

Al Mattox

Assistant Special Agent in Charge

Alabama Law Enforcement Agency

Al began his career in Law Enforcement in 1986 with the Sumter County Sheriffs Office. He worked one year with Sumter County, and one year with Demopolis Police Department before going to work for Tuscaloosa Police Department in 1988. He continued with Tuscaloosa Police Department until 1997, when he was hired by the Alabama Department of Public Safety. Al was assigned to the Highway Patrol Division in Lee County until 2003, when he was transferred to the Alabama Bureau of Investigation's full time Bomb Squad. He served as an Explosives Detection Canine Handler from 2004 until 2014, and still supervises the ALEA Explosive Detection Canine Program. Al became a Certified Hazardous Devices Technician in 2005 after graduating from the FBI Hazardous Devices School. Since becoming a Bomb Technician, Al has completed the ATF Post Blast Investigation School, ATF Advanced Destructive Techniques Course, ATF Homemade Explosives Identify, Process and Disposal Course, Oklahoma State University's Chemistry of Pyrotechnics Course, FBI Advanced Electronics Course, AT Solutions Advanced Electronics Course, Texas A&M Advanced Ordnance Recognition Course, and graduated as an ATF Certified Explosives Specialist (CES). Al was 1 of 8, out of 500 State and Local Bomb Technicians to be selected for the CES Program by the ATF and National Bomb Squad Commanders Advisory Board in 2015. In completing the CES program, Al graduated from Missouri University of Science & Technology with an Undergraduate Certificate in Explosives Engineering. In 2016, He was selected by the FBI and US Department of State to travel to the Country of Nigeria, where he taught a Bomb Squad Commanders Course for the State Department. He has held every position on the ALEA Bomb Squad, as a Trooper Corporal, Trooper Sergeant, Trooper Lieutenant, Assistant Bomb Squad Commander, and Bomb Squad Commander. Al is now an Assistant Special Agent in Charge, and serves as ALEA's Special Services Commander, directly supervising the Bomb Squad, SWAT Team, Dive Team, and the ALERRT / Active Shooter Training Program. He retired from the Alabama Army National Guard in March 2019, as a Chief Warrant Officer 4. During his time in the Military he had three (3) Combat Deployments, serving in Afghanistan in 2002, and 2003, with the Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force (CJSOTF). He served in Iraq in 2010, as the Deputy Commander of the Combined Explosives Exploitation Cell – Iraq, which was charged with non-destructive forensic examination and exploitation of Improvised Explosive Devices (IED's) and directly supervised the exploitation of over 100,000 IED's during that tour alone. While serving in Iraq, he testified 53 times in the Criminal Courts of Iraq as an expert in explosives. In 2017 and 2018, he served his second tour in Afghanistan, as the Senior Exploitation Advisor for the US Counter IED Unit in Afghanistan, and co-wrote the National Counter IED Exploitation Directive for the Country of Afghanistan.