

# 2014 FACT SHEET

Mark Williams Commissioner Colonel Eddie Henderson Director

### LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION MISSION

The Mission of the Law Enforcement Division is to conserve our natural resources and to protect the people we serve. We maintain public support through fair and vigorous law enforcement, quality education, and community involvement. We commit ourselves to our Vision and Mission by practicing our core beliefs: trust, fairness and professionalism.



# Serving Since 1911—Trust, Fairness, Professionalism

DNR has the oldest state law enforcement unit in Georgia. In 1911, the Georgia General Assembly passed legislation creating Game Wardens. Over the years, the name has changed but the mission has remained the same. Even though their roles have continued to evolve, Conservation Rangers still focus on their core mission of enforcing hunting, fishing, boating and environmental laws. They also provide public safety on all DNR-controlled properties and serve outdoor enthusiasts and the public throughout Georgia.

In July, the Law Enforcement Division celebrated its first anniversary after a Divisional reorganization by the Board of Natural Resources in 2013. The reorganization promotes streamlined operations, a clearer chain of command, standardize training, equipment and operational guidance for law enforcement services and reduces liability.

The Law Enforcement Division is now one of only ten organizations in the nation to be accredited for meeting the standards set forth by the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) in their Boat Operations and Training (BOAT) program. The Division received the accreditation for implementing key training elements for Rangers that ensures they are prepared to perform maritime law enforcement and to respond to emergency situations to a national standard of operations.

Law Enforcement *Off the Pavement*—Our Rangers are POST certified and well-trained Georgia Peace Officers, serving alongside all other local, state and federal agencies in all areas of law enforcement. They are often called upon to go *Off the Pavement* to get the job done with their specialized training in:

- Woodland Operations
- Waterborne Operations
- Aviation
- Critical Incident Reconstruction
- Counter-terrorism
- Search-and-rescue
- Disaster response
- K-9

On July 1, 2014 the "Turn In Poachers" program became the "Ranger Hotline" program. The purpose of the program is to encourage sportsmen to report poachers and violators of our state's game laws, but it is expanded to include a broader range of rewards to support all of DNR. The Ranger Hotline program is operated by the Georgia Natural Resources Foundation with DNR Commissioner Mark Williams serving as Chairman of an advisory committee comprised of GNRF Board Members and other organizations committed to this cause.

Whether in the woods, on the lakes or rivers, in the air enforcing the laws of the state, or in the classroom or community meeting educating Georgians, young and old, about safety and conserving our natural resources, DNR Law Enforcement Conservation Rangers are up to the task.

# **SPECIAL RECOGNITION**

Ranger of the Year	Cpl. Greg Wade
Georgia Boating Officer of the Year	Cpl. Jeremy Bolen
Investigative Ranger of the Year	RFC David Webb
Rocky Wainwright Waterfowl Award	RFC Brian Adams
James R. Darnell Award Recipient	Cpl. Jeremy Bolen
NWTF Officer of the Year	Cpl. Lynn Stanford

# CONSERVATION LAW ENFORCEMENT BY THE NUMBERS

- 185 POST certified officers
- Each Ranger serves 54,054 Georgia citizens
- 12,000 miles of rivers patrolled
- 500,000 acres of impounded waters patrolled
- Coastal Patrol: 100 linear miles of shoreline and out to 200 miles offshore
- Land Patrol: Over 37 million acres. This includes public and private land, including 110
  Wildlife Management Areas, 10 Public Fishing Areas, and 65 State Parks and Historic Sites.
- 850,877 Licensed Anglers
- 554,034 Licensed Hunters
- 322,000 Registered Vessels

## **Programs**

- 824 Hunter Education
- 1,369 Information and Education
- 315 Boating Safety
- 251 Hunter Development

#### Cases

- 344 Water Search and Rescue
- 203 Land Search and Rescue
- 54 Hunting Incidents
- 102 Boating Incidents

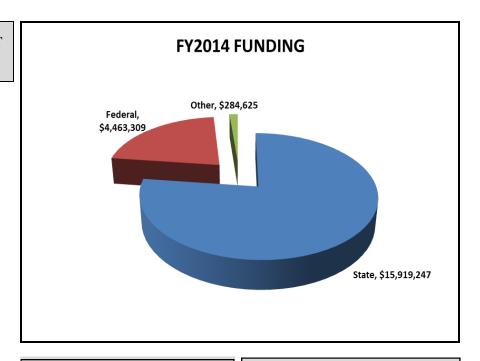
### **Licenses Checked**

- 27,160 Vessels Checked
- 24,868 Hunting Licenses
- 29,960 Fishing Licenses
- 671 Commercial Licenses

## Activity

- 4,191 Boating Contacts
- 6,012 Hunting Contacts
- 2,650 Fishing Contacts
- 458 Environmental Contacts



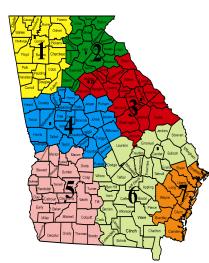


## **SPECIALTY UNITS**

- Special Permits
- K-9
- Chaplains
- Aviation
- Marine Theft
- Investigative
- Region Investigators
- Critical Action Teams
- Body Recovery Team
- Critical Incident Reconstruction Team
- Counter Terrorism Task Force

# 2014 OFFICER TRAINING

- Extensive Firearms Training
- ALERRT Active Shooter Training
- Chainsaw Training
- Advanced Report Writing
- Search and Seizure Refresher & Legislative Updates
- BUI/SFST Refresher
- INTOX 9000 Transition Training



Headquarters (770) 918-6408

Region I - Northwest (770) 769-9680 Capt. Johnny Johnson

Region II - Northeast (770) 535-5499 Capt. Thomas Barnard

Region III - East Central (706) 595-4211 Capt. Mark Padgett

Region IV - West Central (478) 751-6415 Capt. Bob Lynn

Region V - Southwest (229) 430-4252 Capt. Jeff Swift

Region VI - Southeast (912) 685-2145 Capt Scott Klingel

Region VII - Coastal (912) 264-7234 Capt. Doug Lewis