



Pickens Sheriff's Office

INSIDE THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Issue #5: April 2012

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PSO Mission

Our Mission is to partner with and serve the citizens of our Community by providing effective, ethical and efficient law enforcement services for all.



Sheriff's Corner

Blazing a Trail

One of my greatest fears as a public servant is complacency. History has shown, in virtually every environment, people get comfortable in their daily roles and begin to slip into a pattern of accepting the status quo. This is especially true of law enforcement. Because the role of law enforcement is specific to the laws that are on the books and the policies in the manual, we tend to lock into one way of doing things that may not be the most efficient way to move forward.

Being Determined to Make a Difference requires looking outside of the box to make advancements in our field. Keeping the bigger picture in mind, the lives of those that we serve, requires us to constantly evaluate what we can do better or different.

Over the past several years, we have focused on the creation of numerous community programs, enhancements in equipment and training, and a variety of other things. At times it may seem exhausting to the men and women that serve the Sheriff's Office, but we will continue to look for the most effective and efficient way that way can serve all of the citizens of Pickens County.

Through doing this, we can find ourselves setting a new standard for our field. We can blaze a trail for other agencies to follow. We can make a difference.



New Face In the Jail

The Detention Center has recently added a new Detention Officer. Todd Musgrave was hired recently. Todd was one of the original members of the PSO Reserve Unit. Todd is a certified Detention Officer and completed his training while with the Reserve Unit.

Todd worked for free as a volunteer Reserve Officer and put in many hours without compensation. In addition to serving the Sheriff's Office, Todd volunteers with the Boy Scouts of America. We are glad to have Todd as a member of our Detention Staff.

Sheriff's Auxiliary Unit News

On Saturday, March 17th and the 24th, the Sheriff's Auxiliary attended an all day training session on Shelter Management. The purpose of the training was to be able to handle short term shelter set-up and operation in the event of a disaster. The training was conducted by the American Red Cross.

The Sheriff's Auxiliary members will meet on Tuesday, April 17th at 6:15 pm for a meeting only. The meeting will be held in the Training Room of the Pickens Sheriff's Office Headquarters.

The mission of the Pickens Sheriff's Auxiliary is to provide support to the employees of the Sheriff's Office in times of sickness or hardships and through those employees, supports the citizens of Pickens County during a disaster.



The weekend of September 14-16th, is the Sheriff's JeepFest to benefit the Georgia Sheriff's Youth Homes. This has the potential to be a huge event that already has some phenomenal sponsors and has attendees planning to come from as far as South Florida. We believe we can easily have up to 500 Jeeps in attendance for the first year.

Please visit/post our WEB, Twitter and Facebook Sites

www.sheriffsjeepfest.com

Twitter: @sheriffjeepfest

Facebook: Sheriff's JeepFest

News from OpX by Greg Baker

I Want To Be A Servant Leader

Servant Leadership is an integral and critical aspect of the Operational Excellence initiative. *Servant leaders devote themselves to serving the needs of organization members.* Servant leaders focus on meeting the needs of others within the organization, develop team members to bring out the best in them, coach others and encourage their self-expression, facilitate personal growth in all who work with them and listen well to build a sense of community and joint ownership.



Let me know how I can help you in your day to day activities with the Sheriff's office.

Law Enforcement and the Bible by Capt. Frank Reynolds



One of the first documented criminal investigations comes from the Book of Daniel in a story of *Susanna and the Elders*. In the story we see the use of sequestration by Daniel. In today's court of law, we hear the term *sequestration* when speaking of witnesses and juries. To sequester means to separate or isolate.

As the story goes, a fair Hebrew wife named Susanna was falsely accused by two elders. As she bathes in her garden, having sent her attendants away, two lustful elders secretly observe the lovely Susanna. When she makes her way back to her house, they accost her, threatening to claim that she was meeting a young man in the garden unless she agrees to have sex with them.

She refuses to be blackmailed and is arrested and about to be put to death for promiscuity when a young man named Daniel interrupts the proceedings, shouting that the elders should be questioned to prevent the death of an innocent. After being separated, the two men are questioned about details (cross-examination) of what they saw but disagree about the tree under which Susanna supposedly met her lover. In the Greek text, the names of the trees cited by the elders form puns with the sentence given by Daniel. The first says they were under a majestic and Daniel says that an Angel stands ready to cut him in two. The second says they were under an evergreen oak tree and Daniel says that an angel stands ready to saw him in two. The great difference in size between a majestic and an oak makes the elders' lie plain to all the observers. The false accusers are put to death and virtue triumphs.

Daniel has used the rule of sequestration to refute the testimony of the two elders. Today, law enforcement officers use the same technique when interviewing suspects or witnesses.



In Darkness by Kris Stancil

I remember working night shift on a night that was completely absent of light...no moon, no stars, and no cars. I was checking on a small church in the County and decided to park the car and look over some paperwork. I turned off the lights and stepped out of the car to retrieve something from the trunk, and realized just how dark it was... completely void of anything.

After imagining that I could hear every noise known to frighten the toughest of men, I decided to resume patrol, quickly... very quickly! As I was fleeing the scene, it struck me how lonely things can feel when there is no light around. Not only was it scary, I felt completely isolated from everything. The type of fear that I felt was something that my body armor and weapons were completely powerless against. I also noticed that even the smallest light of the dashboard in the car could replace the void around me.

As law enforcement officers, we are surrounded by these dark places ... a lot. Places that are physically absent of light; places where evil has replaced common decency; places where pain has replaced happiness...places that are dark. The fear is usually not an option when facing these moments. We exist to bring peace to chaos. We arrive at the times when others are at their lowest, with the expectation that we are going to make it better.

One of the best ways to do this is to bring the light that is needed to make the darkness flee. Jesus was quoted in John (8:12), saying "...I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." As Deputies, this light is available to us all. It is available to keep us from walking in the darkness, but it also exists to bring light into the darkness that we are called to everyday.

Not only do we work in an environment where we are exposed to darkness daily, but we serve in a career that has been plagued with darkness as well. Law Enforcement has some of the highest rates of suicide, alcoholism, and divorce. Sadly, these numbers never seem to come down. Darkness seems to surround us. Yet, we have been given the offer to have a light that cannot be extinguished.

Paul wrote in the book of Ephesians: For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth) and find out what pleases the Lord. Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them. It is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret. But everything exposed by the light becomes visible—and everything that is illuminated becomes a light. This is why it is said: "Wake up, sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

If you are noticing this same darkness, in or around you, never hesitate to reach out for help. Just like you know that you need a flashlight to overcome the dark, there are times that you need someone to shine a light for you as well. Whether a pastor, a friend or a member of the Chaplain team with the Pickens Sheriff's Office, there are those around you that care. Chaplains Jerrold Young, Von Hinton and I would be honored to walk through the darkness with you as we each seek the Light that is needed in this world.