

Chatham County Sheriff's Office

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Sheriffic News

News letter

January 2014

SHERIFF'S YOUTH RANCH, 24 YEARS

For the 24th year the employees of the Chatham County Sheriff's Office have loaded up and headed down to Hahira, Georgia for their annual Christmas trip to the Georgia Sheriff's Youth Homes. The event started by a group of Dare Officers originally, was to provide the necessities for the kids like shoes and socks. It has morphed over the years and turned into an all day of fun for the kids and employees as well. It all starts in April with the CCSO Poker run. Col. John Wilcher helps organize the run and has put it together for 12 plus years. The run is the main source of funding for the trips to the youth home. Then in early November we collect a list and start shopping.

Early December we check our list and check it twice. Then we have a BIG wrapping party (see page 4) and get all those presents wrapped up. Finally the big day arrives and all the volunteer staff loads up at 7:30 a.m., and ease in for the 3 1/2 hour long bus ride to Hahira. Once we arrive its pure excitement and go,go,go until lunch is served and all the presents are unwrapped. Then we load back up and head back home. If you missed it this year mark your calendars, Its a trip you will never forget!







Sheriff St Lawrence and Pat St Lawrence wrap gifts for the kids



Ms. Bush avoiding the camera



Ms. Kohne smiling big!

CCSO Wraps it up for the Ranch



Gena Bilbo & Melinda Harris



Father Pat O'Brien & Ms. King



Major Smith & Col. Counihan

For 24 years the Chatham County Sheriff's Office has raised money and purchased Christmas gifts for the children living in the Georgia Sheriff's Youth Home.

These are not problem children. Many have been abused their parents are in jail or have they have substance abuse problems. This year the Chatham County Sheriff's Office and friends purchased gifts for 33 children.

On December 4th, volunteer staff held a "wrapping party to wrap all the gifts for the children of the youth homes. Several employees helped out and the event was "wrapped up" in record time.

If you would like to participate in the Wrapping Party or any other event, contact Gena Bilbo at gmbilbo@chathamcounty.org or PIO Wayne Wermuth at wfwermuth@chathamcounty.org.

For more information on the Sheriff's Youth Homes or to donate go to <http://www.georgiasheriffsyouth.org>

CCSO AND ILA 1414 HELP OUT OVER THE HOLIDAYS

The Chatham County Sheriff's Office has been helping needy families for Thanksgiving in partnership with the International Longshoremen's Association 1414, for over a decade. November 26, deputies loaded up bags full of food and delivered them to 15 Chatham County families. The ILA donates a gift card for the turkey and collard greens and this year Patrick's Uniforms also helped by donating a fresh desert for each family. Staff donated stuffing, potatoes, cranberry sauce and much more to make sure each family had a big Thanksgiving meal.

So many people have to struggle to put food on the table said Sheriff Al St Lawrence. It makes me feel good to know that this Thanksgiving these families won't have to worry about a Thanksgiving meal--thanks to my staff and the ILA"



Deputy Livie ready to deliver the goods



Cpl. Bryant-Elleby and Pat from Patricks



Col. Wilcher and Mr. Seymore from the ILA

United Way bake sale/ breakfast big Success

The CCSO held several fund raisers this year in support of local charities. Volunteer staff donated d baked goods for an American Dibetes fundraiser. Later that month we were in full swing raising money for the United Way.

The generous staff once again stepped up with donations and baked goods for the event. We were able to surpass the goal this year by just over \$2000.00 thanks to yearly donations and our delicious fund raisers.

Every year the CCSO participates in numerous charity events.



PIE PALOOZA HELPS AMERICAN DIABETES ASSOCIATION

The Command Staff at the Chatham County Sheriff's Office "took one (or three) for the team today at Pie Palooza to benefit the American Diabetes Association.

Chief Deputy Harris, Col. Wilcher, Col. Counihan, Lt. Col. Gilberg, Major Middleton, Major Smith and Capt. Barbour all participated.

Staff members of the sheriff's Office and other Chatham County employees had an opportunity to purchase tickets. A raffle was conducted and three tickets were drawn for each person. Anyone buying tickets got to write down the name of the person they wished to hit with a pie.

The top three targets were Col. Counihan, Major Middleton and Capt. Barbour.



Chief Deputy Roy Harris



Lt. Col. Gilburg enjoying himself?



Col. Wilcher takes a pie from Lt. York.



Major Middleton always a good sport.



Capt Barbour from IA making the best of the situation.



Major Rusty Smith prepares to "pie" Capt. Barbour



Ms Beverly gets Col. Counihan

EXPLORERS VISIT NURSING HOME



Explorer Post 876 Spreads a Little Christmas Cheer

On December 23, 2013, members of the Chatham County Sheriff's Office Explorer Post 876 visited the Savannah Rehabilitation and Nursing Center to spread a little Christmas cheer.

The explorers along with the advisors filled stockings with candy, socks, lotion and other goodies to give to the patients at the nursing home. They also donated games such as Checkers and Chess to the patients. While at the nursing home the explorers and advisors sang Christmas carols and played bingo with the patients.

Explorer Mary Margret says, "I enjoyed coming out and spending time with everyone. I look forward to doing this again next year. I really had a lot of fun." The explorer post is looking forward towards making this a yearly event, bigger and better.

The Explorer Post 876 is currently accepting membership applications; if you are between the ages of 14 and 20 and express an interest in law enforcement as a career please visit our website for more information <http://explorers.chathamsheriff.org>

By Rhonda Elleby-Bryant

The Sheriff's Office offers Gun Safety classes taught every third Saturday of the month, and is taught by Georgia Post certified Firearms Instructors. They have a 10 student capacity for each class the fee for this class which includes classroom and Range time is \$25.00. The class also includes weapon use and 50 rounds of ammunition. Classes start at 0830 and ends by 12:00 noon.

For the 2013 year the Chatham County Sheriff's office Pistol Range had 101 participants in the civilian gun safety class. For more information or to register, call the Chatham County Sheriff's Office at (912) 652-6959



CIVILIAN GUN SAFETY CLASSES



PIO Wayne Wermuth visits Juliette Low Kids

FOP Visits Juliette Low

Members of the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) visit Juliette Low Elementary School on 12/18/13.

Fraternal Order of Police members met with Special Education Classes at Juliette Low Elementary School for a Holiday celebration.

This project was over whelming for everyone involved. Santa (Aulmon Giles) had enough stuffed toys to make every child have a great day.

If you are interested in F.O.P. membership information, please feel free to contact Deputy Jack Willis (Chatham County Sheriff's Office-Juvenile Court) (912) 655-0586 or Aulmon Giles (Savannah Chatham Metropolitan Police Department) (912) 657 8180.

The members listed below attended the event, and enjoyed a Holiday feast provided by the staff at Juliette Low Elementary School.

Officer Aulmon Giles, Bob Eason & wife, Officer Natasha Borkowski, Investigator Samantha Uribe, Officer Nicole Khaalis, PIO Wayne Wermuth, Deputy Jack Willis & wife.

Story and photos by PIO Wermuth



CERT & MFF IN ACTION

The Chatham County Sheriff's Office Corrections Emergency Response Team (CERT) and Mobile Field Force officers participated in training recently. They learned what they were doing right and ways to perform better in a multi-jurisdictional training exercise hosted by Metro Police Nov. 12. The exercise depicted a scenario of residents returning from an evacuation to unexpected issues. The lack of electrical power, food and water was amplified by protests, outside agitators, bomb threats and a jail riot.

Joining the CCSO CERT, was Metro Mobile Field Force, Canine and Traffic units, Georgia State Patrol, Alpharetta Police, Savannah-Hilton Head International Airport Police, 1st Battalion/75th Army Ranger Unit from Hunter Army Air Field, 16th Military Police Brigade from Fort Stewart, the antiterrorism unit from HAAF, FBI and Chatham Emergency Management Agency.

Article by Julian Milller

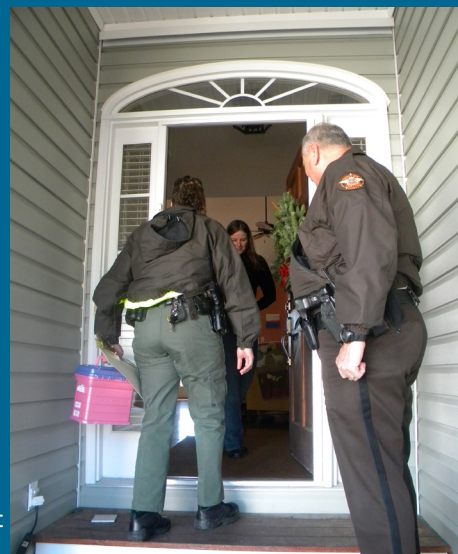
PROJECT LIFESAVER



Project Lifesaver, or commonly referred to as PLS, is an innovative and rapidly growing program aiding the victims and families suffering from Alzheimer Disease and related disorders such as Down's Syndrome and Autism. Project Lifesaver uses state-of-the-art technology employing wristband transmitters to locate wandering and lost adults and children. Over 5,000,000 people in the U.S.A. have Alzheimer. That number will triple by 2050. Well over 50% of these people wander and become lost. A lost person with Alzheimer's or other dementia represent a critical emergency as nearly half of them will die and many become injured or fall victim to predators if they are not located within 24 hours.

This program, highly favored by Sheriff Al St. Lawrence, was first adopted by the Chatham County Sheriff's Office in May 2009. Currently under the supervisory control of Lt. James Moore (Admin), internal coordination is conducted by Sgt. L.D. Hollinger (StreetOps), while training and recertification rests in the hands of Sgt. T. Glisson and Cpl. G. Murphy. Through the efforts of this small team of dedicated professionals, the PLS educational regimen and practical application has been able to raise the bar on the PLS program within the Enforcement Bureau. This training has been instrumental in our ability to assist those handicapped clientele and their immediate caregivers through careful monitoring and proactive planning.

Article by Sgt Hollinger



EMERALD SOCIETY DELIVERS TOYS TO MEMORIAL

The Police Emerald Society of South East Georgia has been busy collecting toys for Santa's Workshop located in children's wing of Memorial Hospital. The Emerald Society members were hoping to help stock up Santa's Workshop in this 1st annual toy drive. The donation included everything from dolls to toy cars to electronics. The toys were distributed to a few children and the rest donated to "Santa's Workshop". All of the toys in SW were made available to parents so they could pick and wrap gifts for their children.

The Emerald Society of Southeast Georgia was founded in 1998. The tradition, however, is longstanding. On March 16, 1953, the first Emerald Society was founded by NYPD officers. Since its humble beginnings, the Emerald Society movement has reached new heights. The Irish have a long and proud history in the Public Safety professions. The Irish produced more chiefs of the police and fire departments than any other ethnic group in America. The Emerald Society is here to preserve that legacy and to ensure that America never forgets!



Home Depot Makes Donation

The Chatham County Sheriff's Office K-9 Unit accepted a donation of a large mobile generator on Tuesday November 19.

Mr. Fred Barrantes of Home Depot Distribution Center said "they are trying to establish stronger partnerships with local law enforcement and emergency services".

The CCSO and GSP manage the Regional K-9 Unit which provides the service of drug detection dogs and explosive/weapons dogs to all of Southeast Georgia. The unit also provides re certifications of dogs and handlers for the entire State of Georgia and South Carolina.

CCSO Chief Deputy Harris stated "We are extremely grateful for this much needed donation from Home Depot. This generator will help the K-9 Unit operate more effectively in emergency situations. A special CCSO thanks goes out to Mr. Barrantes and all of the Home Depot employees for making this possible."



SPOTLIGHT EMPLOYEE



My name is **Wayne F. Wermuth**, a proud new member of the Chatham County Sheriff's Office Public Information Division.

I have served as a Law Enforcement Officer for the Chatham County Police Department, the Chatham County Board of Education Police Department, and the Chatham County Sheriff's Office Reserve Unit. During my six years of service with the Sheriff's Office Reserve Unit, I achieved rank of Sergeant. Currently, I enthusiastically look forward to serving the Chatham County Sheriff's Office to promote positive community relations, youth safety lessons and media releases.

I graduated from Buffalo State College, Buffalo New York, and enjoy spending time with my daughter Sierra, son Wayne Jr. & wonderful wife Natalie. As a family we embrace all that Savannah has to offer, from Squares downtown to Tybee beach. We like to participate in outdoor activities such as First Saturday events on the Riverfront & the Farmers market events at Forsyth Park. In closing, I am honored to serve as a Deputy for the Chatham County Sheriff's Office.

CCSO REVEALS DRUG FINDINGS

Approximately two hundred (200) pounds of suspected bulk marijuana was seized during several narcotics investigations conducted within the past six (6) months by the Chatham County Sheriff's Office. These narcotic investigations were worked jointly with the Chatham Savannah Counter Narcotics Team (CNT) and other federal agencies which have led to numerous arrests for possession and distribution of marijuana. The cases are still ongoing and arrestee's names are not available at this time.

These seizures are a clear example of how federal and local agencies are coming together to address drug distribution in Chatham County. The seized marijuana has an approximate street value of over \$500,000

Marijuana use can have a variety of adverse, short- and long-term effects, especially on cardiopulmonary and mental health.

FALL PROMOTIONS & AWARD CEREMONY



Deputies Christopher and Ashanti Blount accept their award



The Newly Promoted

The Chatham County Sheriff's Office honored the department's outstanding deputies and civilians at the Quarterly Awards Ceremony. The event was held at the CCSO Muster Room. Numerous honorees and guests attended the ceremony including Assistant County Manager Michael Kaigler and County Manager Russ Abolt. Sheriff Al St Lawrence promoted 16 deputies: Lt. Teffanie Lowe, Lt. Brett Parker, Sgt. Sammie Caruthers, Sgt. Glen Moye, Sgt. Christina Rowland, Cpl. Deon Gibson, Cpl. Shavon Herrington, Cpl. Jason Kenny, Cpl. Kenol Mompremier, Cpl. Bertina Richards, Corporal Precious Smith, Cpl. Rossie Williams, Cpl. Roderick Wilson, Cpl. Gwendolyn Young, Reserve Lt. Walter Kent and Reserve Sgt. Richard Dunlop.

Four civilians were also promoted: Brian Anderson was promoted to Network Service Manager, Stephanie McIver was promoted to Account Technician, Patricia Stansfield was promoted to Administrative Assistant and Carmen Pilecek was promoted to Account Supervisor. Deputies Ashanti and Christopher Blount were presented with the Heroic Award for performing life saving measures on a young boy who had quit breathing after a tragic accident.

Three members of the Chatham County Sheriff's Office retired on Wednesday including Sgt. Floyd Jackson, Cpl. Darlene Godbee and Cpl. Adrian Smith.

Sheriff St Lawrence also honored four employees for 25 years of service with the CCSO; Deputy Robert Lewis, Sgt. Martha Lucas, Geraldine Sheppard and Stephanie Parker.



Sgt. Lucas and family



Sheriff St Lawrence and Brian Anderson



Sgt. Moye, Sgt Dunlop & Sgt. Caruthers



Lt. Kent and his two daughters

Welcome To The Team

The CCSO Training Unit worked very hard in the last months filling vacancies in the Sheriff's Office. BJOT (Basic Jail Operations Training) classes ran virtually back to back. The top picture is of Class 09-2013 and includes (Top row L-R) Carrie Quarterman, Michael Jackson, Julia Pringle, Gregory Cervone, Dawn Renzler, John Chapman, Abram Burns, Carolyn Brown, Nolan Fanrich, Matthew Stephenson, Taquawna Groover, Bradly Hill and John Williams.

(Bottom row L-R) Andrew Evans-Martinez, Katina Gray-Ransom, Brittany Robinson, Latoiya Pope, Chaquita Wheeler, Sarah Fordham and Iris Love.

Bottom picture is of Class 11-2013 and includes (Top row L-R) Joseph Cooper, Kirk Ibsen, Jonice Rayford, Joseph Gross, Niyah Ancrum, Reggie Lewis, Janette Lopez, Brandon Ransby, Cheyenne Dickerson, Charles Singleton, Shannon Pagano, Henry Joseph, Zachary Kicklighter, Iris Joyner, Latrell Morris and Brandon Exeart.

(Bottom row L-R) Tonya Makinye, Victor Green, Kristen Hosmer, Britni Crosby, Luan-da Sheppard, Benjamin Homan, Stephanie Hood, Roosevelt McCray, Julia Pringle and Stuart Williams.





WHO AM I???

I was born here in Savannah, Georgia. I think I was about 3 years old in this picture. My wife and I have been married for 34 years. We have One Daughter and two grandchildren, one granddaughter and one grandson.

I love seafood and one of my favorite restaurants is The Crazy Crab. I enjoy westerns and science fiction movies and television shows. My hobbies include fishing, shooting, riding my motorcycle and spending time with my family. I have been with the Sheriff's Office for 33+ years....WHO AM I?

That's me 5 years old in the Cowboy outfit with my older brother and our Dog Buster (Boxer). I was a cowboy then and still am today.

My favorite TV shows are Justified and Duck Dynasty. My favorite movie is Tombstone, go figure. My favorite sports Football, Baseball, Golf and I'm a gun enthusiast (all kinds).

Goal for this year; learn a foreign language (French). I have worked for the sheriffs office for 24 years.

WHO AM I???



I have been employed with the Chatham County Sheriff's Office for seven years. I have worked in various areas throughout the department and have enjoyed all of them.

I enjoy reading, meeting new people and learning as much as I can. I love to play sports, work out and dine out. I am a native savannahian. I have one sibling and a lot of family and friends.....

WHO AM I?

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<https://www.facebook.com/#!/ChathamCountySheriff>



NOVEMBER

1. Cassandra Barnwell, Parnell Wilder, Victor Green Samuel Matta
3. Karen Cotton, Kimberly Richards, Chiquita Wheeler
4. Robert Solomon, Madeline Pickney
5. Kirk Ibsen
6. Jonathan Lustig, Percell Hendrix
7. Michael Street, Christina Kelson.
9. Lawrence Wright, Alex Anderson
10. Steven Cahall
11. Michael Holmes Jr., Thomas Gilberg, Michael Holmes
12. Don Hollinger
13. Robert Lamb, Bret Parker, Pamela Cervone, Debbie Freeman
14. Jason Pentecost
16. Terrell Narcisse, Brett Kellog, Sandra Grimaldi
17. Larry Johnson, John Jones, Tahirah Hood, Katina Gray-Ransom
18. Willie Wallace
19. Frank Rigelwood
20. Reginald Scott, Luanda Sheppard
21. Monica Bryant, Ronald Cason, Larry Lee.
22. David Walker, Selina Green
23. Harold Rowse, Aisha Groover, Robert Lipovsky
24. Charles Singleton.
25. Ted Glisson, William Johnson
27. Shaniqua Mobley
28. Andrew Staley, Edward Tharpe
29. Gretchen Derryberry

DECEMBER

1. Beverly Howell, Jamal Dixon
2. Pamela Gordon
3. David Wood
4. REdwin Meeks, Shania Gardner, Nicholas Heintzman
5. Valeria Dickens
6. Blondell Lewis, Terry King, Melissa Muncher
8. Eric Vinson
9. Darrin Harvey, Latrecia Woods
10. Ronald Harris
12. Jan Wells, Lamiles Hill
13. Jason Waterfield
14. Keith Walker, Trevor Furguson, Joy Harper
15. MArtha Lucas, Christopher Blount
17. Fredrick Burke
18. David Morgan
20. Alan Nevels, Adam Pringle
21. Ian Hall
22. Harold Edwards, Nichole Furguson, Tanya Jaques, Anthony Saxon
23. Sharon Brewton
24. Stephanie Stevens, Jaqueline Homola, trinity Hicks
25. Merry Christmas! Sherran Johnson, Todd Desautels, Sharon Edwards
27. Mark Eichenlaub
28. Rene' Nethels, Jerald Burgess, Charles Guyer
29. Beverly Brown, Jackie Drake
30. James Baker, Warren Blanton, David Gellatly
31. Carl Quarterman, Frank Smart

...IN OTHER NEWS

Employees of the Month

Corrections Officer of the Month

November-Corporal Tonya Roberts

December-Corporal Jason Kenny

Corrections Civilian of the Month

November-Patricia Stanfield

December-Kendra Crawford

Enforcement Officer of the Month

November-Corporal Andrew Staley and Deputy Ronald Brotz

Anniversaries

November

5 years- Bobby Jones

20 years- Todd Oliver

December

5 years-Charles Hunter, David Gold and Alan Nevels

STAFF DINING OPENS

As of the 19th of December, 2013 all new construction and renovation during the first phase of our project has been completed. We have added almost 500,000 thousand additional square feet of inmate living and support area functions to the Sheriff's Office Complex, renovated the older units heating and air, repurposed the prior medical area into inmate programs areas, upgraded the security door controls and added an additional 600 security cameras. I want to thank everyone from both corrections and enforcement for their patience and assistance over the last two and one half years. We also opened the newly renovated staff dining area on the 19th of December and this has been a great success. This new break area offers a much larger seating capacity, skylights, larger outdoor break area, more varied vending machine selections and a full restaurant quality serving line. Your support during the grand opening has been greatly appreciated as will your continued support into the future.

The 2nd phase project is being planned now and will include the renovation of unit five, replacement of the roof structure on the older areas of the complex, continued upgrades to the security systems and additional meeting space. We will keep you aware of this new project as it progresses.

In closing, I want to thank you again so much for all that you do for us and we hope your holidays were happy, and you and your family are safe.

Lt. Col. Gilberg



EXPLORER TROOP 876 FUNDRAISER

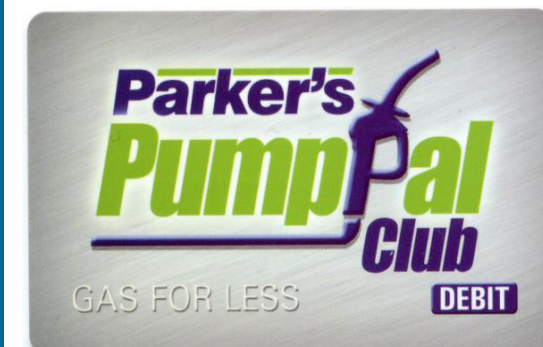
These T-shirts are **limited edition** and only available from time to time. If you are interested in purchasing a t shirt please contact Cpl Bryant-Elleby at 912-351-3743 or or Deputy Gary Murphy at 912-660-7605 before the **cut off date of January 22**. T-shirts are PRE SELL only so get yours **QUICK!!!**



Actual Size
3.5" Wide
4" High

Actual Size
11.7" Wide
12" High

The Chatham County Sheriff's Office Explorer Post 876 will also be raffling off the following items on January 31st , (**Grand Prize**) **Remington 870 Police Pump Shotgun**- Must be 18 or older to be awarded shotgun, 2nd Prize- **\$20 Logan's Roadhouse Gift Card**, 3rd Prize- **\$20 Parker's Gift Card**, 4th /5th Prize **1 set of Carmike Cinema Movie Passes**. Raffles are \$2 a piece and are available up until the morning of the raffle.



Raffle tickets can be purchased from any Explorer Advisor – Col. Brian Counihan (7714), Lt. James Moore (7771), Lt. Mark Eichenlaub (7607), Lt. Carlos Michael, Sgt. Lamiles Hill, Cpl. Darrin Harvey, Cpl. Gary Murphy -(7684) and Dep. Naomi Deloach, Dep. Christopher Blount.



This fundraiser is a continuous effort to help the Explorer Post 876 prepare for upcoming travel expenses and purchase necessary equipment needed for Winterfest 2014 in Gatlinburg, Tennessee. Thanks for your support in advance.

The mission of the Chatham County Sheriff's Office Explorer Post is to educate young men and women who are interested in a career in the law enforcement field and to enhance their future by mentoring, motivating and preparing them for their roles as productive citizens in the Coastal Empire.



Not actual weapon

Win This Shotgun!!

A NOTE FROM THE SHERIFF...



As we launch into a new year, I want to take the time to reflect on some of our many accomplishments in 2013. We experienced tremendous growth in working space and employees.

Our Internal Affairs Unit completed 1004 background checks during the year, and 384 GCIC checks for voter registration poll workers.

These background checks are critical for us as an agency, to ensure high quality applicants are chosen. Members of the Corrections Command Staff conducted rounds of interviews and the finalists were selected. The Training Unit then took those selected and provided valuable basic training for our COT's. Then, Field Training Officers took over and completed the mission to get these much needed personnel working posts.

So, 2013 was a very busy year for everyone. I want to thank everyone involved in this enormous process; and also all those that carried the load while others were busy on this. In all organizations, the employees are the most important parts. Here, every person is a part, and every part is key. Have a great New Year.

ASL



For more information or to submit a story idea contact:

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Sgt Felicia Williams @ 912-651-3708-fvwill@chathamcounty.org

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