



Quarterly Newsletter

The latest news, views and announcements

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Sgt. Bill Powell as Nationally Certified Instructor	02
Renewed for Re-Entry	02
Helping Our Communities Recover	03
The Calm After the Storm	04
In the Community	06
Love & Donuts	06
Sheriff Spotlight	08

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

Deputies in the Community

Frequently Used Numbers

Become a Reserve Deputy or a Member of our Search and Rescue Team

A MESSAGE FROM **SHERIFF MARK PETTWAY**



What a year 2021 has started out to be! January brought devastation to the Cities of Fultondale and Centerpoint in the form of a devastating tornado. February brought snow and ice to most of Jefferson County. In the midst of all of the strife with which we have faced, we have shown our ability to overcome. We have started making strides towards conquering Covid-19 by the distribution of the vaccine. The entire state reached out to the tornado damaged cities and began helping without being asked. The general public heeded the weather forecaster's warnings regarding travel difficulties.

Seeing the citizens come together as one is encouraging. It reminds me of what community really means. It means helping others when they are down, it means spreading joy – even if you're having a bad day, it means looking out for your neighbor and it means having faith in those around you.

The men and women of the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office show their commitment to their community every day.

They have continued to work through the pandemic without question, they were among the first to respond to tornado-stricken areas, they ride through their assigned locations and get out of their car to make friends, they coach sports teams, they volunteer in schools or churches and so many other things that show they truly care.

These men and women wear a badge that identifies them as one who enforces the laws, but they are so much more. We send them out every day to perform the unknown, and they do it with no reservations. Invite them into your community. Be their partner. Make them feel welcome, for their presence shows their true hearts. Trust me, you won't regret it.

Together, we can reenergize what being a community really means. From the barber, to the convenience store clerk, to the banker, the parking attendant and everyone in between – we are better as one community.

JEFFERSON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



International Association of Directors names JCSO's
Sgt. Bill Powell as Nationally Certified Instructor



William "Bill" Powell is a Sergeant with the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office in Alabama. He retired from the United States Air Force and has served as a deputy sheriff at the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office for over 20 years. He has a B.A. in Criminal Justice from American Military University and an M.A. in Organizational Leadership/Public Administration from Waldorf University. Bill received his Instructor Development Certificate from the Federal Bureau of Investigation in 2010. He was a specialized instructor at the academy. His areas of focus were in Laws of Corrections and Custody, Jail Management, Gangs, and Emergency Vehicle Operations.

Sgt. Powell is currently assigned to the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office's Academy and Training Center. He is a certified firearms instructor, Taser/CEW Instructor and APOSTC General Instructor. He received the 2019 Outstanding Law Enforcement Professional Runner-Up Award from Columbia Southern University. "Students are responsible for learning; my role as an instructor is to meet students where they are, challenge them to actively engage in the pursuit of knowledge, and encourage critical thinking and ownership of advancing their knowledge and skillset in a safe learning environment", is Sgt. Powell's teaching approach.

RENEWED FOR RE-ENTRY

The Jefferson County Sheriff's Office is proud to partner with the Dannon Project to offer qualified inmates the opportunity to participate in the "Renewed for Re-entry" program. This program helps those who are incarcerated and may be at a crossroads in life. These people are given the life and job skills they may have missed in the past, skills that will help them to succeed at a job and in life. "Giving these individuals the opportunity to make positive strides and to be proud of themselves is worth so much. Teaching that there is another way in life, is priceless," said Sheriff Mark Pettway.

"Sending a confident, productive member of society back out into the world for good is our goal. Nothing less will do," said Pettway. The "Renewed for Re-entry" program was temporarily halted due to Covid-19 restrictions, but will ramp back up in the Jefferson County Jail on March 08, 2021.

**Some of the skills and assistance offered
by this program are:**

- Job preparation
- Comprehensive case management
- Developing IDPs using Labor Market Information (including identifying barriers to employment)
- Needs assessment
- Career exploration and planning
- Legal assistance
- Counseling
- Assistance with linking inmates to the social services required to help them transition back to their communities.

**HAVE YOU EVER
THOUGHT ABOUT
BECOMING A
RESERVE DEPUTY?**

You can call our
internal affairs
division and
request
information. Our
reserve deputies
are a huge part of
what makes our
department
successful! Call us
at 205-325-5700.

**WE'RE
ON
SOCIAL
MEDIA!**

CHECK US OUT ON
FACEBOOK, TWITTER
AND INSTAGRAM.

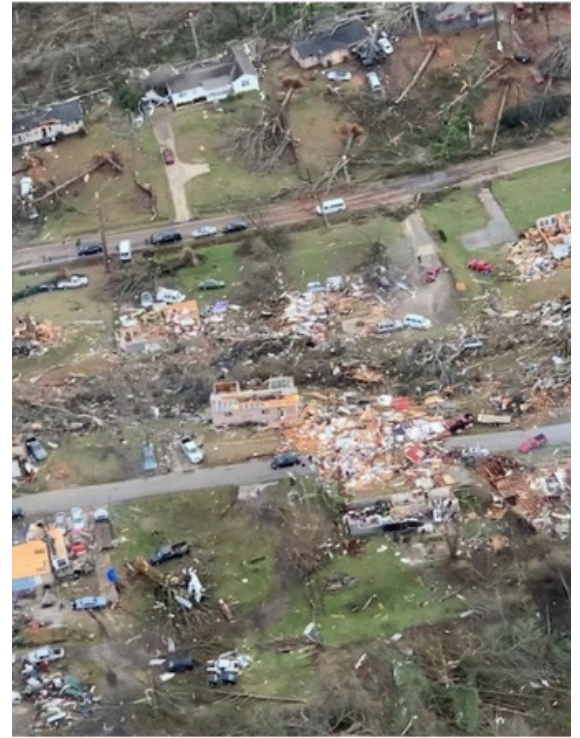
YOU CAN ALSO
DOWNLOAD OUR
APP "JEFFERSON
COUNTY SHERIFF AL"
FOR NEWS AND
ALERTS

SHERIFF'S OFFICE

HELPING OUR COMMUNITY RECOVER

On the night of February 1, 2021, deputies working the night shift for the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office received information that no law enforcement officer ever wants to hear. A tornado had touched down in the City of Fultondale and there were multiple injuries to its' citizens. Deputies who were already on duty rushed to assist the officers at Fultondale Police Department.

As dawn broke over the city, the full extent of the devastation could be clearly seen. Somehow, there was only one life lost in what looked like a war zone after a bomb had been deployed.



Sheriff Pettway deployed our Mobile Metro Area Crime Center to a parking lot directly across from Fultondale City Hall. The Sheriff, his command staff, and deputies all reported for long shifts and worked without off days to provide support for a hurting city and its' officials.

While the city suffered, as citizens and officials worked tirelessly to help those in need, people who had not been affected by the storm rose up and began to care for their needs. Countless businesses, restaurants, individuals, and even children appeared without being asked to help. They fed law enforcement, workers, and victims. They donated monies, clothing, toiletries, cleaning supplies, water, time – anything that was needed.

Regardless of what we may hear or read, Jefferson County is a community. It is a community that cares for its' neighbors. It is a community that has a common goal. That goal is to live a life free from the troubles with which we are all faced – and when those times do come, we lift up our brothers and sisters.



The Calm After the Storm – Leadership Exemplified Under Pressure

On Monday, January 25, 2021 at around 10:40 PM, the residents of Fultondale and parts of Centerpoint were struck by a horrific tornado that left many lives in shambles. Amongst this type of chaos, often people will crumble under pressure. There are so many people who need help, it is difficult to know where to begin. Sheriff Mark Pettway was fortunate enough to have placed leaders who thrive amidst the pressure of knowing there was no room for error. These are accounts from just a few of those masterful leaders.



Lieutenant Arlinda “Kay” Hallingquest

The first of the command staff to arrive on the scene, Lieutenant Hallingquest had received reports from her night shift sergeant as to the extent of the damage. Knowing her team had been out and exposed to the devastation, she wanted to lay eyes on them to make sure they were ok. She met them at the Fultondale City Hall and found out they were fine. While she was there, reports started coming in from the Fultondale fire and police departments. She was informed that they needed extensive assistance. She began to reach out to Sergeants under her command, as well as in other divisions.

She began to work with those supervisors to create a game plan to ensure the City of Fultondale had everything they needed to escalate rescue and recovery. Lieutenant Hallingquest, extremely humble in nature, overwhelmed me with names of those who helped make this mission possible. She particularly wanted to mention the efforts of Deputy Will Johnson, who is the School Resource Officer for the storm damaged Fultondale High School. “Without the team efforts of everyone involved, none of this would have been possible,” was the recurring answer I got to any question I presented Lt. Hallingquest.



Lieutenant Russell “Rusty” Starnes

Lieutenant Starnes arrived early to work on Tuesday morning not realizing the true extent of the devastation suffered in the areas hit by the tornado. He began receiving reports describing the extent of the wreckage from his Sergeants. He went into the field so that he could see firsthand the needs of the community. He wasn't prepared for the amount of damage he observed. He and his Sergeants created a plan to send troops into the damaged areas while still conducting the necessary patrol functions to keep the unaffected areas safe. Lieutenant Starnes states he is still humbled by the faith displayed by the storm victims.



Lieutenant Kenneth "Kenny" James

Lieutenant James learned of the calamity on Tuesday morning. His first call was to the Fultondale Police Chief offering assistance. Lieutenant James called his staff and they began setting up the Metro Area Crime Center's Mobile Command Unit in a parking lot across from Fultondale City Hall and mobile cameras in areas where citizen's valuables were exposed. By 9:00 AM, deputies were responding to the command center, established by Lt. James, for their assignments and the staff was monitoring the cameras from the Mobile Command Unit. He maintained communications between Fultondale City officials and the Sheriff's Office so that resources would be utilized to their maximum capacity.



Lieutenant Phillip "Phill" Hill

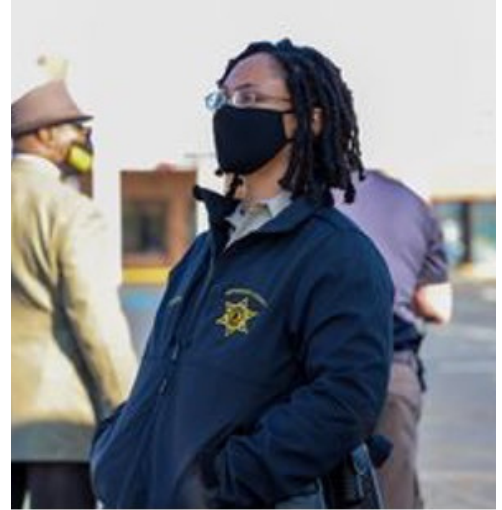
Lieutenant Hill received a call from his Captain over Bessemer Patrol division advising him of the damage in the Fultondale community. She asked that he reach out to Lieutenant Hallingquest, who was already on the scene, to see what may be needed. Instead, Lieutenant Hill went directly to the location and assisted Lt. Hallingquest with devising a plan to distribute manpower from the Bessemer Division to aid the efforts of the Birmingham Division. While he was at the Fultondale command post, he assisted citizens by handing out donations of water and food. Lieutenant Hill said he is very proud of how everyone worked together with a "team" mentality.



JCS



IN THE COMMUNITY





DONUTS & LOVE

Valentine's Day is a day for us to remind those around us that we love them. Each of us does it in our own way. For Sheriff Mark Pettway and his deputies, this is a day that they reach out to many women in the Jefferson County area to remind them that they are loved, that they are special.

The Sheriff took a few of his deputies and visited women who are living at the Lovelady Center and YWCA Women's Shelters. They delivered Valentine's Donuts and Love Bunnies. Although we may have made the deliveries, we were the one's who received the joy, just from seeing the smiles on these ladies faces.

VALENTINE'S DAY OF LOVE

SHERIFF SPOTLIGHT



“ *Animals are like people.* ”



He willingly surrendered the pony to Deputy Sanford to see if he could help him. Deputy Sanford worked tirelessly with Rocket to return him to his original robust order.

Today, when Deputy Sanford drives the truck up to the field where the once puny pony now thrives, Rocket's joyful whinnies can be heard before he is even visible. He flies across the pasture to greet Deputy Sanford, who actually adopted Rocket as his own.

The main thing that Deputy Sanford says he has learned from this job is to be respectful of others and their situations. Animals and people alike. He says that sometimes when you actually begin to investigate a situation, there are circumstances that reveal a deeper problem. Sometimes, it is much greater than a problem with an animal. He has seen families who love their animals but can't afford to provide the care they need. Particularly now with the pandemic, some people may just need help. He asks anyone who needs help to reach out to rescue organizations or animal shelters, not to let an animal suffer.

It has been said, that we should all strive to be the person our pets think we are.....Deputy Sanford seems to be taking that challenge seriously.



Deputy Tim Sanford is Jefferson County's only Animal Cruelty Deputy. Should a report come in on an animal that has been abused according to Alabama state law, it is Deputy Sanford's responsibility to investigate that report. He must assure that the animal is being treated properly according to state law and municipal ordinances.

Through Deputy Sanford's career as an Animal Cruelty Deputy, he has seen some really heartbreaking things, things that are difficult to imagine. I asked Deputy Sanford to recall his most unsettling case. Normally a happy and outgoing person, Deputy Sanford's eyes dropped and his voice cracked as he began to tell me the story of a dog fighting ring case he worked shortly after he transferred to his current position. He described to me a devastating scene where dogs were chained to trees in the middle of the woods. They were on a hillside with no shelter other than a bucket for them to get under.

About 50 yards away from where the dogs were tethered was the ring in which they would be forced to fight for their lives. These dogs would fight until either they or their opponent was dead and they would witness those who went before them do the same. Even though it has been about 3 years since Deputy Sanford witnessed this atrocity, it still stirs strong emotions within him.

Along with all of the heartache with which this assignment has saddled Deputy Sanford, he has even more stories of encouragement and happy endings. His favorite story of success is one surrounding Rocket. Rocket was a pony that was extremely malnourished and riddled with parasites. The new owner had just gotten him from another individual and was trying to nurse him back to health, to no avail.