



GEORGIA

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

NEWS RELEASE

LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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30-Year Georgia DNR Law Enforcement Veteran Named Lt. Colonel

Major Mike England becomes the new assistant director of the Division



Lt. Colonel Mike England

SOCIAL CIRCLE, GA – This past week, Georgia Department of Natural Resources Law Enforcement Division Major Mike England was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel and assistant director of the Division. He steps into the vacancy created by the retirement of Lt. Col. Johnny Johnson. England's new role as Lt. Colonel will be effective on Friday, October 1st.

“Lt. Col. England has been a great asset to DNR Law Enforcement throughout his career and I believe that will continue as he assumes his new role of lieutenant colonel,” said DNR Law Enforcement Director Colonel Thomas Barnard. “I am sure his experience and leadership will make a positive impact across the state.”

Lt. Colonel Mike England is a 30-year veteran of LED and has served most of his career at DNR Law Enforcement Headquarters in Social Circle. He began his career as a Game Warden in Richmond County in 1991 and was promoted to Corporal in 2001, Sergeant in 2002, and Captain of Special Projects in 2003. England then became the Region Supervisor in the Wildlife Resources Division for the Licensing & Boat Registration Unit in 2006 and transferred back to Law Enforcement as Captain over Special Projects in 2010. His most recent promotion was to Major of Special Operations on February 1, 2019.

Lt. Col. England played a key role in the Department's efforts to pass historic boating legislation during the 2013 legislative session, conducting research, writing drafts of the law and providing institutional knowledge throughout the process. As a result, Georgia now has a .08 blood alcohol concentration limit for boating under the influence (BUI) and mandatory boater education, which requires all boaters born on or after January 1, 1998 to take a NASBLA-approved course or obtain Georgia DNR-approved rental education and satisfy a safety checklist. Also, during the 2013 session, Georgia became the first state to pass and enact the Interstate Boating Violator Compact, largely due to England's work.

Since 2002, England has worked with National Association of Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) and has served as Chairman of the Numbering and Titling Committee. He also served on the Wildlife Violator Compact since 2002 and was the national chairman from 2013-2015. He is a graduate of the FBI National Academy Session 237, and the 2019 National Association of Conservation Law Enforcement Chiefs, NACLEC Leadership Academy.

Lt. Col. England resides in Oconee County with his wife Amber and three children Jordan, Emma, and Wyatt.

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The Georgia Department of Natural Resources Law Enforcement Division is committed to conserving our natural resources and protecting the people we serve through fair and vigorous law enforcement, quality education, and community involvement.

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