logistics division, in compliance with the law, conducts annual departmental inventory audits for property ALEA employees operate in his/her name. ALEA employees have read-access to Asset Works Inventory database to check his/her list. The Personnel division uses Quartermaster software for uniform inventory and equipped five graduating classes of ALEA Troopers in FY2020. In addition, the Logistics division assisted ALEA employees by relocating furniture and equipment to better fit their working needs.

### **Legal**

The Legal division represents the Agency and its personnel in all legal matters that arise from performing their duties. The division's duties are diverse and complex, and they include federal, state, and administrative claims such as responding to Department of Justice inquiries, reviewing and drafting numerous contracts and agreements with outside agencies, representing ALEA on Board of Adjustment claims, teaching classes at the Alabama Criminal Justice Training Center, responding to hundreds of subpoena requests in both state and federal courts, and providing legal advice to Agency members.

## **Personnel**

The Personnel division manages and coordinates the Agency's human resource operations for approximately 1,575 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 division 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 FY2020, the Personnel division handled 370 appointments (245 law enforcement officers), 250 promotion raises, 355 probation raises, and an estimated 715 annual raises.

## **External Affairs**

Formerly known as "Public Information," ALEA changed the name of the unit to "External Affairs" and appointed a new director. The External Affairs Unit 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.

Near the end of FY2020, the External Affairs Unit incorporated ALEA Troopers as Public Affairs Officers ("PAO"), each of whom is assigned to one of the Agency's seven regions (or Troops). Along with assisting the Unit with local media relations, the PAO serves as an ALEA Recruiting Coordinator and works closely with individuals who apply to become ALEA Troopers and Special Agents. During FY2020, the External Affairs Unit and its PAOs made between 25,000 and 30,000 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 Unit assist with statewide safety campaigns and coordinate all posts for ALEA's social media accounts (Facebook, Nextdoor, Instagram, and Twitter).

## **Photo Services**

The Photo Services division is part of the External Affairs Unit 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 a handful of 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 FY2020, the division employed one full-time Photo Tech II and three retired State employees. Photo Lab unit personnel processed 23,432 prints, many of which were sold to law firms, insurance companies, and other outside organizations.

## **Information Technology**

The Information Technology (IT) division is staffed by a combination of ALEA civilian employees and government contractors. The IT Division is responsible for operating, maintaining and securing all networks, applications, systems, devices, and electronic data specific to the ALEA mission; conducting annual and reoccurring cybersecurity awareness training, auditing and reporting; and coordinating, consulting, and helping implement new technology, modernization, consolidation, enhancements, and other IT-related services for the Agency.

In addition, the IT division's applications, support center, and infrastructure services allow ALEA to accurately, timely, and securely deliver law enforcement information to local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies handling criminal justice and citizen safety in Alabama and across the nation.

## **Alabama Criminal Justice Training Center**

The Alabama Criminal Justice Training Center ("ACJTC" or "the Academy") is a regional state law enforcement training academy that operates under the Office of the Secretary. The ACJTC is accredited by the Alabama Peace Officers' Standards and Training Commission ("APOSTC") and is located on Wallace Community College's Selma campus. Twenty ALEA arresting officers and nine ALEA civilians comprise the ACJTC staff.

The Academy is responsible for providing (1) basic training to student officers from various municipal, county, and state law enforcement agencies who attend the annual APOSTC basic police academy classes; (2) basic training to Trooper trainees in the annual Trooper trainee academy classes; (3) advanced training to the annual prior-certified Trooper academy classes; and (4) continuing-education training for arresting officers from various law enforcement agencies, as well as ALEA officers.

ACJTC staff members also supervise and manage the ALEA Field Training and Evaluation Program, which includes conducting annual certifications and re-certifications for arresting officers and classes to meet the training needs and requirements in the seven ALEA troops. ACJTC staff also manage the Alabama Impaired Driving Enforcement Training Program. In addition, the ACJTC is 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 for all ALEA arresting officers in the APOSTC system and the ALEA Personnel Training Record File.

On September 16, 2020, ALEA transferred the Special Services Unit, which is responsible for all ALERRT Levels I and II, ALERRT ERASE training, Run/Hide/Fight training, and the Alabama Sentry Program, to the ACJTC.

On October 1, 2019, the Academy began implementing the new ALEA training model to facilitate the Agency's vision for recruiting, hiring, and training new ALEA Troopers. It involved creating 18 training positions with accompanying Form-40s to specifically outline the job duties and responsibilities for each position. The staff conducted interviews and selected individuals for each position; the Academy installed the new staff members on December 1, 2019, and began training operations in January 2020.

The staff faced several challenges while implementing and transitioning to the new training model. Not only had the Academy never used this model, but a number of new staff members had little-to-no training experience. The COVID-19 pandemic forced the Academy to expedite all training operations and then suspend those operations for several weeks. The ACJTC created and implemented COVID-19 health precautions and procedures that enabled staff to continue training operations under the new model, the success of which is outlined below.

***ACJTC staff conducted the following training operations during FY2020:***

- 4 Basic Police Classes (137 student officers)
  - 6 Trooper Trainee Classes (211 Trooper trainees)
  - 25 advanced law enforcement training classes (610 officers trained)
  - 6 Field Training and Evaluation Program Classes (211 officers trained)
  - 50 in-service training sessions in the field (601 officers)
  - 81 handgun transitions (620 officers)
  - 52 PAFAs in the field (625 officers)
  - 20 other law enforcement training classes (118 officers trained)
  - 5 retiree handgun qualification sessions (22 retirees)
  - 3 APOSTC FIDC classes (72 officers trained)
  - 31 ALERRT Level I classes (815 officers trained)
  - 1 ALERRT Level II class (27 officers trained)
  - 1 ALERRT ERASE course (28 officers trained)
  - 56 Run/Hide/Fight classes (1,989 students trained)
  - 32 SFST Basic Courses (1,040 students trained)
  - 23 SFST Re-fresher Courses (305 officers trained)
  - 7 SFST Instructor Certification Courses (78 officers trained)
  - 12 ARIDE Courses (146 officers trained)
  - 9 DRE courses (105 officers trained)
  - 5 Cannabis Impairment Classes (62 officers trained)
- Entered Continuing Education Unit records (916 ALEA arresting officers in APOSTC and the ALEA Personnel Training Record File

**Training Sessions/Classes Conducted:** 429

**Officers Trained:** 7,822

*Note: ACJTC cancelled some scheduled training events due to COVID-19 pandemic closures.*

## **Department of Public Safety**

The Department of Public Safety ("DPS") is composed of three divisions: Marine Patrol, Highway Patrol, and Driver License. Civilian personnel in these Divisions work to support the efforts of uniformed ALEA Troopers, whose primary function is to enforce the law on roadways and waterways.

### **Marine Patrol Division**

The Marine Patrol Division's mission is to promote safe and responsible use of Alabama's waterways by combining law enforcement and educational programs. The Division covers three districts that encompass all of Alabama's waterways, including small rivers, lakes, and streams: the Northern District, which covers 27 counties with major waterways along the Tennessee, Coosa and Black Warrior Rivers; the Central District, which covers 32 counties with major waterways along the Coosa, Tallapoosa, Alabama, Tombigbee and Chattahoochee Rivers; and the Southern District, which covers 8 counties including the Alabama and Tombigbee Rivers and all coastal waters.

The Marine Patrol Division increased its ranks in FY2020 by adding 19 new Troopers, bringing the division's sworn strength to 57 officers. The new Marine Patrol officers - a group composed of new ALEA Troopers, transfers from the Highway Patrol Division, and rehired Troopers - underwent an additional 11 weeks of Marine Patrol-specific training prior to beginning patrol as solo units.

The Division also added 5 new 24-foot Silver Ships patrol boats to its fleet and was awarded a \$481,628 FEMA Port Security Grant that allowed the Division to repower 7 Silver Ships patrol boats currently in service in the Southern District, extending the patrol lives of those vessels by 6-7 years.

In FY2020, Marine Patrol Troopers investigated 107 boating crashes on Alabama waterways. Those incidents resulted in 14 deaths, 45 injuries, and \$1,001,641 in property damage. While the number of crashes from FY2019 to FY2020 remained almost the same, the number of deaths reported decreased by just over 50 percent.

**Top contributing factors for boating crashes in FY2020:**

Improper Lookout

Hazardous Waters Due to Currents

Operator Inattention

Operator Inexperience

Operating Too Close to Other Vessel/Person in the Water

Alcohol Impairment

ALEA Marine Patrol Troopers issued 6,131 citations and 12,345 warnings for water safety and highway safety violations.

**Top water safety violations:**

Boating Under the Influence	39
Other Alcohol Violations	191
Emergency Shut-Off Switch Violations	176
Operating a Vessel Without a License	161
Insufficient Personal Flotation Devices	158
Careless Operation of a Vessel	118
Vessel Registration Violations	116

While the COVID-19 pandemic prohibited Marine Patrol Troopers from teaching in-person boating safety classes, the Division made full use of social media and traditional media outlets to convey its safe-boating message to the public. Citizens could take online boating safety courses, and ALEA issued 35,055 new boating safety certificates in FY2020. There are now more than 700,000 licensed vessel operators and 246,065 registered vessels in Alabama.

The Marine Patrol Division also permitted 175 marine events on Alabama’s public waters in FY2020. ALEA Marine Patrol Troopers assisted with many of these events, which included fireworks displays, boat parades, boat races, and on-water concerts.

## Highway Patrol Division

The Highway Patrol Division, which is the largest of the DPS divisions, is composed of 7 Troops (regions), 17 Highway Patrol posts, and 7 Communications Centers across the state. The Division has specialized units within its ranks, including Motor Carrier Safety, Traffic Homicide Investigations, K-9 Officers, Honor Guard, and Motorcycle Enforcement.

The Highway Patrol Division's primary goal is to preserve the safety of those who travel Alabama's roadways. The Division seeks to gain motorists' voluntary compliance with and obedience to traffic laws through visual presence on the roadways and by aggressively enforcing primary offenses that cause crashes resulting in death or injury.

In FY2020, ALEA Troopers worked 33,316 crashes that resulted in 8,944 injuries and 553 fatalities (502 fatal crashes). Of the 553 fatalities, alcohol was a contributing factor in 108, down 4 percent from FY2019. Also during FY2020, ALEA Troopers issued 262,313 citations and 166,351 warnings to gain compliance with traffic laws and reduce crashes, specifically those resulting in death or injury.

### Top 10 Types of Citations/Violations:

Speeding	119,014
No Seat Belt	31,667
No Insurance	19,786
Driving Suspended	16,240
Tag Violations	15,315
No Driver License	12,891
Running Stop Sign	4,303
DUI	4,167
Improper Lights	3,425
Child Restraint	2,751

During FY2020, the top 10 primary contributing circumstances/causes for Trooper-investigated crashes, which account for 64 percent of all crashes, were as follows:

1. Failure to Yield Right-of-Way	3,185
2. Driving Too Fast for Conditions	3,032
3. Unseen Object/Person/Vehicle	2,951
4. Following Too Closely	2,620
5. DUI	1,747
6. Improper Lane Usage/Change	1,689
7. Over the Speed Limit	1,515
8. Fatigued/Asleep	1,327
9. Swerved to Avoid Vehicle	1,165
10. Other Distraction Inside Vehicle	1,092

During FY2020, the Highway Patrol Division hired, trained, and used 17 retired State employees to complete many Highway Patrol tasks, thus reducing the burden on ALEA Troopers working such enforcement as superload escorts and wrecker inspections. This allowed ALEA 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, ALEA Highway Patrol 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 allowed ALEA 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. These grants allowed the Highway Patrol Division to purchase Portable Breath Testers, LIDAR, Stop Sticks, floor jacks, RADARs, and Accident Reconstruction Drawing Software to benefit the motoring public.

## **Highway Patrol K-9 Officers**

The Highway Patrol Division deployed and used nine Highway Patrol K-9 Officers during FY2020, 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 K-9 and added two new K-9s to the roster.

## **ALEA Honor Guard**

The Honor Guard is a group of dedicated individuals who volunteer their time to honor the lives of our fallen, often missing family events and traveling great distances to do so. The Honor Guard added 38 new members to its roster in FY2020 and now boasts approximately 70 members statewide. These dedicated volunteers complete an intensive three-day training period to ensure they have the professional bearing necessary to represent the Agency. The Honor Guard presented honors at 33 events during FY2020, including funerals of retired ALEA arresting officers and active officers killed in the line of duty. They also participated in several memorial ceremonies and presentation of colors at various locations and venues across the state.

## **Traffic Homicide Investigation**

The Traffic Homicide Investigation ("THI") Unit investigates traffic crashes in Alabama that warrant criminal charges, including but not limited to, 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, Traffic Reconstruction, and how to use FARO Drawing Software with Agency drones.

During FY2020, the THI Unit trained 60 ALEA Troopers and 40 outside agency officers as Traffic Homicide Investigators, instructed over 100 recruits in Basic Accident Investigation and 33 current reconstructionists as CDR analysts, and worked 238 case files.

### **Motor Carrier Safety**

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

During FY2020, the Motor Carrier Safety Unit employed 66 sworn officers, 3 civilians, and 3 retired State employees/law enforcement officers. In addition, the Unit used 99 Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Troopers and 37 City Officer Program officers from 20 different law enforcement agencies to help reduce Commercial Motor Vehicle-related crashes across the state. During this period, the Unit placed 4,673 vehicles out of service for safety violations.

#### **FY2020 Motor Carrier Safety Unit:**

Commercial Vehicles (CMVs) Inspected	35,108
Hazardous-Materials Vehicles Inspected	1,265
Bus/Passenger Vehicles Inspected	318
CMVs Weighed by Fixed Scales	193,525
CMVs Weighed by Portable Scales	64,140
CMVs Weighed by Weight in Motion	1,180,890
New Entrant Safety Audits	736
Compliance Reviews	22

### **Motor Enforcement**

The Highway Patrol Division employed 17 Motor Enforcement Officers who, in addition to their other duties, worked over 200 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, Alabama National Fair, and a number of funerals for fallen officers and family members. They assisted at many community and public relations events, including Toys for Tots escort, memorial rides requesting escorts, and numerous school visits for special safety events.

## **Communications**

The Highway Patrol Division's Communications Unit is staffed with 67 Police Communications Officers ("PCO"), a Communications Unit Director, 2 Police Communications Managers, 9 Communications Supervisors (PCO III), and 54 PCOs I and II, as well as a retired State employee and an Administrative Support Assistant. The Unit added 11 new PCOs and promoted 9 members during this fiscal period.

ALEA Communications Centers are staffed 24 hours a day, 365 days a year in Decatur, Jacksonville, Sheffield, Tuscaloosa, Montgomery, Dothan, and Mobile.

These professional telecommunicators 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, reckless drivers, motorist assists, and roadway blockages. In addition, PCOs back up other law enforcement agencies upon request and coordinate multi-agency responses. They also serve as the first point of contact for citizens who need ALEA's services.

During FY2020, the Communications Unit dispatched ALEA Troopers to a total of 31,160 traffic crashes statewide (497 fatalities, 7,746 injuries, and 22,917 property-damage reports). The Unit now has Simulcast for SouthernLINC radios/phones in Troop B (Dothan area), Troop C (Tuscaloosa area), and Troop D (Montgomery area) and is working to offer it in the rest of the state. These radios/phones enable ALEA Troopers to speak to PCOs via their SouthernLINC while they are outside their vehicles, allowing them to obtain on-the-spot information rather than having to return to their vehicles to do so. The radios/phones also make it possible for ALEA Troopers to use earpieces and microphones to hear the radios outside their vehicles, further promoting officer safety and improved communication with the PCOs.

The Communications Unit also staffs the Mobile Command Post during special events, including race weekends at Talladega Superspeedway and Mardi Gras. Unit personnel also maintain detailed documentation regarding statistics during special enforcement periods (Thanksgiving, Labor Day, Memorial Day, Christmas, Click It or Ticket, Operation Southern Shield and other campaigns designated by the Nation Highway Traffic Safety Administration).

## **Driver License Division**

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

During FY2020, the Division met the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic by adjusting customer service processes in all locations/offices and at ALEA Headquarters in Montgomery. Division personnel offered curbside procedures, conducted temperature checks, expanded appointments to 22 locations, and suspended CDL and Class D road exams until changes were made to ensure citizen safety and that of Driver License Examiners. In fact, despite the pandemic, the Division served more individuals between March and the end of September 2020 than during the same period the previous year. To continue operations and serve as many customers as possible, the Division expanded its online and mail services and allowed customers to complete the process from the comfort and safety of their homes or offices.

### **Other accomplishments for FY2020:**

- Automating process of vessel license added to the driver license, allowing customers to visit probate/license commissioners' offices or go online to obtain this service.
- Through partnership with the Alabama State Department of Education, offering automatic removal of the Y restriction from learner permits and allowing 16-year-old drivers who completed Driver's Education to purchase driver licenses online or at their local probate/license commissioners offices.

- Deploying the ALEA mobile testing vehicle numerous times to conduct CDL testing services in various locations around the state.
- Awarding a multi-year contract/project to FAST Inc., to modernize the driver license system and replacing a system that was in place for over 15 years.
- Opening ALEA's first new Driver License Exam Office in Madison.
- Depositing a total of \$66,460,375 into the state's General Fund.

**Other Driver License Division activity this fiscal period:**

Vessel Knowledge	27,524
CDL Skills	854
CDL Knowledge	33,153
DL Skills	54,922
DL Knowledge	110,919
CDL Disqualified	414
DL Suspensions	33,047
DL Revoked	12,839
DL Canceled	31,369

**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.

SR-31 Accident Report Filing	3,581
SR-21 Insurance Verification Report	22
SR-22 Mandatory Insurance	13,813
SR-26 Cancellation of Insurance	12,268

Status Reports	1,234
Civil Court Judgments Filed	1,191
Telephone Calls	25,651
Walk-ins	7
Faxes	2,044
E-mails	1,720
Files Combined	8

### **Commercial Driver License/Medical Unit**

The Commercial Driver License/Medical Unit conducted three CDL Examiner Schools at the Alabama Criminal Justice Training Center in Selma, as well as training classes at the Alabama State Department of Education.

#### **CDL/Medical Unit Activity:**

Received 57,044 phone calls

Mailed out 18,893 letters

Helped 188 walk-in customers

Reinstated 6,915 drivers

Received 7,514 pieces of mail

Worked 9,941 follow-ups

Scanned 146,872 forms to Paper Vision

Entered 6,811 Haz-Mat background approvals

Received 28,003 faxes

Received and answered 38,499 e-mails

Received 676 returned documents

Processed 68,314 medical certifications

Processed 11,346 self-certifications

Verified 40,597 driver licenses

**Driver Improvement Unit & Review Officers:**

Processed 1,197 suspensions for School Enrollment Act violations

Received 9,211 e-mails

Corrected 3,251 errors on driving records

Renewed 2,647 licenses for individuals temporarily out of state

Reviewed 6,699 Hardship Applications

Reviewed & processed 22,442 records

Added 2,726 Interlock Removals

**Driver Services Unit:**

Answered 23,313 calls regarding no receipt of license or ID card in the mail

Answered 6,786 e-mails regarding no receipt of license or ID card in the mail

Received 8,447 licenses and ID cards returned by the post office due to incorrect addresses

Released 4,236 licenses and IDs card not received by mail or returned

Scanned 100,518 documents submitted by individuals and law enforcement agencies

Updated 9,511 records with new addresses

Re-mailed/returned 3,548 licenses and IDs cards to individuals

**Reinstatement Unit:**

Assisted 9,622 walk-in customers

Processed 3,021 credit card payments for reinstatements, MVRs and crash reports over the phone

Answered 22,571 telephone calls

Reinstated 10,557 records

Processed 65 refund requests

Sold 2,328 MVRs, 210 Lifetime MVRs and 550 accident reports

Processed 9,995 faxes and e-mails

**Records Unit:**

Answered 36,930 telephone calls

Processed: 19,144 driving abstracts requested by the courts

10,126 crash reports via mail, walk-ins and from DOT

11,562 MVRs via walk-ins & mail

8,736 MVRs over the phone by credit card

804 Lifetime MVRs

48,528 in-state tickets

34,526 out-of-state tickets

4,144 tickets returned because of errors

**Hearing/Fraud Unit:**

Processed 3,163 hearing requests using the Online Hearing Request System.

The Hearing Officers conducted 762 hearings.

Checked 6,449 AST-60s; 1,874 rescinded.

**Mandatory Liability Insurance Unit:**

Calls received	24,358
MLI initial letters sent	30,182
MLI suspension letters sent	22,344
Fees collected	\$2,679,342

Breakdown of fees collected:

Motor Vehicle Replacement Fund	\$893,113.72
Highway Traffic Safety Fund	\$1,616,536.06
Peace Officer Annuity and Benefits Fund	\$169,691.38

## **State Bureau of Investigation**

The State Bureau of Investigation ("SBI") functions as ALEA's investigative, non-uniform arm and is composed of the following divisions: Vice and Special Operations, Criminal Investigation, Criminal Justice Information System ("CJIS"), Alabama Fusion Center, and the ALEA Bomb Squad.

SBI conducts investigations and provides assistance to city, county, state, federal, and foreign law enforcement agencies in the following areas: criminal investigations; officer-involved shootings upon request; 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 escaped inmates; polygraph examination; technical surveillance; hostage negotiation; marijuana eradication; child and elder exploitation; in-custody death investigation; and outside agency-requested special inquiries.

### **Vice and Special Operations Division**

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

#### **The Alcohol and Agriculture Unit**

The Alcohol and Agriculture Unit is tasked with investigating and enforcing laws and regulations that govern using and consuming alcoholic beverages and tobacco products, along with investigating agricultural, timber, livestock, and farm equipment theft in Alabama.

SBI Agents in this Unit partner with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and the Alabama Department of Public Health to enforce laws prohibiting minors from accessing and using tobacco. Additional legislative appropriations from the Children First Trust Fund through the Alabama Department of Children's Affairs help cover the costs of regulating and enforcing tobacco sales.

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 FY2020, Alcohol and Agriculture agents completed 1,577 FDA checks that resulted in 120 cases (with a 7.6 percent non-compliance rate), conducted 61 livestock investigations, and investigated 37 cases of farm equipment theft. In addition to the FDA compliance checks, Unit agents completed 7,637 alcohol and tobacco compliance checks that resulted in 340 cases (4.5 percent non-compliance rate).

Unfortunately, COVID-19 restrictions prohibited Alcohol and Agriculture agents from performing SYNAR compliance checks during FY2020.

### **Narcotics Unit**

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

This Unit functions as the state's Marijuana Eradication Team and includes SBI Agents, the ALEA Aviation Unit, Alabama National Guard Counter Drug Unit, and local law enforcement agencies. The team's mission is to locate and eradicate domestic-grown cannabis through a cooperative effort made up of multi-agency teams and resources, with funding from a DEA grant. The Narcotics Unit, which partners with local law enforcement agencies across the state, heads up the Alabama Drug Enforcement Task Force. The Unit also operates and serves as custodian for the state's Clandestine Laboratory Waste Container Program through which Agents log and audit containers around the state that hold hazardous waste from methamphetamine labs until a hazardous waste company retrieves the waste.

In addition, SBI was a prominent supporter of its federal partners during FY2020. 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. During FY2020, Agents assigned to the United States Marshal's Service assisted in apprehending 191 fugitives.

**FY2020 Narcotics Seizures (through Alabama Drug Enforcement Task Force):**

Cocaine	18,260.5 grams / \$1,826,050
Crack	584.1 grams / \$58,410
Heroin	12,105.6 grams / \$1,331,616
Methamphetamine	112,539.28 grams / \$2,025,707.04
Marijuana	330,584 grams / \$3,305,840
Pills	3,956 pills / \$39,560

**Criminal Investigation Division**

The mission of the Criminal Investigation Division is to pursue justice by providing premiere investigative services, building trusting relationships with its law enforcement partners, and meeting criminal investigative needs with excellence. This Division is composed of the Major Crimes Unit and the Special Victims Unit.

**Major Crimes Unit**

The Major Crimes Unit predominantly investigates serious felony crimes, as well as officer use-of-force incidents and deaths while in custody. Agents of this unit are responsible for conducting specialized investigations and providing investigative support to other law enforcement agencies. They 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.

**Major Crimes Activity:**

Cases worked	228
Special-inquiry investigations	30
Officer-involved shooting investigations	46
In-custody death investigations	18

Arrests	234
Other investigations	434
Assists (local/federal agencies)	139

**Special Victims Unit**

The Special Victims Unit is tasked with investigating technology-facilitated child sexual exploitation and is primarily responsible for investigating crimes involving production and/or distribution of child pornography, solicitation of children for immoral purposes, technology-involved sexual and physical abuse of children, and human trafficking. The Alabama Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force is a part of this Unit and consists of statewide local law enforcement tasked with investigating and prosecuting these crimes.

**FY2020 Special Victims Activity:**

Investigations opened	902
Search warrants executed	441
Cyber tips received	3,395
Subpoenas served	1,906
Arrests	127

**Polygraph Examiners Unit**

The Polygraph Examiners Unit is staffed with 11 licensed examiners and conducts criminal and pre-employment polygraph examinations for ALEA and other state and local agencies. Five of those eleven examiners just completed polygraph school and began a six-month internship in November 2020. During FY2020, the Unit completed a total of 332 pre-employment and 28 criminal examinations.

## **Marijuana Eradication Unit**

The mission of the Marijuana Eradication Unit is to combat marijuana growth statewide. With assistance from ALEA's Aviation Unit, the Eradication Unit travels throughout the state to locate and confiscate marijuana plants. This unit is staffed with five Special Agents and a unit coordinator. During FY2020, the eradication team located 40 grow sites, seized 1,867 marijuana plants, and made 28 arrests.

## **Unmanned Aerial System Unit**

The Unmanned Aerial System ("UAS") Unit currently consists of the unit coordinator, a UAS operator manager, 19 drone pilots (located throughout the state), and 18 drones.

The UAS Unit responds to various crime scenes, traffic homicide crash scenes, hostage negotiations, search and rescue missions, search warrant executions and searches, for explosive devices. When deployed to crime scene and traffic homicide crash scenes, the Unit uses drones to map and recreate the scenes for investigation purposes and to be used during court proceedings.

During FY2020, the UAS Unit completed 1,385 flights (including mission and training flights), completed 939 flights during 472 missions, and mapped 162 traffic homicide crash scenes.

## **Faro Scanners**

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

SBI currently has four Faro scanners statewide. During this fiscal year, personnel used the Faro system to map 39 scenes statewide.

## **Digital Forensics Unit**

The Digital Forensics Unit ("DFU") performs forensic analysis on digital media, which includes computers, storage media, optical media, drones, digital video recorders, GPS, video cameras, digital cameras, video collection, and enhancements. DFU performs analysis for criminal investigations, internal affairs, and child-exploitation and child sex-abuse cases. Currently, SBI employs two full-time digital forensic technicians and one part-time retired State employee, all of whom are certified to testify in state and federal courts.

During FY2020, the Unit received 67 new cases and completed 78 cases, including some backlog.

## **Criminal Justice Information Services**

SBI's Criminal Justice Information Services Division ("CJIS") employs 62 employees who are responsible for providing and maintaining criminal justice information systems for the State of Alabama. CJIS provides guidance and training to local law enforcement agencies on information systems provided by ALEA and governed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Alabama Justice Information Commission. CJIS is also responsible for maintaining Alabama's Criminal History Repository, Fingerprint Repository, Sex Offender Registry, Uniform Crime Reporting Program, Latent Fingerprint Section, and Compliance Section.

### **Criminal History Repository**

The Criminal History Repository receives disposition information from state and municipal courts. This Unit's employees process expungement requests from circuit courts and pardons from the Alabama Bureau of Pardons and Paroles. The Unit received 70,299 dispositions in FY2020, and received and processed 445 requests for expungements and 102 pardons.

### **Fingerprint Repository**

The Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) 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. These fingerprint cards are submitted digitally or manually and are individually processed by this section.

The AFIS Unit processed a total of 236,819 cards during FY2020, including 159,827 arrest fingerprint cards, 76,901 applicant fingerprint cards, and 91 sex-offender fingerprint cards.

### **Sex Offender Registry**

The Sex Offender Registry (SOR) Unit maintains the State sex-offender information submitted by local law enforcement agencies. The SOR unit is responsible for entering the records into the FBI's National Criminal Information System, thereby making the information available nationally.

The SOR is also responsible for publishing the records, which are subject to public notification, to the State of Alabama's Sex Offender Website. The SOR Unit created 68 new sex-offender records, conducted 7,902 record checks, updated 5,030 records, validated 7,390 records, and entered or modified 4,889 records in NCIC during FY2020.

### **Uniform Crime Reporting Program**

The Uniform Crime Reporting Program (UCR) is the State of 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 submitted to the FBI for "Crime in the United States."

During FY2020, the FBI changed the reporting requirements from summary reporting to the National Incident Based Reporting System ("NIBRS"). The UCR Unit trained 758 law enforcement personnel to prepare them for the transition to NIBRS. This Unit also entered 1,468 asset-forfeiture records while implementing a new system, thereby allowing electronic submissions. The Unit is responsible for the National Instant Criminal History Check System (NICS) records for Alabama. The NICS checks are conducted at the point of sale for firearm purchases. UCR staff entered 1,499 involuntary commitment records into the NICS indexes and completed 1,794 criminal record disposition requests for NICS.

### **Latent Fingerprint Unit**

The Latent Fingerprint Unit is staffed with certified latent print examiners who are responsible for comparing fingerprints taken at crime scenes to the fingerprints in the State repository. This Unit received 655 requests from local law enforcement agencies, processed 15 crime scenes, and provided 548 positive identifications in FY2020. Examiners provided court testimony on 5 separate occasions and conducted 15 lectures on fingerprinting.

### **Criminal Justice Compliance Unit**

The Criminal Justice Compliance Unit ensures that criminal and non-criminal agencies maintain compliance with rules created by the FBI and the Alabama Justice Information Commission. During FY2020, this Unit hired new personnel who serve as Criminal Justice Compliance Specialists and travel to local law enforcement agencies to provide training on information systems and conduct audits to ensure compliance. During FY2020, the Criminal Justice Compliance Unit conducted 162 agency visits and 63 audits, trained 1,474 local law enforcement agency personnel, and responded to 3,842 calls for service.

### **Alabama Fusion Center**

The Alabama Fusion Center, a division of SBI, is the intelligence source for all Alabama law enforcement. A true force multiplier, the Fusion Center 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.

The Fusion Center provides real-time research support for Alabama law enforcement in areas including cybercrime, terrorism, narcotics, and human trafficking. Additionally, the Fusion Center coordinates and facilitates issuing AMBER, Emergency Missing Child, Blue, and Missing and Endangered Person (previously known as "Missing 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 Fusion Center utilizes training sessions, intelligence bulletins, threat assessments and "pass-throughs" (intelligence from other intelligence entities the Fusion Center sends on their behalf) to share information with law enforcement and private-sector partners. During FY2020, the Fusion Center provided 71 intelligence bulletins (including threat assessments), 66 pass-through intelligence bulletins, and 104 training sessions.

Fusion Center personnel also provide intelligence and analytical resources to its partners within the state. Alabama law enforcement agencies continually rely on Fusion Center analysts, who may provide information on criminal activity in one area and how it may be linked to the same criminal activity in another area, or to assist on a dormant "cold case."

Fusion Center analysts are capable of producing products that assist agencies lacking similar resources within their organizations. Fusion Center analysts provide investigative services by fulfilling Requests for Information ("RFI") or Requests for Assistance ("RFA"). RFIs involve database searches and inquiries, or locating and retrieving records (often from other fusion centers), while 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. As an analytical resource for law enforcement and as an information-sharing hub regarding missing person alerts, ACMEC also serves as a central repository for information regarding missing persons and unidentified deceased persons and is the administrating agency of the Alabama AMBER Alert, Emergency Missing Child Alert, Missing & Endangered Person

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. The Missing Senior Alert was amended effective June 1, 2020, and is currently known as the "Missing & Endangered Person Alert."

During FY2020, Fusion Center personnel issued 6 AMBER Alerts, 23 Emergency Missing Child Alerts, 45 Missing & Endangered Person Alerts, and 2 Blue Alerts. Fusion Center personnel also posted 101 children and 49 adults to the ALEA Missing Persons website.

### **Joint Terrorism Task Force**

The Fusion Center provides two Special Agents to the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force. These Agents serve as a direct line of communication between intelligence received and analyzed by AFC intelligence analysts and the Task Force. This tactical arrangement provides for a clear and rapid line of communication, often regarding information the Fusion Center receives from the public via the Suspicious Activity Reporting (SAR) system. Much of the activity these Agents conduct is classified.

### **Alabama Fusion Center School Safety Initiative Team**

In April 2018, Governor Kay Ivey formed the Securing Alabama's Facilities of Education Council (SAFE Council) which provided recommendations that may help provide students in Alabama a safe environment to learn and grow. One such recommendation outlined is Fusion Center's approach at triaging threats at education facilities in Alabama and across the nation. The AFC School Safety Initiative Team collects information, and triages and logs threats at schools daily.

If the threat is within Alabama, the team member can assist the local jurisdiction investigating the threat with full case assistance until the threat is over.

### **Alabama Geographic Information Office**

The Alabama Fusion Center was the first fusion center in the nation to incorporate a geographic information system: the Alabama Geographic Information Office (AGIO). AGIO provides statewide coordination of geographic information, geographic information systems, and other geospatial-related technologies all Alabama state agencies use.

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, chaired by the ALEA Secretary.

The AGIO established a statewide interactive platform - the Alabama GeoHub – to provide for discovery, access, exploration, and visualization of geospatial data in a collaborative environment. The GeoHub is used to provide important geospatial and analytical resources to support investigations and operations. GIS technology is also deployed with the school safety dashboard, reflecting 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.

### **Bomb Squad**

ALEA's Bomb Squad is staffed with six Agents to carry out the mission of educating, preventing, detecting, mitigating, and exploiting bombs, Improvised Explosive Devices ("IEDs") and Weapons of Mass Destruction ("WMD") throughout Alabama.

All Bomb Squad agents are certified in advanced techniques and procedures, including large vehicle bombs, electric blasting cap diagnostics (cutting the proverbial red wire), explosive chemistry, homemade explosives, and improvised explosive device disassembly and exploitation. The Bomb Squad averaged over 200 explosive-related calls for service every year since 2000 except for this year because of COVID-19.

Every U.S. Public Safety Bomb Technician must attend the FBI Hazardous Devices School in Huntsville. There are 467 U.S. Public Safety Bomb Squads, made up of roughly 3,000 U.S. Public Safety Bomb Technicians. ALEA has the only U.S. Public Safety Bomb Technician to have served in the Combined Explosives Exploitation Cell Iraq, technically exploiting more than 100,000 IEDs. ALEA Bomb Technicians also served as U.S. Military EOD Technicians deployed to the Balkans, disposing of millions of pounds of high explosives and military ordnance.

Additionally, ALEA Bomb Technicians deployed to Nigeria with the U.S. State Department and the FBI to teach Bomb Squad Commander.

Other than the FBI, ALEA also has the only Public Safety Bomb Technician in Alabama who is certified as a Tactical Bomb Technician ("TBT"). The TBT program was created to embed Bomb Technicians with tactical teams during such events as an "active shooter" situation and to keep the tactical team moving toward the threat.

ALEA uses this unmatched level of experience to teach Basic Police Officers at all APOSTC academies, as well as teaching state, local, and military Bomb Technicians at the ATF National Center for Explosives Testing and Research. Nearly 100 percent of all calls for service are in support of local agencies. Those calls for service include unattended packaged, suspicious packages, hoax devices, non-criminal recovery of explosives, military ordnance recovery, pre- and post-event explosive sweeps for events, operational standby during large-scale priority events, post-blast investigations to determine cause and origin, and recovery of bombs. Every call must be approached from a position of total success or instant failure.

In conjunction with the national response plan for IEDs and WMD, the ALEA Bomb Squad is part of a tiered response to such events. During the past two years, ALEA responded to calls in 46 of 67 Alabama counties, assisting 82 different agencies in Alabama.

Fifteen different local, state, and federal agencies requested that ALEA Bomb Technicians teach classes related to bombs and explosives, and they spent 1,202 hours teaching a total of 3,397 students. These students included U.S. Military EOD Technicians from all branches of service, U.S. Public Safety Bomb Technicians from Bomb Squads all over the country, local police and deputy sheriffs, school administrators, school board members, teachers, and private citizens. The hours break down to 30.05 weeks of teaching citizens about bombs.