



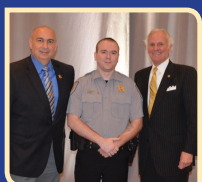
The South Carolina Sheriff

Summer 2019

A special newsletter from your South Carolina Sheriffs' Association



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ONE VOICE

**Sheriff Anthony Dennis, President
South Carolina Sheriffs' Association**

Sheriff Anthony Dennis of Sumter County was sworn in as President of the South Carolina Sheriffs' Association on Monday, July 15, 2019, before a crowded banquet hall at the Association's Annual Conference. Sheriff Dennis delivered a powerful speech that challenged and inspired his fellow Sheriffs. Here is a portion of Sheriff Dennis' comments...

I have spent a great deal of time thinking about my vision for our Association, and if I had to sum it up, I would have to say that I want us to work toward becoming ONE VOICE.

I am reminded of a quote from our nation's 44th President, Barack Obama, and although I have changed it just a little, it says, "One voice can change a room, and if one voice can change a room, then it can change a county, and if it can change a county, it can change a state, and if it can change a state, it can change a nation, and if it can change a nation, it can change the world."



Sheriff Dennis addressing
attendees of the 2019 SCSA
Annual Conference.

Together, our voice can make a powerful and positive impact on our state. As Sheriffs, we all have various styles, but I envision us as being united as one; presenting ourselves in a manner whereas the citizens of this great State of South Carolina will hear ONE STRONG VOICE.

We must also commit to support each other. Communication lines must remain open between us. When one of us hurts, we all hurt. We must be willing to come to each other's aid. We are all on one



Sheriff Dennis, with his family, being sworn
in as SCSA President.

mission, which is to serve and protect the citizens of South Carolina. We must remember that we are all our brothers' keeper.

When we are united as an Association, we are truly powerful. The Bible tells us in 1 Peter 3:8, "*Finally, all of you, be like minded, be sympathetic, love one another, be compassionate and humble.*" Ecclesiastes 4:12 reminds us that, "*though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.*" My challenge this evening is to become a cord of 46. Let us continue to stand in support of what is right, just, and fair, and let us continue to stand in support of one another.

In closing, I want to remind you of a quote by J.K. Rowling, the author of the Harry Potter series. She wrote, "We are only as strong as we are united, as weak as we are divided." We are Forty-Six Strong. Forty-Six United. Forty-Six as One.

Sincerely,

Anthony Dennis

Sheriff Anthony Dennis, President
South Carolina Sheriffs' Association

Improving the Office and His Community

SCSA's Sheriff of the Year Award Winner: Sheriff Kevin Tolson, York County

Sheriff Kevin Tolson of York County, awarded the 2019 South Carolina Sheriffs' Association Sheriff of the Year, graduated from Northwestern High School and earned a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice from the University of South Carolina in 1992. After graduation, he began his law enforcement career with the York County Sheriff's Office (YCSO).

After 8 years, he left YCSO to become a special agent for the State Law Enforcement Division (SLED) but a year later, returned to York County. During his tenure, Tolson was instrumental in forming the York County Multi-Jurisdictional

Forensic Service Unit, serving as its director from 2002 to 2009, and became the 34th Sheriff of York County in 2016.

As Sheriff, Tolson has implemented several valuable programs—a new Career Advancement Program for YCSO deputies, a Leadership Development Program

several other agencies to create a pilot Medical Assisted Treatment Court in York County. Tolson made sure all YCSO sworn staff received NARCAN training and doses to administer during an opioid overdose. As a result, YCSO was recognized during the 2018 Governor's Opioid Summit, credited with saving thirty lives.

While Tolson has quite an impressive law enforcement resume, the true measure of this man is best seen in the community where he feels privileged to live and serve. "My wife Beth and I are raising our daughters here. This is where we live. This community is our family, friends, and neighbors."

You'll find Sheriff Tolson involved in a number of local service organizations, serving on committees, boards, and councils. He serves as an ambassador for the advocacy group **#1 Question: Is it Good for the Children?**

This campaign challenges: *What if every day, in every activity we do and in every decision we make, we asked ourselves: 'Is it good for our children?'*

We are grateful for Sheriff Tolson and congratulate him on this award.



Sheriff Kevin Tolson with SC Governor, The Honorable Henry D. McMaster.



Sheriff Kevin Tolson accepts the 2019 Sheriff of the Year award from Bruce Bryant, former Sheriff and current House Member.

at the York County Detention Center, an Awards Committee and Annual Awards Banquet—and he partnered with

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For a complete list of our Corporate Partners, visit our website at www.sheriffsc.org/corporate-partners.

Thank You!

Above and Beyond

SCSA's Deputy of the Year Award Winner: Deputy David Self, Darlington County

Darlington County Deputy David Self was awarded the 2019 South Carolina Sheriffs' Association Deputy of the Year Award at this year's Annual Conference in Myrtle Beach.

Service above and beyond the call of duty—Deputy David Self epitomizes the phrase, as three recent examples demonstrate.

Just a couple of days after Thanksgiving, on November 24, 2018, Deputy Self witnessed a motor vehicle accident in which a vehicle overturned, trapping a mother and two small children. He rushed to the scene, crawled into the overturned vehicle and safely pulled out the children, one of whom was dangling upside down still attached to a car seat. Self then freed the mother, removing her a safe distance from the vehicle and reuniting the family.

On January 22, 2019, Deputy Self was dispatched to assist in the search for a missing puppy. Learning the puppy had fallen into a nearby well, Self crawled into the 15' deep well, wrapped the puppy in his vest carrier and crawled out, saving the puppy's life.

And then, just a week later, Self responded to an individual who was unresponsive due to a heroin overdose. Self administered a NARCAN injection, but was unable to

locate a pulse. He continued life-saving measures, performing CPR to revive the individual. After several minutes, the individual became responsive and began breathing again. He stabilized the individual until EMS arrived. Deputy Self's quick action and proper use of his resources and abilities saved a life.

"Deputy Self's actions embody the Darlington County Sheriff's Office core values of Integrity, Accountability, and Selfless Service," said DCSO Sheriff Tony Chavis. "His actions demonstrate his willingness to persevere, defend, and protect human and animal life at every cost."

We agree. Congratulations and thank you, Deputy Self.



Allen Durham, Star & Shield Insurance, presents the 2019 Deputy of the Year award to Deputy Self, center, with Jarrod Bruder, SCSA Executive Director, and Sheriff Tony Chavis, Darlington County.

An Agent of Change

SCSA's Detention Officer of the Year Award Winner: Captain Larry Deason, Lancaster County

*"He leads by example."
"He wears many hats."
"He's a true agent of change."*

These are just a few of the things you'll hear from those who work closely with Captain Deason.

Captain Deason began as a correctional officer at the Lancaster County Detention Center in May of 1992. He quickly rose through the ranks, serving for the last 12 years as the Detention Center's Captain. He was named Interim Director in January of 2018, and was officially promoted to Director in February.

As Director, Deason has instituted a number of improvements revitalizing the Detention Center and streamlining its procedures. Captain Deason led the corrections division through the set-up, installation, and implementation of a new records management system that



Lori McDaniel, McDaniel Supply Company, left, and Sheriff Barry Faile, Lancaster County, right, with 2019 Detention Officer of the Year, Captain Larry Deason, center.

modernized day-to-day operations at the facility. He was instrumental in the complete rewrite of his Detention Center's policies and procedures. And he is currently leading major building renovations and the planning process for a new facility.

Deason's contributions to his community are as impressive as his record on the job. An active member of his community and church, Deason volunteers a great deal of his time off to local non-profit organizations working with underprivileged children. He routinely speaks to, encourages, and counsels local youth. As an avid runner, he participates in charity

running events across the community.

The SCSA wants to congratulate and thank Captain Deason for his excellent service. Our communities are better places because of devoted men and women like him.

*Thank you to a few of our
2019 SCSA Platinum Business Members!
Your membership is vital to our success.*

Visit our website at www.sheriffsc.com for more information about how you can become a Platinum Business Member.

THANK YOU



*Sheriff Simon, Lee County, presenting
Mr. Benny Maresco, Plant Manager, with Martech's Platinum
Business Member Plaque.*



*Sheriff Summers would like to thank
Aaron Hair of J.A. Hair Trucking, LLC,
for his generous support of the SCSA.*



*Major Bob Bromage, Beaufort County Sheriff's Office,
presents Steven W. Jeffcoat and his son
with the Platinum Business Member plaque
for Stephen W. Jeffcoat Construction.*



*Sheriff Jay Koon, Lexington County, and Executive Director of SCSA Jarrod Bruder
presented "Pop" Sorin of Sorinex Exercise Equipment with a plaque and sincere
appreciation for being a Platinum Business Partner.*

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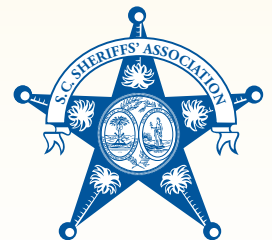
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