



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Georgia DNR Names New Director of Law Enforcement Division

ATLANTA, GA (October 12, 2023) – The Georgia Department of Natural Resources (DNR) announced the appointment of Mike England to Colonel and director of the Law Enforcement Division (LED). Col. England assumes the role following the vacancy created by former Col. Thomas Barnard’s appointment to the position of Deputy Commissioner of Georgia DNR.



Colonel Mike England

“Col. England’s promotion from Lieutenant Colonel is well-deserved and I know that he will continue to build on the positive impact he made as assistant director,” said Walter Rabon, Commissioner of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources. “His wealth of knowledge derived from his decades of service with Georgia DNR, coupled with his leadership attributes, will greatly benefit the Law Enforcement Division and DNR as a whole.”

Col. England began his career with the Law Enforcement Division of DNR more than 30 years ago, starting out as a Game Warden in Richmond County in 1991. From 2001 to 2003, he rose quickly through the ranks, being promoted to Corporal, Sergeant, and Captain of Special Projects. England then moved to the Wildlife Resources Division (WRD), overseeing the Licensing and Boat Registration Unit. In 2010, he moved back to Law Enforcement as Captain over Special Projects and climbed to the position of Major of Special Operations in 2019. On September 27, 2021, he was named assistant director of the Law Enforcement Division and received the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. Much of Col. England’s career has been spent at DNR Law Enforcement Headquarters in Social Circle.

“I am confident Col. England will lead with honor as he takes over as the next director of the Law Enforcement Division,” said Thomas Barnard, Deputy Commissioner of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources. “His time with WRD and LED, and his unmatched work ethic will benefit the state, our natural resources, and the public we serve.”

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

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ABOUT THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

The mission of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is to sustain, enhance, protect, and conserve Georgia's natural, historic and cultural resources for present and future generations, while recognizing the importance of promoting the development of commerce and industry that utilize sound environmental practices. This work is conducted by DNR’s five operating divisions which include: Coastal Resources Division; Environmental Protection Division; Law Enforcement Division; State Parks & Historic Sites Division; and Wildlife Resources Division.

ABOUT THE LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION OF GEORGIA DNR

The Law Enforcement Division (LED) of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources is responsible for protecting Georgia's wildlife populations by enforcing laws, rules and regulations pertaining to game and non-game animals, threatened and endangered plants and animals, exotic animals, boating safety, litter and waste control and other

natural resource issues. The LE Division also administers the state's hunter education and boating safety programs. Game Wardens investigate violations of wildlife laws, as well as hunting and boating incidents. LED's Game Wardens are the most versatile law enforcement officers in the state with specialized training in Woodland Operations, Waterborne Operations, Aviation, Critical Incident Reconstruction, Search-and-Rescue, Disaster Response, K-9, and Urban Crime Suppression.

For more information, contact

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