

The AHTD

CENTERLINE

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Highway Commission Selects NLR Captain As Highway Police Chief

The Arkansas State Highway Commission on February 5, 1998 unanimously named Ronald Dean Burks as Chief of the Arkansas Highway Police Division effective March 2, 1998.

As Chief of the Highway Police, Burks will oversee approximately 180 officers with statewide jurisdiction. The primary responsibility of the Highway Police is the enforcement of commercial vehicle laws and regulations.

Burks, a 23-year veteran of the North Little Rock Police Department (NLRPD), has extensive experience in law enforcement, including overall management and supervision of the Patrol Division. He was responsible for the development of divisional departmental policies, budgeting and department-wide fleet purchases. He has served in the Patrol Division, Narcotics Unit, Computer Analysis Unit and Professional Standards Unit of the NLRPD.

He has attended the University of Arkansas at Little Rock Criminal Justice Institute, the Federal Bureau of Investigation's National Academy and numerous management and leadership schools. As a member of the International Association of Chiefs of Police, he recently served on a committee which developed a training curriculum for the National Highway Traffic and Safety Administration. His combination of education and experience provide the necessary foundation to lead a progressive law enforcement agency.

Burks and his wife Brenda have two children; a son, Matt, 19 and a daughter, Whitney, 15. They reside in Sherwood.



Central Office Security System

The Security System for the Central Office complex has been activated effective January 20. The buildings are now locked between the hours of 5:30 p.m. and 6:30 a.m. on work days and twenty-four hours each day on weekends and holidays. Entry into the buildings during those hours is restricted. On all days, there is a twenty-four hour restricted access to Computer Services located on the third floor of the main building.

As a part of the new security system, the fire alarm system is also being upgraded. With the new system, security and fire personnel will be better able to pinpoint the exact location of a fire or smoke source. This feature can save valuable minutes in the event of a fire emergency.

New Telephone Number for Cafeteria Plan (Benefit America)

Benefit America has implemented several changes effective with the 1998 Plan Year.

- A new telephone number is now available to access your account information or to talk with a representative regarding your account. That number is 1-800-361-9419. (The old telephone number, 1-800-441-7044, will only provide 1997 Plan Year information and will be discontinued after the March 31 deadline for submitting 1997 claims.

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Published monthly by and for employees of the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department as a medium of departmental news and other information. Correspondence and materials should be directed to the Public Affairs Office, 10324 Interstate 30, Room 1002, P.O. Box 2261, Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-2261, (501) 569-2227.

ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION
BOBBY HOPPER, CHAIRMAN
HERBY BRANSCUM, JR., VICE CHAIRMAN
JOHN "M" LIPTON
J.W. "BUDDY" BENAFIELD
MARY P. "PRISSY" HICKERSON

DAN FLOWERS
DIRECTOR OF HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION

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- New claim forms are now available for use in submitting claims to Benefit America. Please note that the P.O. Box number has changed; therefore, the new claim forms should be used in lieu of any old forms you may have on hand. (If old forms have already been mailed there may be a slight delay in processing.)
- Benefit America will now accept claim submission by fax transmission. You may access this service by completing a claim form and faxing the form and your receipts to Benefit America at 803-772-1627.
- The minimum check amount Benefit America will process is now \$25.00 unless the amount is the remaining balance in the account.

Commission Regional Meetings In Progress

The Arkansas State Highway Commission is continuing its series of **REGIONAL MEETINGS** to discuss Arkansas' highway needs. All meetings will begin at 7:00 p.m. Citizen input is an essential part of addressing our transportation needs. Department employees are encouraged to attend.

HOT SPRINGS

Tuesday, March 3, 1998
Hot Springs
High School Auditorium
701 Emory Street

FORT SMITH

Monday, March 9, 1998
Westark Community College
Breedlove Auditorium
5210 Grand Avenue

FORREST CITY

Tuesday, March 17, 1998
East Arkansas Community College
1700 Newcastle

BATESVILLE

Thursday, March 5, 1998
Lyon College Brown Chapel
2300 Highland

SPRINGDALE

Tuesday, March 10, 1998
The Jones Center for Families Chapel
922 East Emma Avenue

MENA

Thursday, March 19, 1998
Mena Middle School Auditorium
304 Mena Street

LITTLE ROCK

Tuesday, March 31, 1998
AHTD Auditorium - 10324 Interstate 30

AHTD PEOPLE



NEW EMPLOYEES

Planning and Research

Lorie Tudar, Civil Engineer I

Roadway Design

Kevin Toblesky, Civil Engineering Tech.

District 1

Linda Taylor, General Laborer;
Myra Williams, **Andre Rollie**,
Single Axle Truck Drivers

District 6

Brian Gilliam, **Daniel Klosky**,
Jr., Single Axle Truck Drivers

District 8

Ellisa Clement, General Laborer

PROMOTIONS

Bridge

Carolyn Bobo, **Lori Thresher**,
Structures Inventory Technicians

Computer Services

Rebecca Rinchuso, Office
Admin. Asst. V

Equipment and Procurement

Ricky Grissom, Inspector

District 1

Paul Adams, Adv. Const. Field
Engineer

District 2

Barbara Bitner, **Kirk Howard**,
Debany Qualls, **David Reed**,

Single Axle Tr. Drs.;

Melvin Ford, Backhoe/Front End
Loader Operator;

Jerome Miller, Sign Erector;

Louis Sykes, Motor Patrol Opr.;

Jim Trost, District Const. Engi-
neer

District 3

William Ryan, Const. Aide I;

Kelly Turk-Arehart, Single Axle
Tr. Dr.

District 4

Johnny Carter, Multi-Axle Tr. Dr.;

Petit Ford, Sign Erector;

Harbert Jones, Rest Area Attd.;

Tina Reading, **James Walters**,
Maintenance Aides II;

Linda Ryan, Single Axle Tr. Dr.;

District 5
Sherrell Bolding, Const. Project
Coord.;
Joshua Green, Const. Aide I;
Rodney Sutherland, Inspector;
Robert Swink, Maint. Aide II

District 6
Danny Burnett, Adv. Design
Engr.;
Joseph Fullen, Backhoe/Front
End Loader Opr.;
Brian Gilliam, **Brian Singleton**,
Leon Thomason, Jr., Single Axle
Truck Drs.;
Franklin House, **John Nebling**,
Inspectors

District 7
Cameron Forbush, Distributor
Opr.

District 8
William Alvey, Inspector;
Seth Houghton, Dist./Roller Opr.;
James Irving, Multi-Axle Truck
Dr.

District 9
Darvin Barrett, **Eric Watson**,
Backhoe/Front End Loader Oprs.;
Rickey Clark, Const. Mats. Insp.;
Timothy Young, Inspector

District 10
Carey Bennett, **Kathy Chesser**,
Alonzo Davis, **Matt Deckelman**,
Dustin Miller, Single Axle Tr.
Drs.;
Jo Carlile, Bookkeeper;
Patricia Norton, Fuel Clerk

SERVICE

35 Years
Dwain Miles, D-2 Area Maint.
Supv.

30 Years
Larry Myers, D-3 Sr. Inspector;

Earl White, D-6 Crew Leader
25 Years
Pat Sullivan, Staff Maint. Engr.;
Danny Arendt, ROW Section
Head;
Jimmy Bryant, D-1 Area Maint.
Supv.;
Ronnie Putman, D-8 Single Axle
Tr. Dr.

20 Years
Ronnie Johnson, Maint. Sign Lay-
out Spec.;
Debra Tackett, Roadway Design
Traffic Investigator;
Danny Thomas, D-1 Rest Area
Attd.;
Charlie McCree, D-2 Backhoe/
Front End Loader Operator;
John Sharum, D-4 Resident En-
gineer;
David Todd, D-5 Const. Aide II;
Donald Wray, Jr., D-6 Inspec-
tor;
Vance Huneycutt, D-7 Sign Crew
Supervisor;
Glenda Goats, D-9 Permit Of-
ficer

15 Years
Terry Gaither, Surveys Photo-
grammetry Lab Supv.;
Jimmy Black, D-6 Single Axle
Tr. Dr.;
Lloyd Sheets, D-8 Storeroom
Supv.;
Donnie McKinney, D-10 Multi-
Axle Tr. Dr.

10 Years
Joe Driver, AHP Patrol Officer
First Class;
Randy Ort, Public Affairs Of-
ficer;
Don McMillen, P&R Transpor-
tation Specialist;
Paulette Hutchings, Roadway
Design Office Admin. Asst. III;
Elmer Calahan, D-1 Single Axle

Tr. Dr.;
Eddie Sampley, D-4 Maint. Aide II;
Nancy Keeling, D-8 Bookkeeper

5 Years
Jerry Weiner, AHP Patrol Officer;
Edward Smith, Maint. HB Repairer II;
John McIntare, Maint. HB Repairer I;
Kathy Gunderman, P&R Cartog-
rapher II;
Jeffrey Lenard, Surveys Aide II;
George Wilson, D-4 Assistant
Resident Engineer

RETIREMENTS

Doyle Patterson, District 7 Bridge
Repairer II, retired April 14, 1997
with 25+ years service.

Charles Johnson, Legal Staff At-
torney, retired Nov. 3, 1997 with
18+ years service.

Olive Crook, Highway Police 2nd
Lieutenant, retired Jan. 19, 1998
with 19+ years service.

Harry Willcockson, Equipment
and Procurement Equipment Spe-
cialist, retired Jan. 12, 1998 with
28+ years service.

Walter Barrow, District 3 Dis-
tributor/Roller Operator, retired
Jan. 22, 1998 with 15+ years ser-
vice.

Larry Myers, District 3 Senior
Inspector, retired Jan. 16, 1998 with
30 years service.

Leonard Ingle, Jr., District 6
Single Axle Truck Driver, retired
Jan. 21, 1998 with 8+ years ser-
vice.

Bonnie Beckwith, District 6 Field
Clerk II, retired Jan. 6, 1998 with
17+ years service.