



KAY IVEY  
GOVERNOR

## ALABAMA LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY

201 SOUTH UNION STREET, SUITE 300 | P.O. BOX 304115 | MONTGOMERY, AL 36130-4115  
PHONE 334.517.2800 | WWW.ALEA.GOV



HAL TAYLOR  
SECRETARY

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**October 2, 2021**

### **ALEA's Secretary Issues Statement Concerning Fallen Sheffield Police Officer**

*SBI Investigates Officer-Involved Shooting*

**COLBERT COUNTY** – At the request of the Sheffield Police Department, Special Agents with the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency's (ALEA) State Bureau of Investigation (SBI) are investigating an officer-involved shooting, which involved officers with the Sheffield Police Department. The incident occurred Friday, Oct. 1, at approximately 2:00 p.m. The suspect, identified as Brian Lansing Martin, 41, of Sheffield, engaged in gunfire with officers and was struck. Two officers with the Sheffield Police Department, Lieutenant Max Dotson and Sergeant James Nicholas "Nick" Risner were also struck by gunfire. Martin and Sgt. Risner were transported to a local hospital for treatment. Martin is in stable condition, however, Sgt. Risner tragically succumbed to his injuries on Saturday, Oct. 2.

ALEA Secretary Hal Taylor issued the following statement concerning the loss of fallen Sheffield Police Officer Sgt. Nick Risner:

"On behalf of the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency, I would like to extend my deepest condolences to the family and friends of Sheffield Police Officer Sgt. Nick Risner. It has been absolutely devastating to learn of the loss of Sgt. Risner who was a true professional and dedicated public servant, devoting nearly a decade of his life to protecting and serving his local community, as well as his nation by serving with the United States Army Reserve.

His determination to serve the public will always be remembered and the sacrifice he made will never be forgotten. As we mourn alongside fellow law enforcement officers as well as the entire community, we also pray for the speedy and full recovery of Lt. Max Dotson who was struck by gunfire during the incident and fortunately, is doing well.

It is times such as these that truly remind us how dangerous a career in law enforcement can be. Every day, officers around the state risk their lives in the performance of their duties to protect and keep their fellow citizens safe. Both officers' courage, resolve and brave actions will continue to live on and provide us all with an example of true heroism."

Nothing further is available as the investigation is ongoing. Once complete, the findings will be turned over to the Colbert County District Attorney's Office.

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