



# GEORGIA

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

## LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

# 2017 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, their roles have continued to evolve but they 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 fourth anniversary after a Divisional reorganization by the Board of Natural Resources in 2013. The reorganization promotes streamlined operations, a clearer chain of command, standardized training, equipment and operational guidance for law enforcement services and reduces liability.

In November of 2016, Law Enforcement Headquarters moved into a newly renovated building on the Social Circle campus. The facility also includes a 1,600-square foot warehouse and a helipad. Adjacent to the entrance, a beautiful eight-foot high black granite monument, in the shape of Georgia, was erected. The Georgia DNR Fallen Game Warden Memorial, complete with Georgia and American flags on either side, honors the eight Game Wardens who have lost their lives in the line of duty.

**Law Enforcement *Off the Pavement***—All Georgia Game Wardens 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

In Georgia Law, a DNR law enforcement officer has the title of Conservation Ranger. After careful consideration, the Command Staff decided to pursue obtaining the working title of Game Warden, to clear the public’s confusion with park rangers, army rangers and forest rangers, and since it more clearly defines the core mission of the officers. After consultation with the Commissioner’s Office, the decision was made to use “Game Warden” as the working title. State laws have not, and will not be changed since it is a working title and not an official job title change. Moving forward, vehicles will be marked to reflect the change, as well as other new equipment, clothing, and branding items.

Whether in the woods, on the lakes or rivers, or in the air enforcing the laws of the state; or in the classroom or community, educating young and old and encouraging safety and conserving our natural resources, DNR Law Enforcement Game Wardens are up to the task.

### SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Game Warden of the Year	Cpl. Brian Adams
Georgia Boating Officer of the Year	Cpl. Bart Hendrix
Investigative Game Warden of the Year	Cpl. Jason Shipes
Rocky Wainwright Waterfowl Award	RFC Quinn Fogle
James R. Darnell Award Recipient	Cpl. Jason Shipes
NWTF Officer of the Year	Cpl. Ben Payne
Hunter Education Instructor of the Year	RFC Allen Mills
Torch Award	Rgr. 2 Chris Kernahan

## CONSERVATION LAW ENFORCEMENT BY THE NUMBERS

- 187 POST certified officers
- Each Game Warden serves 55,884 Georgia citizens
- 16,000 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 138 Wildlife Management Areas, 10 Public Fishing Areas, and 64 State Parks and Historic Sites.
- 1,401,101 Licensed Anglers
- 630,017 Licensed Hunters
- 335,723 Registered Vessels

### Programs

- 158 Hunter Education
- 1,398 Information and Education
- 348 Boating Safety
- 328 Hunter Development

### Cases

- 237 Water Search and Rescue
- 156 Land Search and Rescue
- 33 Hunting Incidents
- 147 Boating Incidents

### Licenses Checked

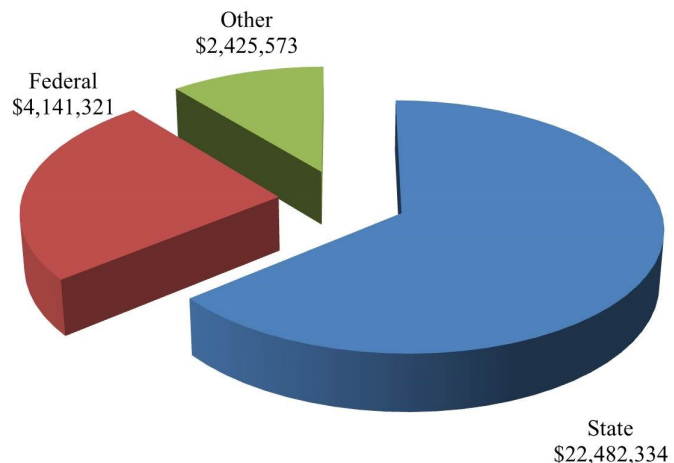
- 33,103 Vessels Checked
- 22,585 Hunting Licenses
- 31,381 Fishing Licenses
- 580 Commercial Licenses

### Activity

- 4,240 Boating Contacts
- 4,450 Hunting Contacts
- 2,584 Fishing Contacts
- 360 Environmental Contacts



## FY2017 Funding

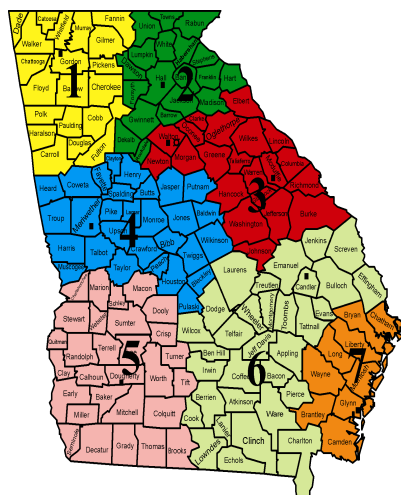


## SPECIALTY UNITS

- 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

## 2017 OFFICER TRAINING

- Firearms Requalification & Use of Force Training
- ALERRT – Active Shooter Training
- Dove Field Training
- Officer-Involved Shooting Training
- NASBLA Seated battery Transition Training
- Critical Incident Management Training



Headquarters (770) 918-6408

Region I - Northwest (770) 529-2424  
Capt. Jeff Galloway

Region II - Northeast (770) 535-5499  
Capt. Johnny Johnson

Region III - East Central (706) 595-4211  
Capt. Stan Elrod

Region IV - West Central (478) 751-6415  
Capt. Chris Hodge

Region V - Southwest (229) 430-4252  
Capt. Rick Sellars

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

Region VII - Coastal (912) 264-7234  
Capt. Bob Lynn