

# CenterLine

APRIL 2009



## Department Promotes Work Zone Safety



*Demonstrating proper safety attire are Human Resources employees Eddie Tanner, Safety Inspection Officer; Bethany Swindell, Training Specialist; and Ken Jordan, Section Head of Training and Safety.*

National Work Zone Awareness Week was recognized across the country the week of April 6 – 11. At the Central Office in Little Rock, the Department displayed signs of work zone safety in front of the building on Wednesday, April 8th as a reminder to “Drive to Survive, Our future is Riding on It” – the national slogan.

“We are all responsible for work zone safety,” stated AHTD Director Dan Flowers.

It is important for drivers to note that as warm weather returns, so does the construction season. More and more work zones will spring up in Arkansas and all across the country in the coming weeks.

“The workers certainly deserve a work zone as safe as possible to conduct their business,” added Tommy Fish, executive vice president of the Arkansas Chapter of the Associated General Contractors. “Everyone has to take responsibility for work zone safety.”

**Congratulations...** to two employees who have reached 45 years of service with the AHTD. Arvin Shuffield, Construction Project Coordinator, and Billy Harrod, Traffic Services Specialist, both began working for the Department on March 1, 1964.

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The Department conducted an Origin and Destination Survey in Van Buren the week of April 6th. The purpose of the survey was to determine traffic patterns in and around the Interstate 40/ Highway 59 interchange. The data collected will be used by the Statewide Planning section of the Planning and Research Division to complete a computer model of the highways and streets in the northern portion of Van Buren. Pictured are AHTD employees Jesse White and William Hale.

# Former Commissioner George Kell 1922 – 2009

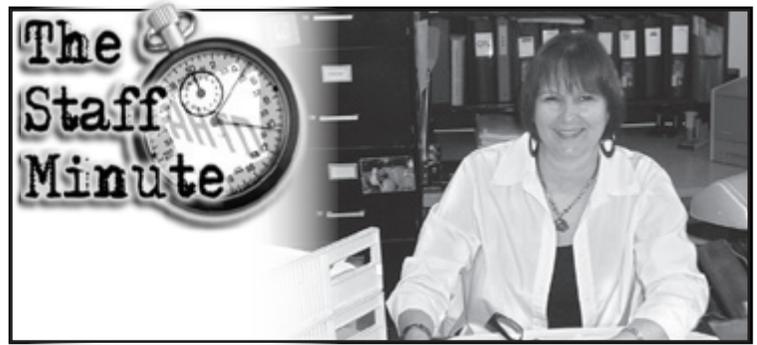
George Kell, a former Arkansas State Highway Commissioner, died on March 24th at Swifton, Arkansas.

Kell was on the Highway Commission from 1971 to 1981 and served as chairman the last four years of his term.

He spent fifteen seasons playing Major League Baseball for the Detroit Tigers. In 1983, he was elected into the National Baseball Hall of Fame. At the conclusion of his playing career, he worked one year for CBS and for the next 37 years, he was the play-by-play announcer for the Detroit Tigers. He was inducted into the Arkansas Sports Hall of Fame in 1964.

A graduate of Arkansas State University, he owned and operated George Kell Motors in Newport.

Kell served on many boards during his lifetime including the Worthen Corporate Board in Little Rock, the First State Bank of Newport, Farmers Electric Co-Op in Newport, the Detroit Tigers in Detroit, Michigan, and the Swifton School Board.



**Employee:**

Brenda McConnell

**Job position:**

Resident Office Technician, Waldron Resident Engineer's Office, District 4

**Length of service:**

21 years and 10 Months

**Job duties:**

I review Daily Work Reports submitted by our field personnel to check for accuracy in calculations and quantities. I prepare all current, final and material estimates. I also check information submitted by contractors for the materials to be used and check and/or prepare Site Manager samples to document this. I prepare daily E-Ticket reports for various items and enter these items for payment. I process Survey Data Management System files taken in the field and enter them into our Computer Aided Civil Engineering and Survey System to determine earthwork quantities to be paid.

**Favorite part of the job:**

I work with a great crew. They make my job much easier. I also enjoy the fact that no two jobs are exactly the same so there always seems to be something new to learn.

**Background:**

I began working for the Department in June of 1987 at the Waldron RE office as a Field Clerk I. I was promoted to Field Clerk II, and then, Office Tech in April of 1992.

**Family:**

I have been married to my wonderful husband Carlton for 33 years. We have two grown children, Shauna and Brett. We have a wonderful son-in-law Trent and two delightful grandsons, Brycen and Caleb, who keep us busy!

**Hobbies/Interests:**

I enjoy gardening, reading, camping and spending time with family and friends.

## CONSTRUCTION CORNER DISTRICT 8



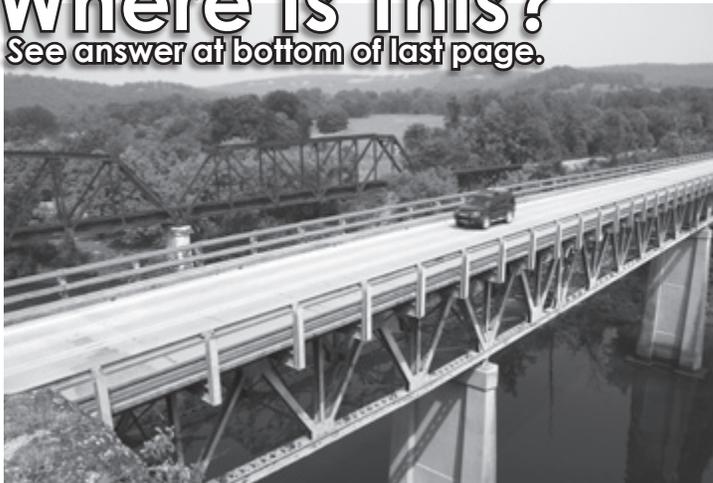
Construction began in February on improvements to Highway 65B (Harkrider Street) in Conway. The project will construct two roundabouts on Harkrider. One will be located at the intersection with Highway 266 (Siebenmorgen Road), at the entrance to Hendrix College. A second one is being constructed at Harkrider and Winfield Street. A pedestrian underpass is also part of the project and will be located just north of Siebenmorgen Road.

A roundabout is a one-way, circular intersection in which traffic flows around a center island. The circular flow eliminates the possibility of traffic meeting head-on or cars crossing the path of oncoming traffic, thus raising the safety factor for motorists. This project represents Arkansas' first modern roundabouts on a state highway. There are already other roundabouts in use on local streets in the Conway area.

The contract for the job was awarded to JCI Construction Company, Inc. of Bryant, Arkansas, at \$4,571,059.99. The roundabouts and pedestrian underpass should be completed in mid-2010.

### Where Is This?

See answer at bottom of last page.



## Permit Tech Enjoys Being Creative On Canvas

Laurel Young is a Permit Tech in the Permits Section of the Arkansas Highway Police. Away from the office, however, Laurel enjoys painting and has become quite successful as an artist.



*A painting by Laurel Young.*

Her love for painting began in grade school where she went on field trips for artist workshops.

“That really influenced me,” she states.

Next came general art classes at McClellan High and a BA degree in Fine Art/Painting from UALR.

“The thing I like about painting is the control,” Young adds. “I like to mix the paint and enjoy the creative process, nobody can take that from you.”

Her favorite medium is acrylic and she likes to use nature and sometimes people she knows to tell a story or portray an idea.

“Most of my work is realistic, but I like to play with the color and composition. I love landscapes and the heavy contrast of light and shadow.”

Young's work is on display this month and in May at Gallery 26 in Little Rock.

Her works were on view at three showings while she lived overseas in Toulouse, France, as well.

What advice would she have for others interested in painting? “Look at different works of art and think about the ones you like. You may want to start with those mediums. Take some basic art classes as well.”

Young has been with the AHTD since April of 2007. She has a son, Jebediah, age two.

“After working in the pre-press industry for eight years and then doing some traveling, I am happy to have a place here at the Department.”



*Laurel and son, Jebediah*

# ROADEO RESULTS

		TRACTOR/ LOWBOY	TANDEM AXLE DUMP TRUCK	SINGLE AXLE DUMP TRUCK	TRACTOR/ MOWER	BACKHOE	MOTOR PATROL
<b>District 1</b>	<b>1st</b>	Dennis Murphy	Lilburn Morelock	Anthony Burnett	Joey Henson	Corey Crawford	Jerry Mitchell
	<b>2nd</b>	Jimmy Leon	Gregory Mosley	Stanley Wheeler	Sylvester Reed	Charles White	Robert Gray
	<b>3rd</b>	Judy Freeman	Steve Roberts	Wayne Hamilton	Carl Leon	Joey McClanahan	Shannon Smiley
<b>District 2</b>	<b>1st</b>	Sidney Fitzpatrick	Jimmy Brooks	Adam Jackson	Johnny Williams	Keith Etue	Wallace Simmons
	<b>2nd</b>	John Harvey	John Moorehead	Royce Edmonson	Donald Green	Chris Edwards	Travis Singleton
	<b>3rd</b>	Edgar Smith	Melissa Starnes	Melvin Ford	Brandon Webster	-	David Alverson
<b>District 3</b>	<b>1st</b>	Charles Branham	Doug East	Bucky Sawyer	Adrian Alvarez	Brad McJunkins	Billy Langston
	<b>2nd</b>	Steven Muldrew	Larry Hoverter	Shane Buck	Dwain Rosenbaum	Rodney Shelton	Eugene Greenwood
	<b>3rd</b>	Wesley Crow	Jim Bob Lamb	J.J. Muldrow	Greg Bamburg	Randy Roden	Neal Price
<b>Central Office</b>	<b>1st</b>	Neil Austin	Kennedy Ezell	Eugene Farrell	Johnny Carte	T.J. Brown	Roy Box
	<b>2nd</b>	Brad Hall	Donnie Thornton	Alan Truong	Eugene Farrell	-	Brad Hall
	<b>3rd</b>	Daniel Dickerson	Johnny Carte	Troy Frazier	-	-	Tracey Dixon
<b>District 6</b>	<b>1st</b>	Derrick Marshall	Tony Porter	Dustin Norwood	Mark Mason	Rusty Borne	Mike Morris
	<b>2nd</b>	Paul Smith	Dennis Tackett	Sarah Powell	Lazaro Morones	Ronnie Veazey	Jerry Denley
	<b>3rd</b>	Derek Bradley	Lonnie Murry	John McDorman	Eric Ivy	Lawrence Hobbs	Billy Hill
<b>District 7</b>	<b>1st</b>	Courtney Ellis	Danny Green	Jerry Langley	Ricky Cummings	Donald Crawford	William Hickman
	<b>2nd</b>	Darrick Erby	Lowell Jones	Roberto Hernandez	Mickey Davis	Ray Howell	Howard Holman
	<b>3rd</b>	Donald Juniel	Lonnie Teague	Anthony Herndon	Dennis Garlington	John Lum	Mike Wolfe
<b>District 8</b>	<b>1st</b>	Michael Bunton	David Pruitt	Scott Blair	Michael Guess	Trey Martinez	Danny Duvall
	<b>2nd</b>	Nikki Scriver	Jose Villasenor	Dale Carlat	Randy Tankersley	Darby Grimes	Dennis Langston
	<b>3rd</b>	Jay Rankin	Kenny Howard	Terrance Kramer	Joe Shamsie	Paul Charton	Kelli Reynolds



Right of Way: Kaley Brown, age 15, was Junior Homecoming Maid. She is the granddaughter of Trish Lynn, Negotiator, and Tom Lynn, Reviewing Appraiser.



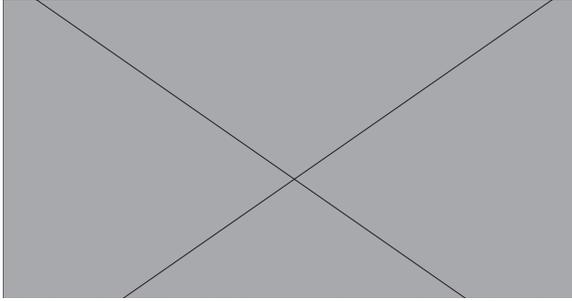
Maintenance: (l. to r.) Joseph Pierson, Striping Crew Supervisor, receives his 10-year service award from Tony Evans, Staff Maintenance Engineer.



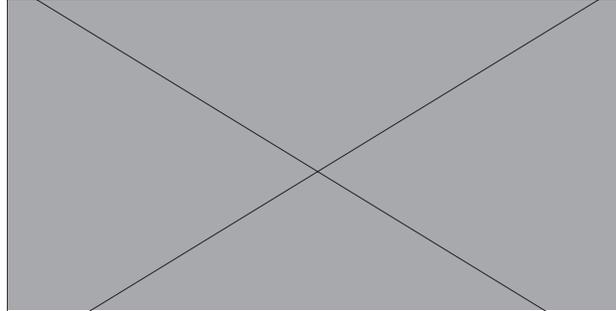
District 1: (l. to r.) Frank Gregory, Area Maintenance Supervisor, presented Troy E. Sims, Maintenance Aide II, with his 20-year service award.



District 5: Joseph and Shannon Branstetter married February 21st in Hawaii. Shannon is the daughter of Keith Skelton, Bridge Crew Leader.



District 1: Receiving their 5-year service awards were (l. to r.) Timothy Burks, Maintenance Aide II; Phillip Hunt, Senior Mechanic; Donald Nelson, Distributor Operator; and Robert Doss, Single Axle Truck Driver.



District 1: Receiving their 10-year service awards are (l. to r.) Tracy Heard, Bridge Repairer I; Lowell Cooper, Jr., Crew Leader; James Corley, Distributor/Roller Operator; and Robert Gray, Distributor Operator.



District 4: Angela Garner, Rest Area Attendant, received her 10-year service award.



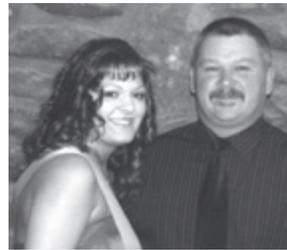
District 7: (l. to r.) Jerry Henderson, Distributor/Roller Operator, receives his five year service award from Johnnie Risher, Area Maintenance Supervisor.



District 8: Avery Lynn Hogan, age four, graduates from preschool this year. She is the granddaughter of Bruce Jones, Stockroom Assistant I.



District 8: (l. to r.) Don Williams, Shop Supervisor, presents Gary L. Hicks, Senior Mechanic, with his 5-year service award.



District 9: Kayla Risley was escorted by her father, Stan Risley, Area Maintenance Supervisor, during the homecoming festivities at North Arkansas College.



District 9: (l. to r.) Mike Brasel, Area Maintenance Supervisor, presents Lance Baker, Motor Patrol Operator, with his 10-year service award.



District 9: Mark Van Aalsburg, Multi Axle Truck Driver, received his 5-year service award.



District 9: Darren Ramsey, Bridge Repairer I, received his 5-year service award.



District 8: Cassidy Rae Harrington was born March 16th. She is the granddaughter of Lisa Vaughan, Area Headquarters Attendant. This makes one dozen grandchildren including Cassidy's sister, Marrison, 20 months.



District 9: Isabella "Bella" Conyers, daughter of Scot Conyers, Single Axle Truck Driver, was born January 30th, weighing 6 lbs. 15.5 oz., and measuring 20 inches long.



District 10: Lydia Katherine Landrum was born February 10th at Baptist Hospital in Little Rock, weighing 7lb., 7oz. and measuring 19 inches long. She is the granddaughter of Regenia Landrum, Office Administrative Assistant V.

## new employees

**MAINTENANCE** - Ronnie Bailey, Bridge Repairer I - Anthony Washam, Skill Trades Trainee

**DISTRICT 3** - Robert Benight, Single Axle Truck Driver

**DISTRICT 5** - Willie Allen, Single Axle Truck Driver

**DISTRICT 6** - Wade Boughner, Single Axle Truck Driver - Arther Hines, Single Axle Truck Driver - Titus Jordan, Single Axle Truck Driver

**DISTRICT 8** - William Rowland, General Laborer

**DISTRICT 9** - Jamie Begley, Single Axle Truck Driver

## promotions

**COMPUTER SERVICES** - Terry Young, System Support Technician II

**MAINTENANCE** - Gary Bradley, Paint Transport Truck Driver - Gary Vice, Paint Transport Truck Driver

**PLANNING & RESEARCH** - Jared Wiley, Civil Engineer III

**SURVEYS** - Bobby Beavers, Surveys Aide III - Rusty Goodall, Surveys Aide III - Page McPherson, Administrative Aide III

**DISTRICT 2** - Stephen Green, Roller Operator

**DISTRICT 3** - Daniel Huett, Construction Field Engineer II, RE 34

**DISTRICT 4** - Terry Buhajla, Single Axle Truck Driver, Crawford Co. - Lewis James, Crew Leader, Sebastian - Marion Rouell, Backh./Front End Loader Op., Sebastian

**DISTRICT 5** - Robbie Bradley, Motor Patrol Operator, Jackson Co. - Ira Campbell, Multi-Axle Truck Driver, Jackson Co. - Richard Jones, Asst. District Bridge Insp. - Brandon Love, Asst. Resident Engineer, RE 52

**DISTRICT 6** - Jason Bryant, Inspector - Matthew Creppel, Maint. Aide II, Lonoke - Demond Davis, Sgl. Axle Tr. Drv., Lonoke - Michael McLernon, Sr., Maint. Aide I, Prairie - Michael Morris, Motor Patrol Op.-Finish

**DISTRICT 7** - Robert Lewis, Maintenance Aide II, Columbia Co. - Phillip Rook, Jr., Inspector, RE 73

**DISTRICT 9** - Ricky Dodson, Sealing Job Supt.

**DISTRICT 10** - Vida Bowers, Maint. Aide I, Randolph

## service

**BRIDGE** - Les McSwain, Structural Detail. Specialist, 35 yrs.

**COMPUTER SERVICES** - Richard Brightop, Computer Technician III, 5 yrs.

**CONSTRUCTION** - Larry Cook, Construction Aide I, RE 31, 5 yrs. - Kathy Daniel, Field Clerk II, RE 73, 5 yrs. - Chad Davis, Advanced Construction Field Engineer, RE 41, 5 yrs. - Carl Hanson, Construction Materials Inspector, RE 42, 5 yrs. - Jerry Maples, Inspector, RE 94, 30 yrs. - Arvin Shuffield,

Construction Project Coordinator, RE 64, 45 yrs. - Ronnie Southerland, Assistant Resident Engineer, RE 65, 30 yrs.

**ENVIRONMENTAL** - John Baber, Env. Scientist II, 25 yrs. - Randy Reynolds, Beautification Coord. II, 20 yrs.

**HIGHWAY POLICE** - James Fincher, Sgt., 35 yrs. - J.B. Ketchum, Patrol Officer First Class, 25 yrs. - Ross Martin, Sergeant, 25 yrs.

**HUMAN RESOURCES** - Joe Haynie, Safety Inspection Officer, 20 yrs.

**MAINTENANCE** - Billy Harrod, Traffic Services Specialist, 45 yrs.

**PLANNING & RESEARCH** - David Anderson, Data Coll. Tech., 35 yrs. - Robert Cagle, Hwy. Performance & Needs Analyst I, 30 yrs. - John Williams, Data Collection Technician, 25 yrs.

**PROGRAMS & CONTRACTS** - Laura Debro Carter, Advanced Programs & Contracts Specialist, 30 yrs.

**RIGHT OF WAY** - Gary Anderson, Engineering Specialist, 35 yrs.

**ROADWAY DESIGN** - Donald Fisher, Hydraulic Engineer, 15 yrs.

**SURVEYS** - Lester Cupp, Surveys Crew Chief, 35 yrs.

**DISTRICT 1** - Terry Dildine, Asphalt Tank Truck Driver, 10 yrs. - Ricky Ivy, Motor Patrol Operator-Fin., 15 yrs. - John Pruet, Jr., Backhoe/Front End Loader Operator, 10 yrs.

**DISTRICT 2** - Roy Andrews, Area Headquarters Attendant, 40 yrs. - Royce Edmondson, Senior Mechanic, 10 yrs.

**DISTRICT 3** - Kriste Jameson, Maint. Aide I, 5 yrs.

**DISTRICT 4** - Jacky Baldwin, Jr., Dist. Permit Ofcr., 15 yrs. - Glen Stengel, Maint. Aide I, 5 yrs. - Michael Ward, Paver Operator, 15 yrs.

**DISTRICT 5** - Carl Davis, Motor Patrol Operator, 10 yrs. - Ethan Moody, Crew Leader, 25 yrs. - Lyndal Waits, District Engineer, 35 yrs.

**DISTRICT 7** - Jerry Henderson, Distrib./Roller Op., 5 yrs. - Dewayne Torrence, Distrib./Roller Op., 5 yrs.

**DISTRICT 8** - Donald Berry, Maintenance Aide II, 15 yrs. - Michael Howard, Maintenance Aide II, 20 yrs. - Tina Maynard, Area Hq. Attendant, 5 yrs.

**DISTRICT 9** - Lance Baker, Motor Patrol Operator, 10 yrs. - Thomas Dohn, Assistant District Bridge Inspector, 10 yrs. - Robert Mersman, Pilot-Deck Hand, 5 yrs. - Doris Osborn, Rest Area Attendant, 15 yrs.

**DISTRICT 10** - Brian Arford, Sgl. Axle Tr. Drv., 10 yrs. - Carl Imler, Crew Leader, 30 yrs. - Paul Vaulner, Maintenance Aide II, 20 yrs.

## retirement

**BRIDGE** - Les McSwain, Struct. Detail. Specialist, 35+ yrs.

**COMPUTER SERVICES** - David McNeely, Automation Engineer V, 28+ yrs.

**CONSTRUCTION** - Brenda Walden, Office Administrative Assistant V, 33+ yrs.

**HIGHWAY POLICE** - James Fincher, Sergeant, 35+ yrs. - Randall Harrison, Corporal, 27+ yrs.

**FISCAL SERVICES** - Kathy Fooks, Accounting Analyst, 13+ yrs.

**RIGHT OF WAY** - Gary Anderson, Engineering Specialist, 35+ yrs.

**SURVEYS** - John Wilson, Surveys Crew Chief, 34+ yrs.

**DISTRICT 1** - Billy Haycraft, Multi-Axle Truck Driver, 34+ yrs.

**DISTRICT 3** - James Thompson, Crew Leader, 22+ yrs.

**DISTRICT 4** - Gary Greene, Senior Insp., 31+ yrs.

**DISTRICT 6** - Edwin Ware, Senior Mech., 8+ yrs.

**DISTRICT 10** - Richard Allen, Construction Aide I, 8+ yrs.

## memorials

**HIGHWAY POLICE** - William L. Thompson, Jr., 3/15/09, Retiree

**PLANNING & RESEARCH** - Jimmie D. Head, 3/12/09, Retiree

**SURVEYS** - Oliver P. Gossett, 3/29/09, Retiree

**DISTRICT 1** - William J. Copeland, 3/19/09, Retiree

**DISTRICT 4** - Helen A. Butler, 3/30/09, Retiree - Clarence D. Roper, 3/28/09, Retiree - Edward L. Slaughterbeck, 3/11/09, Retiree

**DISTRICT 7** - Jessie M. Hollis, 3/16/09, Retiree

**DISTRICT 9** - Jack N. Cunningham, 3/26/09, Retiree - Ansel E. Reasons, 3/24/09, Retiree

## active duty

As of 4/23/09, the AHTD had 9 employees serving active duty in the United States military. Dates denote the deployment/return date.

**MATERIALS** - David Kraft, Geotechnical Drill Party Chief, 1/2/08

**DISTRICT 1** - James Barte, Senior Insp., 2/19/08

**DISTRICT 4** - Nathan Reed, Multi-Ax. Tr. Drv., 10/3/05

**DISTRICT 6** - Shirley Hammett, Area Headquarters Attendant, 7/20/04

**DISTRICT 7** - Abel Ayala, Sgl. Axle Tr. Drv., 1/27/09

**DISTRICT 8** - James Harris, Motor Patrol Operator, 10/1/07

**DISTRICT 9** - Ashley Hale, Ferry Boat Pilot, 9/5/07 - Douglas Henry, Single Axle Truck Driver, 10/1/07 - Cameron Whitney, Sign Erector, 10/9/07

## "Where Is This?"

Highway 5 at Norfolk in Baxter County.



The Arkansas State Highway and Trans. Department complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and other federal equal opportunity laws and therefore does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, color, age, national origin, religion or disability, in admission or access to and treatment in Department programs and activities, as well as the Department's hiring or employment practices. Complaints of alleged discrimination and inquiries regarding the Department's nondiscrimination policies may be directed to: James B. Moore, Jr., Section Head - EEO/DBE, (ADA/504/Title VI Coordinator), P. O. Box 2261, Little Rock, AR 72203, (501) 569-2298, (Voice/TTY 711), or the following email address: [james.moore@arkansashighways.com](mailto:james.moore@arkansashighways.com). This notice is available from the ADA/504/Title VI Coordinator in large print, on audiotape and in Braille.