



INSIDE: PROMOTIONS • SASHTO SCHOLARSHIP • SERVICE AWARDS • NOTEWORTHY • ARDOT PEOPLE • MORE

CENTERLINE CENTERLINE

NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2025

ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

FRONT & BACK COVER:
State Rodeo Finals

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SUBMISSIONS Photo submissions are included as time and space allow. Please submit images to the appropriate District or Division Reporter:

- | | |
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| District 2: Sandy Pendergrass | District 7: Lindsey Dow |
| District 3: Sherry Stewart | District 8: Farrah Beldin |
| District 4: Stephanie Duncan | District 9: Renae Whiteside |
| District 5: Lisa Garner | District 10: Lesa Osborn |
- Alt. Project Delivery:** Leslie Goshien
AHP: Chrissy Williams
Benefits & Compensation: Robbie Howlett
Bridge: Ana-Maria Budu
Bridge Operations: Jenny Hitt
Construction: Yulissa Mendoza
Consultant Contracts: Jordan Holman
Civil Rights: Shawna Meadows
Environmental: Esmeralda Marquez
Equip. & Proc.: Deanna Calhoun
Fiscal Services: Robbie Howlett
Human Resources: Jazmine Kumpe
Information Technology: Kamara Durham
- Internal Audit:** Tammy Powell
Legal: Kim Jewell
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Maintenance: Mandy Price
Materials: Olivia Woodward
Planning & Research: Katherine Rasmussen
Program Management: Janice Young
Right of Way: Katherine Martin
Roadway Design: Amanda Falls
State Aid: Patricia Fletcher-Kesterson
Surveys: Christine Lenard
TSMO: Jaonna Jordan

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THE CENTERLINE NEWSLETTER is published bi-monthly by and for employees of the Arkansas Department of Transportation as a medium of Departmental news and other information.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- AUGUST 13 WEDNESDAY**
ARDOT Blood Drive
Central Office • Little Rock
9:30 AM
- AUGUST 13 WEDNESDAY**
ARDOT Bid Letting
Central Office • Little Rock
- AUGUST 20 WEDNESDAY**
Arkansas Highway
Commission Meeting
Central Office • Little Rock
10 AM

- SEPTEMBER 1 MONDAY**
Labor Day
Offices Closed
- SEPTEMBER 17 WEDNESDAY**
ARDOT Bid Letting
Central Office • Little Rock
- SEPTEMBER 23-25 TUESDAY - THURSDAY**
Southeastern Regional
Rodeo Finals
Lexington, Kentucky

GETTING TO KNOW LACEY

BY KAITLIN WORLEY

Lacey Kanipe joined ARDOT as the new **Internal Communications Coordinator** on May 5th to assist with enhancing communications within the Department.

After receiving her degree in mass communications at Middle Tennessee State University, she started her career at the Conway Police Department as the Public Information Officer. "In that position, I worked to foster transparency with the public through open communication," Lacey said. During her time there, she organized events within the community to create a space for the public to have positive interactions with police officers and support recruitment efforts.

She later joined the Arkansas Division of Emergency Management, where she "focused on promoting individual preparedness and resiliency amongst Arkansans," and she worked to help Arkansans "prepare for, respond to, and recover from disasters."

Lacey joined ARDOT because she values communication. "Working at a department that wants to invest in and enhance internal communications really sparked my interest because I know how much it means to employees when leadership fosters a transparent and collaborative work environment," Lacey said. Lacey serves as a source of information for



employees and as a point of contact. "I want to ensure that all ARDOT employees feel their voices matter," Lacey explained.

In her free time, Lacey can be found reading or gardening. "This spring, I had the opportunity to plant several flowers and even started a small vegetable garden, which I'm super excited about."

Lacey can also often be found hiking with her husband or trying new restaurants around the area. "We usually like to find a cool, new, local restaurant to check out. We aren't shy about trying new foods."

Beyond the garden and her local adventures, Lacey is a great resource and a valuable addition to ARDOT as she continues to strengthen communication within the Department.



BAKER NAMED DIVISION HEAD, ROADWAY DESIGN

David Baker was named Division Head of Roadway Design effective May 17, 2025.

Baker began his career with ARDOT as an intern before being hired as a Civil Engineer in Roadway Design in August 2005. Following the engineering career path, he was promoted to Assistant Division Head of Roadway Design in October 2024.

Baker has a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Alabama A&M University in Huntsville. He is a Registered Professional Engineer. ◆

BATSON NAMED MAJOR, ARKANSAS HIGHWAY POLICE

Ross Batson was named Major for Arkansas Highway Police (AHP) effective May 17, 2025.

Batson began his career with ARDOT in September 1986 as an AHP Patrolman assigned to the Springdale Weigh Station. Following the law enforcement officer path, he advanced to Captain for the Permits Section in August 2015. He has served as Captain of Special Operations since January 2025.

Batson has a bachelor's degree in general studies from Henderson State University. ◆





CATHEY NAMED OFFICE COORDINATOR, NORTHWEST ARKANSAS OFFICE

Kathryn Cathey was named Office Coordinator for the Northwest Arkansas Office effective May 5, 2025.

Cathey's career began in education, where she served as a teacher for eight years. Her experience in the classroom seamlessly translated to administrative work. Most recently, she served at Economics Arkansas, where she contributed to budget development, managed payroll and benefit administration, and prepared financial reports.

Cathey has a master's degree in education from Arkansas State University and a bachelor's degree in early childhood education and psychology from Lyon College. ◆

HEATH NAMED CAPTAIN, ARKANSAS HIGHWAY POLICE

Chad Heath was named Captain for Arkansas Highway Police (AHP) District 4 effective May 31, 2025.

Heath began his career with ARDOT in October 2004 as an AHP Patrol Officer. Following the law enforcement career path, he was promoted to Lieutenant in July 2022. He has been serving as Assistant District Commander since August 2023.

Heath has a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from the University of Arkansas. ◆





HORTON NAMED AREA MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR, DISTRICT 2

Robbie Horton was named Area Maintenance Supervisor for Arkansas County 1 in District 2 effective May 3, 2025.

Horton began his career with ARDOT as a Single Axle Truck Driver on the District 5 Cleburne County Crew in May 2010. He left the Department in 2011 and managed several farms until he returned to ARDOT in 2020. Following the maintenance career path, he was promoted to Crew Leader in November 2022. ◆

LESTER NAMED STAFF PROJECT DEVELOPMENT ENGINEER, PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

Justin Lester was named Staff Project Development Engineer for the Program Management Division effective May 31, 2025.

Lester began his career with ARDOT as an intern prior to beginning his career as a Civil Engineer in the System Information and Research Division in June 2015. He followed the engineering career path and was promoted to Senior Program Management Engineer in November 2023.

Lester has a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from the University of Arkansas. He is a Registered Professional Engineer. ◆





LEWIS NAMED AUDIT MANAGER, INTERNAL AUDIT

Shermaine Lewis was named Audit Manager for the Internal Audit Division effective May 5, 2025.

Lewis has over 15 years of experience in internal auditing, risk assessment, and regulatory compliance in both the public and private sectors. Most recently, she served as Senior Auditor at Arkansas Blue Cross Blue Shield.

Lewis has a bachelor's degree in finance from Arkansas State University and a bachelor's degree in accounting from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. She is a Certified Internal Auditor. ◆

PARSONS NAMED FACILITIES MANAGEMENT SUPERINTENDENT, MAINTENANCE

Cameron Parsons was named Facilities Management Superintendent for the Maintenance Division effective April 19, 2025.

Parsons began his career with ARDOT as a Facilities Management Project Coordinator in July 2015. Prior to joining the Department, he served for over a decade as a Regional Property Manager for FedEx Freight, Inc., where he gained extensive experience overseeing property operations across multiple locations. ◆





RITCHIE NAMED SEALING SUPERINTENDENT, DISTRICT 8

Kyle Ritchie was named Sealing Superintendent in District 8 effective May 3, 2025.

Ritchie began his career with ARDOT as a General Laborer in District 7 in August 1995. He followed the maintenance career path and was promoted to Crew Leader in October 2014. ◆

VERNICH NAMED SIGN CREW SUPERVISOR, DISTRICT 6

Matthew Vernich was named Sign Crew Supervisor in District 6 effective May 3, 2025.

Vernich began as a seasonal employee before beginning his full-time career with ARDOT in April 2005 as a General Laborer. He followed the maintenance career path and was promoted to Crew Leader in October 2017. ◆





WILLIAMS NAMED SIGN CREW SUPERVISOR, DISTRICT 4

Lendal Williams, Jr. was named Sign Crew Supervisor in District 4 effective May 31, 2025.

Williams began his career at ARDOT as a General Laborer in April 2009 in District 4. Following the maintenance career path, he was promoted to Maintenance Specialist in August 2017. ♦

SPIRIT DAY



**SAVE
- THE -
DATE**

Come to work dressed in your best football jersey or fan gear, bring your favorite tailgate snacks, and enjoy fun and fellowship with colleagues over your break time. More details to come!



BOARD MEMBER ELECTION RESULTS

BY EMMA GOAD

The ASHERS Board plays a vital role in managing ARDOT's retirement system, ensuring its long-term success. Ronda Walthall has served on the ASHERS Board since 2016 as the Active Employee Representative, bringing valuable insight from the perspective of current employees. Lorie Tudor is currently serving her first term as the Retiree Representative, offering a voice for retired members. Together with fellow board members, they meet quarterly to review investment and economic reports, vote on key issues, and discuss changes to ensure the retirement system remains strong and sustainable.



ACTIVE EMPLOYEE REPRESENTATIVE
RONDA WALTHALL



RETIREE REPRESENTATIVE
LORIE TUDOR



COLA FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026

The Arkansas Highway Commission authorized a 2.5% Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) for Fiscal Year 2026 for ARDOT employees. The increase took effect on the July 3 paycheck.

In addition, an average 1.5% performance-based pay increase was also applied to the July 3 paycheck and is calculated according to a pay matrix scale based on individual performance evaluation scores. The pay matrix was emailed to employees. For questions, contact the Human Resources Division.

STREET SMART TO LAUNCH IN UPCOMING SCHOOL YEAR

BY EMMA GOAD

Starting in the 2025–2026 school year, schools will begin rolling out Street Smart, a new education program focused on helping sixth through eighth grade students navigate the roads as pedestrians or passengers with greater confidence, awareness, and responsibility.

The goal of Street Smart is to support students as they learn how to make thoughtful decisions in real-world situations, whether they're walking to school, using public transportation, or spending time in their neighborhoods. The program emphasizes practical skills and informed decision-making through interactive lessons and community-based learning.

More details about the program will be shared at the upcoming Street Smart press conference on August 15. This event will offer a closer look at what the program includes, how it will be implemented, and what families can expect throughout the year.



Arkansas teens film Street Smart videos in downtown Little Rock.

ARDOT CAR SHOW



We know a lot of you drive some awesome vehicles. Whether it's something you've built yourself, a car with family history, or just a ride that gets people talking, you'll get the opportunity to show off your ride. Join us for the first ever ARDOT Car Show, **SEPTEMBER 18** at the Central Office parking lot. Be on the lookout for more details on Poppulo.

ON THE DOT

is an internal TV news segment for ARDOT employees. The video series will be released weekly via email and Poppulo. It will be brief and fun, yet informative, wrapping up the happenings of the previous week and giving a glimpse into the week ahead.





poppulo

Poppulo, ARDOT's new internal communications platform, launched in early July. The platform is a convenient way for employees to receive news and information.

POPPULO FEATURES:

- Targeted messages via email, SharePoint, Teams, and a mobile app that can be posted for specific or all employee groups to view
- A smartphone app feed of internal ARDOT announcements, accessible by phone from anywhere
- Interactive social media-style feed with the ability to like posts and leave comments
- News and information regarding training, benefits, policy changes, upcoming events, accolades, job openings, and more - all in one place.

DOWNLOAD THE SMARTPHONE APP



WATCH A TUTORIAL



VIEW ON SHAREPOINT



NEED HELP?

CONTACT HRISSECTION@ARDOT.GOV

SASHTO SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



BY RUTHIE BERRYHILL

ARDOT’s Southern Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (SASHTO) Scholarship Program assists with expenses associated with college, vocational school, or technical school for dependent children of ARDOT employees and retirees as well as dependents of employees who lost their lives serving the public. Full-time students of fallen workers are automatically awarded a scholarship while the remaining scholarships are chosen at random from a drawing.

Thirty \$500 scholarships were awarded for the 2025 fall semester. One scholarship was awarded to the dependent of a fallen ARDOT employee, Zoe Watts, daughter of James Kirk Watts, a Maintenance Aide on the Searcy County crew. Twenty-nine names were chosen at random and announced by Director Jared Wiley.

There were 96 applicants this year. The scholarships are valid for either in-state or out-of-state educational institutions. Congratulations to all of our scholarship recipients. ♦

STUDENT	SCHOOL	PARENT	LOCATION
Zoe Watts	University of Central Arkansas	Kirk Watts	District 9
Toby Campbell	Arkansas Tech University	Jason Campbell	District 9
Chloe Hester	Ozarka College	Gary Hester	Maintenance
Walker Hale	University of the Ozarks	Jennifer Hale	District 1
Laci Garner	Arkansas State University	Lisa Garner	District 5
Olivia Davis	University of Central Arkansas	Christopher and Angela Davis	Maintenance / District 8
Julia Mayben	University of Arkansas at Fayetteville	Theodore Mayben	District 8
Sophie Seaton	Arkansas State University	Jason Seaton	District 5
Reese Williams	University of Arkansas at Fayetteville	Tate Williams	Human Resources
Prestan Hutchens	University of Arkansas at Fort Smith	Joshua Hutchens	District 4
Haydyn Friend	Arkansas State University	Jeremy Friend	District 5
Dawson Thomas	University of Arkansas at Fayetteville	Steven Thomas	Roadway Design
Maggie Thomas	University of Arkansas at Fayetteville	Jeremy Thomas	District 3
Gavin Thomas	University of Arkansas – Pulaski Technical College	Patrick Thomas	Local Programs
Nathaniel Thomas	Texas A&M University at Texarkana	Jeremy Thomas	District 3
Riley Bennett	Louisiana Tech University	Kenny Bennett	District 3
Briley Reeder	University of Central Arkansas	Angie Reeder	District 8
Livy Smith	Arkansas State University	Joshua Smith	District 5
Elena Caballero	Rhodes College	Fidel Caballero	AHP
Shelby Ratcliff	Southern Arkansas University	Aaron Ratcliff	District 3
Kaylee Saling	University of Arkansas at Fayetteville	Melody Maxey	Right of Way
Peyton Adams	University of Arkansas at Fayetteville	Cynthia Pearson	Materials
Savannah Barnett	Arkansas State University	Rodney Barnett	District 5
Juliann Stevens	Arkansas State University	Coleen Stevens	District 5
Curtis Jones	Cossatot Community College	Adam Jones	District 3
Bryan Chun	University of Arkansas at Fayetteville	Sanghyun Chun	Planning and Research
Braxton Jewell	Arkansas State University	Kimberly Jewell	Legal
Ciarra McClanahan	Arkansas State University	Mark McClanahan	District 8
Will Bailey	University of Arkansas at Fayetteville	William Bailey	Right of Way
Brenton Johnson	Arkansas State University – Three Rivers	Kerrie Johnson	Right of Way

SUMMER INTERNS

GET A BEHIND-THE-SCENES LOOK AT ARDOT

BY RUTHIE BERRYHILL



Each summer, ARDOT college interns are invited to the central office for student intern orientation. The two-day program gives them the chance to get a closer look at ARDOT and potential careers in transportation.

This year's student intern class included over 100 students from 28 universities and colleges. This year, 95 student interns attended orientation on July 15 and 16.

"I talked to a multitude of ARDOT professionals that I would never have met if not for orientation," Caiden Sisson, ARDOT Bridge Operations intern, said. "I gained a lot of career and life advice that I will definitely be using going forward." Sisson is pursuing a degree in civil engineering from Arkansas State University in Jonesboro.

The first day of this year's orientation included presentations given by staff from Program Delivery, Program Management, Local Programs, and Alternative Delivery, as well as topics such as opportunities at ARDOT and benefits of employment at ARDOT. On the second

day, interns toured various Divisions before gathering for closing remarks and a group photo.

"I learned more about the pay and benefits that ARDOT has to offer," Sutton Eddins, ARDOT RE 94, District 9, intern said. "One thing I learned about was the catastrophic leave policy. I have never worked for a company with this program and thought it was great, and that it shows that ARDOT truly cares. I also was surprised by the competitive pay increase for entry level engineers." Sutton is pursuing a degree in civil engineering from the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville.

The orientation also included a networking dinner for interns and ARDOT staff at ARDOT's Equipment and Procurement pavilion. Nearly 150 ARDOT staff members, from intern to chief, enjoyed games, food, and fellowship. The dinner provides an opportunity for interns and Division Heads to connect in a more relaxed atmosphere.

BY KAITLIN WORLEY

June 12th marked ARDOT’s 34th Annual Equipment Operators Rodeo Finals, which finished just in time to beat the worst of the rainfall that morning.

ARDOT employees from across the state get together every year in Little Rock to compete in Rodeo. The event provides an opportunity for employees from each of the 10 Districts to demonstrate their incredible skills in Single Axle Dump Truck, Tandem Axle Dump Truck, Tractor Trailer/Lowboy, Tractor/Mower, Backhoe, Motor Patrol, and Skid Steer competitions.

Friends and family from across the state also attended to watch their loved ones compete. While Jacob Whitmire of District 8 competed in the Motor Grader competition, his mother, Martha Whitmire, and daughter, Jasmine Whitmire, cheered him on from the sidelines along with other family members. It was their first time attending the event, which Martha remarked was awesome. "I liked the donuts," Jasmine excitedly added. Donuts were provided as a treat at the event.

Michael Parker of District 7 also participated in the event. He has been at ARDOT for 11 years and said it was his fourth or fifth time competing – this year in the Backhoe competition. His favorite part of the competition is the competitiveness, but he also enjoys meeting people from the other districts. He enjoys the fellowship in the competition and the opportunity to demonstrate his skills in precision.

One of the benefits to the Rodeo is that the competitors are able to share knowledge with one

another to improve operations in their districts. "The guys are meeting people from other districts, and when we go to regional, we do that with the other states," Chris Lusk, Fleet Manager in Equipment and Procurement, said.

"It's good training for operators," according to Danny Keene, Division Head of Equipment and Procurement and Rodeo Official. "Our regional conference has grown into what we call a training and safety conference. There are required training and safety sessions that they have to attend for regional rodeo, and we go through the same things for the state."

Laura Rankin, Office Manager in Equipment and Procurement as well as Regional Rodeo Secretary, explained that Rodeo is not just a friendly competition, but it gives ARDOT employees a chance to get the recognition that they truly deserve.

"These are the unsung heroes that are out there every day, putting their lives on the line for us to fulfill our mission, and this is a way to showcase their skills," Keene said. "I'm thankful that everyone's here to watch. It means a lot to these folks."

After the competition, the top three competitors in each category were selected and awarded on stage, and District 5 was recognized as this year's champion team. The two highest performers for each category will attend the regional competition in Kentucky in the fall, which, now that Texas has joined, consists of all 13 inland states in the Southeastern Region.



(L. to R.) Tyler Phillips, Kirk Fossler, Colton Bolser, Joshua Harness, Nick Rushing, Director Jared Wiley, Alex Roofe, Deric Wyatt, Stephen Norris, Jacob Conway, Tyce Moser, Robbie Horton



Straight Line – (L. to R.) Travis Nelson, District 2; Austin Ardwin, District 3; Lisa Beaver, District 2



(L. to R.) First Place: Kirk Fossler, District 5; Second Place: Jon Carter, District 8; Third Place: Kyle Jones, District 1



(L. to R.) First Place: TJ Pulley, District 1; Second Place: Tony Ruhl, District 10; Third Place: Brad Brown, District 1



(L. to R.) First Place: John Harvey, District 2; Second Place: Tyler Phillips, District 5; Third Place: Tommy Bull, District 8



(L. to R.) First Place: Rodney Armstrong, District 1; Second Place: Colt Holland, District 8; Third Place: Travis Swanson, District 9

BACKHOE



(L. to R.) First Place: Chad Foster, District 9; Second Place: Stephen Norris, District 5; Third Place: Will Ring, District 10

MOTOR PATROL



(L. to R.) First Place: Nick Rushing, District 5; Second Place: Nathan Daniels, District 9; Third Place: Ryan Wages, District 7

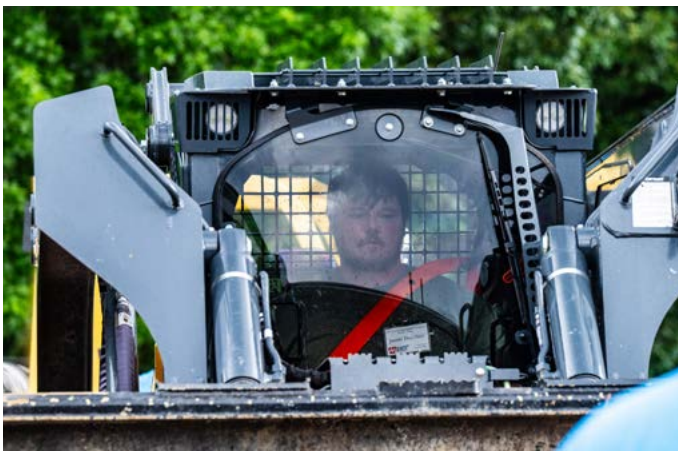
SKID STEER



(L. to R.) First Place: Larry Logsdon, District 4; Second Place: TJ Pulley, District 1; Third Place: Jon Carter, District 8



Backhoe – Kenny Riley, District 9



Skid Steer – Jessie Burdine, Central Office



Measuring Alley Dock – Adam Prince, Central Office and Ceburn Gilliam, Central Office



Motor Patrol – Joshua Harness, District 5



1. DIRECTOR'S OFFICE: (L. to R.) Arkansas Highway Commission Chairman Philip Taldo presents Director Jared Wiley with his 20-year Service Award.

2. ARKANSAS HIGHWAY POLICE: (L. to R.) Private First Class Edward Morgan receives his 5-year Service Award from Captain Will Scott.

3. ARKANSAS HIGHWAY POLICE: (L. to R.) Captain Tyrone Dillard presents Private First Class Afton Fletcher with his 5-year Service Award with Major Ross Batson.

4. ARKANSAS HIGHWAY POLICE: (L. to R.) Major Ross Batson presents Sergeant Jamie Glanton with his 5-year Service Award.

5. BENEFITS & COMPENSATION: (L. to R.) Ronda Walthall, Insurance Section Head, presents Dee Dee Atkins, Insurance Assistant, with her 15-year Service Award.

6. BRIDGE OPERATIONS: (L. to R.) Kellie Ingram, Crew Leader, receives his 5-year Service Award from David Greenwood, Staff Heavy Bridge Maintenance Engineer.

7. EQUIPMENT & PROCUREMENT: (L. to R.) Ron Nichols, Carpenter, receives his 5-year Service Award from Danny Keene, Division Head.

8. FISCAL SERVICES: (L. to R.) Julian Moore, Accounting Assistant, receives his 15-year Service Award from Patrick Patton, Chief Fiscal Officer.

9. LOCAL PROGRAMS: (L. to R.) Ashley Smith, Assistant Section Head - Local Project Administration, presents Kellie Simpson, Local Programs Specialist, with her 5-year Service Award with David Siskowski, Division Head, and Whitnee V. Bullerwell, Section Head - Local Project Administration.



10. TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT & OPERATIONS:
(L. to R.) Alan Nguyen, Advanced Engineer, receives his 15-year Service Award from Michael Henry, Staff Engineer.

11. TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT & OPERATIONS:
(L. to R.) Monica Saffle, TMC Manager, presents Carolyn Cole, Senior TMC Operator, with her 10-year Service Award.

12. TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT & OPERATIONS:
(L. to R.) Monica Saffle, TMC Manager, presents Cameron Herring, Senior TMC Operator, with his 5-year Service Award.

13. DISTRICT 2: (L. to R.) Brad Hargrave, Senior Construction Project Coordinator presents Rebecca Baker, Advanced Construction Aide, with her 5-year Service Award with Chris Baker, Senior Inspector.

14. DISTRICT 3: (L. to R.) Daniel Huett, Resident Engineer, RE 34, receives his 20-year Service Award from Jeremy Thomas, Construction Engineer.

15. DISTRICT 4: (L. to R.) Stacy Linder, Construction Inspector, receives his 20-year Service Award from Danny Harris, Resident Engineer, RE 42.

16. DISTRICT 4: (L. to R.) Will Ward, Advanced Construction Field Engineer, receives his 5-year Service Award from Jason James, Resident Engineer, RE 43.

17. DISTRICT 4: (L. to R.) Jason James, Resident Engineer, RE 43, presents Jeff Maze, Advanced Resident Office Technician, with his 15-year Service Award.

18. DISTRICT 4: (L.) Shane Oxford, Advanced Welder, and (R.) Stephen Tate, Station Attendant, each receives their 10-year Service Award, from (C.) Matt Pruitt, Shop Supervisor.


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19. DISTRICT 5: (L. to R.) Alex Roofe, District Engineer, presents Michael Foster, Senior Inspector, RE 53, with his 25-year Service Award.

20. DISTRICT 5: (L. to R.) Casey Chastain, Resident Engineer, RE 55, receives his 25-year Service Award from Alex Roofe, District Engineer.

21. DISTRICT 5: (L. to R.) Alex Roofe, District Engineer, presents Sara Brackett, Bookkeeper, with her 25-year Service Award.

22. DISTRICT 5: (L. to R.) Jeremy Friend, Crew Leader, receives his 20-year Service Award from Alex Roofe, District Engineer.

23. DISTRICT 5: (L. to R.) Alex Roofe, District Engineer, presents Christopher Ford, Maintenance Specialist, with his 5-year Service Award.

24. DISTRICT 5: (L. to R.) Alex Roofe, District Engineer, presents Jeremy Mulderig, Maintenance Specialist, with his 5-year Service Award.

25. DISTRICT 6: (L. to R.) William Caster, Assistant Resident Engineer, RE 65, receives his 10-year Service Award from David Norris, Resident Engineer, RE 65.

26. DISTRICT 7: Jimmy Bratton, Maintenance Aide II with his 10-year Service Award.

27. DISTRICT 7: (L. to R.) Dalton Champagne, Resident Engineer, RE 74, presents Hunter Santos, Construction Project Coordinator, with his 10-year Service Award.



28. DISTRICT 8: (L. to R.) Kenny Caldwell, Shop Supervisor, presents Jessie Chronister, Jr., Senior Mechanic, with his 15-year Service Award.

29. DISTRICT 9: (L. to R.) Alan Carter, Maintenance Aide II, Newton County, receives his 15-year Service Award from Nathan Daniels, Area Maintenance Supervisor.

30. DISTRICT 9: (L. to R.) Rick Watson, Storeroom Supervisor, presents Christene Yancey, Lead Storeroom Assistant, with her 15-year Service Award.

31. DISTRICT 9: (L. to R.) Drew Vining, District Maintenance Engineer, presents Bobby Keeton, District Maintenance Superintendent, with his 30-year Service Award.

32. DISTRICT 9: (L. to R.) Jessie Pendergraft, Maintenance Aide II, Benton County 1, receives his 5-year Service Award from Cole Moore, Area Maintenance Supervisor.

33. DISTRICT 9: (L. to R.) Tyler Norton, Resident Engineer, RE 92, presents Clint Morris, Senior Inspector, with his 20-year Service Award.

34. DISTRICT 9: (L. to R.) Drew Vining, District Maintenance Engineer, presents Nathan Daniels, Newton County Area Maintenance Supervisor, with his 20-year Service Award.

FAMILY FOCUS



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1. DISTRICT 2: Roman William Mondragon was born on June 6, 2025, weighing 4 pounds, 11 ounces and measuring 18 inches long. He is the grandson of Shamae Willard, District 2 Permit Officer and Owen Willard, RE 24 Materials Inspector.

2. DISTRICT 5: Two generations of District 5 employees in White County. (L. to R.) Riley Harris, Maintenance Aide II, White County 2 and her mother, Kayla Little, Maintenance Aide II, White County 1.



The reports listed are from the months of April, May, and June 2025, unless noted.

NEW EMPLOYEES:

DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

Lacey Kanipe, Internal Communications Coordinator

ARKANSAS HIGHWAY POLICE

Brandon Bybee, Corporal; Jordan Cooksey, AHP Patrol Officer; Lee Cooper, AHP Patrol Officer; Blaine Funderburk, AHP Patrol Officer; Garrett Gurley, AHP Patrol Officer; Jason Kennedy, AHP Patrol Officer; Brandon Lewis, AHP Patrol Officer;

Isaiah Sands, AHP Patrol Officer; Rodney Stotts, AHP Patrol Officer

BRIDGE

Sean Erdley, Engineer; David Perez, Engineer; Jesika Zaman, Engineer

BRIDGE OPERATIONS

Ronald Break, Heavy Bridge Repairer; Zachary Wyman, Engineer

COMMUNICATIONS

Kierra Burkett, Customer Service Rep-TMC; Kaitlin Worley, Communications Specialist

CONSTRUCTION

Nathan Browning, Construction Management Specialist; Serena Bryant, Field Clerk; Juan Castaneda, Construction Aide; Bryce Coin, Engineer; Timothy Davis, Construction Aide; Luis Enriquez, Construction Aide; Nicholas Gebauer, Engineer; Madeline Giebler, Engineer; Brandon Hadder, Construction Aide; Noah Hallman, Engineer; Ronald Hobbs, Construction Aide; Derek Hylton, Construction Aide; Nathan Johnston, Engineer; Joshua

Matthews, Construction Aide; Kobe Ray, Engineer; Jantzen Rogers, Construction Aide; Javin Shirley, Engineer; George Tadros, Engineer; Nicholas Widmer, Engineer; Kevin Yates, Construction Materials Inspector

ENVIRONMENTAL

Michael Armstrong, Office Assistant-Environmental; Parker Brannon, Natural Resources Specialist

FISCAL SERVICES

Tra'Leon Williams, Accountant

HUMAN RESOURCES

Kaylie Noll, Workforce Development Specialist

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Michael Weidman, Lead IT Application Developer

INTERNAL AUDIT

Amir Griess, Reviewing Auditor; Shermaine Lewis, Audit Manager-Internal Audit Services

LOCAL PROGRAMS

Kathryn Cathey, Office Coordinator - NWA; Stacey Kirk, Office Assistant

MAINTENANCE

Lauren Anderson, Office Aide; Corey Beasley, Striping Helper; Jacob Cross, Electrical, Plumbing & Mechanical Rep; Jubal Davidson, Statewide Maintenance Aide I; Jason Draper, Striping Helper; William Earl, Striping Helper; Rose Foster, Janitor; Brandon Franks, Striping Helper; Herschel Hart, Statewide Maintenance Aide I; Connor Horton, Statewide Maintenance Aide I; Seth Jones, Sign Erector II; Jay Mitchell,

Statewide Maintenance Aide I; Etoya Neal, Janitor

PLANNING & RESEARCH

Stuti Khatiwada, Engineer; Wei Lun Tay, Traffic Safety Analyst

RIGHT OF WAY

Kyle Stamps, ROW Acquisition Agent

ROADWAY DESIGN

Sagun Basel, Engineer; Orchi Mallick, Engineer; James Mugabo, Engineer; Ines Sanchez, Engineer

STATE AID

Elizabeth Covay, Engineer

SURVEYS

Austin Stovall, Surveys Aide; Chance Tucker, Surveys Aide; Logan Voan, Surveys Aide

TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT & OPERATIONS

Richard McDonald, TMC Operator; Melissa Neighbors, TMC Operator

DISTRICT 1

Rickey Aldridge, Maintenance Aide I; Quinten Burgess, Maintenance Aide I; James Cansler, Maintenance Aide I; Marcel Hurd, Maintenance Aide I; Darius Jones, Maintenance Aide I; Justin Jones, Maintenance Aide I; Triley Jones, Maintenance Aide I; Kaden Lindsey, Maintenance Aide I; Brandon Lucas, Maintenance Aide I; Olanda McShan, Maintenance Aide I; Hunter Middleton, Maintenance Aide I; Carmelo Vasquez, Maintenance Aide I; Greg Watlington, Maintenance Aide I

DISTRICT 2

Kristina Beedle, Area HQ Attendant; Nathaniel Bratton, Maintenance Aide I; Cassandra Davis, Maintenance Aide I; Sandra Dunn, Janitor; James Harvey, Maintenance Aide I; John Henley, Maintenance Aide I; Quentin Hines, Maintenance Aide I; Nickolas Jones, Maintenance Aide I; Aaron LaCroix, Maintenance Aide I; Zachary Pamplin, Maintenance Aide I; Jaylin Pryor, Maintenance Aide I; Jamie Puzniak, Rest Area Attendant; Terrence Randall, Maintenance Aide I; Matthew Roth, Maintenance Aide I; Johnny Savage, Maintenance Aide I; Ashaureah Scruggs, Maintenance Aide I; BJ Shnaekel, Maintenance Aide I

DISTRICT 3

David Barnes, Maintenance Aide I; Cole Fore, Maintenance Aide I; Vance Kisselburg, Maintenance Aide I; Christopher Ledbetter, Maintenance Aide I; Tahj Sanders, Maintenance Aide I; Brandt Stevens, Maintenance Aide I; Zachary Winton, Maintenance Aide I

DISTRICT 4

Ian Bullock, Maintenance Aide I; Todd Harriman, Maintenance Aide I; Steven Heston, Mechanic; Logan McCarthy, Maintenance Aide I; Bradley McCurry, Maintenance Aide I; Brian Mogg, Rest Area Attendant; Bryce Turner, Maintenance Aide I; Ronald Vail, Maintenance Aide I

DISTRICT 5

Matthew Cash, Maintenance Aide I; Brayden Coble, Maintenance Aide I; David Cummins, Maintenance Aide I;

Antwan Dawson, Maintenance Aide I; Timothy Elsey, Maintenance Aide I; Amber Fugitt, Maintenance Aide I; Jacob Goings, Maintenance Aide I; Tristan Hardin, Storeroom Assistant; Tiffany Hendricks, Maintenance Aide I; Danieal Hubbard, Maintenance Aide I; Steven Jennings, Maintenance Aide I; Hunter Lewis, Maintenance Aide I; Jacob Littleton, Maintenance Aide I; Zachary Moosebroker, Mechanic; Shane Nichols, Maintenance Aide I; Cody O'Brien, Maintenance Aide I; Nicolas Porter, Maintenance Aide I; Ledrew Staggers, Maintenance Aide I; Heath Vinyard, Maintenance Aide I

DISTRICT 6

Brandon Clarke, Maintenance Aide I; Justin Cotton, Maintenance Aide I; Michael Crump, Maintenance Aide I; Jonathan Graydon, Maintenance Aide I; Mitchell Johnson, Maintenance Aide I; Terry Johnson, Maintenance Aide II; Warner Pipkins, Maintenance Aide I; MaLaizh Surrell, Maintenance Aide I; Antwane Wilkerson, Maintenance Aide I

DISTRICT 7

Johnathan Arnold, Maintenance Aide I; Keiyuntee Epps, Maintenance Aide I; Steven Fisher, Maintenance Aide I; Monty Glasscock, Maintenance Aide I; Kameron Lambert, Maintenance Aide I; Juan Paredes, Maintenance Aide I; Sylvia Sisson, Maintenance Aide I; Mason Webb, Maintenance Aide I; Kyle Whittle, Maintenance Aide I; Keyunta Williams, Maintenance Aide I

DISTRICT 8

Josh Boyd, Maintenance Aide I; Tracy Crow, Maintenance Aide I; Nathaniel Culwell, Maintenance Aide I; Clayton Duncan, Maintenance Aide I; Easton Edmisten, Maintenance Aide I; Adam Emrick, Maintenance Aide I; Brisa Gonzalez, Maintenance Aide I; Misty Hartman, Maintenance Aide I; Jacob Lewis, Maintenance Aide I; Brenden Peters, Maintenance Aide I; Mason Taylor, Maintenance Aide I; Joshua Tilley, Maintenance Aide I; Koby Weaver, Maintenance Aide I; Richard Welsh, Rest Area Attendant; Chris Wright, Maintenance Aide I; Timothy Zimmerman, Maintenance Aide I

DISTRICT 9

David Davis, Maintenance Aide I; Justin Dearing, Maintenance Aide I; Bryan Folks, Maintenance Aide I; Garrett Hayes, Maintenance Aide I; Joshua Lowe, Maintenance Aide I; Darold Rogers, Rest Area Attendant; Jeremy Schaefer, Maintenance Aide I; Laiyton Sutherland, Maintenance Aide I

DISTRICT 10

Donald Cole, Maintenance Aide I; Colten Henson, Maintenance Aide I; Izaiah Hollowell, Maintenance Aide I; Danny Olive, Maintenance Aide I; Albert Staton, Maintenance Aide I; Michael Whatley, Maintenance Aide I

PROMOTIONS:

ARKANSAS HIGHWAY POLICE

Ross Batson, Major; Conor Bumpus, Sergeant; Tyrone Dillard,

AHP Captain; Robert Garrett, Jr., Lieutenant; Chad Heath, Captain; Leonard Turner, Sergeant

BRIDGE

Weston Conard, Senior Structures Engineer; Louis Criscione, Advanced Structures Engineer; Rene Diaz, Senior Structures Engineer; Clay Murphy, Senior Structures Engineer; Dallas Stevens, Staff Concrete & Steel Fabrication Engineer

BRIDGE OPERATIONS

Nathaniel Brown, Senior Bridge Operations Engineer; Corben Burluson, Lead Heavy Bridge Repairer; Loren Dennis, Heavy Bridge Repairer; Jerry Honeycutt, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Michael Jones, Lead Heavy Bridge Repairer; Daryl Quinn, Lead Heavy Bridge Repairer; Walter Villalobos I, Lead Heavy Bridge Repairer; Skylar Waterman, Lead Heavy Bridge Repairer

CONSTRUCTION

Ryan Bailey, Senior Inspector; Wesley Beckman, Inspector; Casey Couch, Advanced Construction Field Engineer; Felice Dennis, Advanced Resident Office Technician; Michael Doty, Construction Aide; Donald Duncan, Advanced Construction Aide; Joseph Hargrave, Construction Project Coordinator; Patricia Henn, Resident Office Technician; Megan Karnes, Senior Inspector; Nichole Lee, Advanced Field Clerk; Joseph McGhee, Inspector; Tristan Parks, Advanced Construction Aide; Chandler Reep, Advanced Construction Field Engineer; Andrew

Swaim, Advanced Construction Aide; Brandon Warner, Advanced Construction Field Engineer; Logan White, Inspector

ENVIRONMENTAL

Danielle Herron, Advanced Environmental Impact Analyst

FISCAL SERVICES

Manikanta Guttikonda, Assistant Enterprise System Administrator

HUMAN RESOURCES

Gregory Hamblock, Senior Workforce Development Specialist

INTERNAL AUDIT

McKenna White, Reviewing Auditor

LOCAL PROGRAMS

Elizabeth Mahar, Local Programs Technician

MAINTENANCE

Sean Brown, Striping Machine Driver; Austyn Campbell, Striping Machine Driver; Justin Cook, Striping Machine Driver; Timothy Coyde, Crew Leader; Jason Green, Tractor Trailer Driver; Benson Hunt, Striping Helper; Gavin Jones, Crew Leader; Cameron Parsons, Facilities Management Superintendent; Daniel Proffitt, Jr., Tractor Trailer Driver; Jana Sasse, Tractor Trailer Driver; Michael Williams, Tractor Trailer Driver

MATERIALS

Guy King, Senior Geotechnical Aide

PLANNING & RESEARCH

Joseph Jordan, Senior Geospatial Specialist

PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

Justin Lester, Staff Project Development Engineer

RIGHT OF WAY

Dakota Allen, Utility Inspection Coordinator; Shane Lindsey, Utility Inspection Coordinator

ROADWAY DESIGN

David Baker, Division Head; Rachel Bennet, Senior Design Engineer; Kay Molpus Willis, Administrative Assistant; Erika Simple, Senior Traffic Design Engineer

SURVEYS

Kyzer Black, Surveys Technician; Johnathon Chamberlain, Surveys Crew Supervisor; Hayden Powell, Advanced Surveys Technician; Jathan Robertson, Surveys Technician; Ilie Stefan, Advanced Surveys Technician

TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT & OPERATIONS

Charles Bolin, Assistant ITS Operations Supervisor; Jesse Hamilton, TMC Operator; Bryan Jones, Senior ITS Specialist; Steven Jones, Traffic Operations Specialist; Michael Lewellen, ITS Specialist; Daniel Read, Traffic Operations Specialist

DISTRICT 1

Kyle Boileau, Maintenance Aide II; Jeremy Burnett, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Fredreca Collins, Maintenance Aide II; Joey Dunigan, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Randy Dunigan, Maintenance Aide II; Kyle Gaskin, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Richard Harper, Assistant

Maintenance Supervisor; Darren Henderson, Advanced District Permit Officer; David Hess, Crew Leader; Clark Hill, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Keenan James, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Kyle Jones, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Dequan Leon, Maintenance Aide II; Ashanique Matthews, Rest Area Attendant; Caleb McCammon, Maintenance Aide II; Jason McCammon, Maintenance Specialist; Tristen McClanahan, Maintenance Aide II; Patrick McGee, Maintenance Aide II; Freddie Moore, Maintenance Aide II; TJ Pulley, Area Maintenance Supervisor; Robert Reed, Maintenance Aide II; Johnathan Sanders, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Martez Wilkins, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Raymone Williams, Maintenance Aide II

DISTRICT 2

Dimitri Anderson, Crew Leader; Ashaun Davis, Maintenance Aide II; Christopher Edwards, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; James Ferguson, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Robbie Horton, Area Maintenance Supervisor; Bobby Jones, Maintenance Aide II; Levi Langley, Maintenance Aide II; John McKinney, Maintenance Aide II; Chet Morrison, Electrical, Plumbing & Mechanical Rep; Sergio Osuna Perez, Maintenance Aide II; Jarred Reed, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Hunter Reed I, Maintenance Aide II; Damien Tippie, Maintenance Aide II; Craig Uranga, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Alex Vallance, Maintenance Aide II

DISTRICT 3

Jeremy Alford, Maintenance Aide II; Gregory Allen, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Phillip Brady, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Aaron Cowling, Maintenance Aide II; Colby Cox, Maintenance Specialist; Demario Haynes, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; John Humphry, Maintenance Aide II; James Koontz, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Billy Langston, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Jeremiah Lingo, Maintenance Specialist; David Lynn, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Brandon Otis, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Randy Roden, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Jimmy Rosenbaum, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Rodney Stone, Crew Leader; Rodney Stone, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Tony Teague, Jr., Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; JT Tomlinson, Maintenance Aide II

DISTRICT 4

Maison Atwell, Maintenance Aide II; Jessie Barron, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Samuel Cowan, Maintenance Aide II; Jim Cox, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Ethan Crittenden, Maintenance Aide II; Kenneth Freeman, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Anthony Glory, Tractor Trailer Driver; Kourtney Hall, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; James Himes, Maintenance Aide II; Jeremy Jackson, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Anthony James, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Brandon Jones, Assistant Maintenance

Supervisor; David Lawson, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; David Lee, Maintenance Aide II; Serrita Pense, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Jennifer Salazar, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Jeff Shirley, Advanced Mechanic; Shannon Turner, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Jacob Varner, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Lendal Jr Williams, Sign Crew Supervisor; Micah Wilson, Bridge Inspector

DISTRICT 5

Bryan Branscum, Maintenance Aide II; Jesse Davis, Maintenance Specialist; Walton Fulks, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Kevin Hardaway, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Jon Jones, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Christian Liljebeck, Crew Leader; Daniel McCord, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Willie McCord, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Taggart Morgan, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Anthony Nelson, Maintenance Specialist; Jeremy O'Dell, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Carson Roberts, Maintenance Aide II; Chad Robertson, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Nick Rushing, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Jim Scott, Maintenance Aide II; Daniel Smith, Crew Leader; Joshua Smith, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Thomas Smith, Maintenance Specialist; Jack Wakefield, Maintenance Aide II

DISTRICT 6

Blake Angel, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Austin Crookham, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor;

Lester Fleming, Jr., Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Dustin Frankson, Crew Leader; Reginald Hall, Maintenance Specialist; Paul Hansen, Maintenance Aide II; Deonte Harris, Maintenance Aide II; Lauri Jagger, Area HQ Attendant; James Johnson, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Emmanuel Martinez, Lead Bridge Repairer; Jonathan Meek, Crew Leader; Seeda Oonphong, Maintenance Specialist; Floyd Palmer, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Joseph Rapier, Senior Bridge Inspector; Nathan Schultz, Maintenance Aide II; James Shreckengaust, Maintenance Specialist; Shawn Vergason, Advanced Bridge Inspector; Matthew Vernich, Sign Crew Supervisor; Benny Walters, Crew Leader; Johnny Williams, Maintenance Aide II; Stephen Wright, Maintenance Specialist

DISTRICT 7

Samuel Allen, Maintenance Aide II; Anthony Barnett, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Johnathan Baxter, Maintenance Aide II; Chase Bradford, Maintenance Aide II; Roderick Carr, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Matthew Childers, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Silas Compton, IV, Apprentice Mechanic; Mark Ferns, Maintenance Aide II; Curtis Hamilton, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Jacob Harcrow, Maintenance Specialist; Taylor Hawkins, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Bryson Marks, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Mike Mauldin,

Maintenance Aide II; Michael Parker, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Jared Prescott, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Marly Rawls, Maintenance Aide II; Terry Richerson, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Ernest Smith, Senior Electrical, Plumbing & Mechanical Rep; Stephen Smith, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Matthew Turner, Lead Bridge Repairer; Ryan Wages, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor

DISTRICT 8

Donald Berry, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Michael Camacho, Maintenance Aide II; Dan Dockery, Maintenance Aide II; Justin Duncan, Maintenance Specialist; Jeremy Ford, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Shanin Holt, Maintenance Aide II; Brian Huggins, Maintenance Aide II; Brian Jackson, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Kelli Mathews, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Raymond McCoy, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Richard Rackley, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Kyle Ritchie, Sealing Superintendent; David Ross, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; David Rudder, Maintenance Specialist; Joseph Shamsie, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Nathan Shaw, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Jeffrey Smith, Maintenance Aide II; Noah Spradlin, Maintenance Aide II; Michael Standridge, Crew Leader; Michael Stovall, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Lawrence Todd, Maintenance Aide II; Michael Vinsant,

Maintenance Aide II; Christopher West, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Robbie Wey, Maintenance Aide II; Chris Whitbey, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor

DISTRICT 9

Eric Anderson, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Mary Barber, Maintenance Aide II; Dusty Bryant, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Kelly Bullock, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Jason Campbell, Maintenance Specialist; Thomas Cole, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Gaylon Davis, Advanced Area HQ Attendant; Chad Ellis, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Donald Flowers, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Chad Foster, Crew Leader; Steven Graham, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Gabe Hensley, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Bill Higgins, Crew Leader; Brian Holman-Brashear, Maintenance Aide II; Timothy Hoyt, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Jesse Hutchison, Maintenance Aide II; Gerald James, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Kenneth Kelley, Crew Leader; Josh Kisman, Maintenance Aide II; Robert Martin, Maintenance Aide II; Jason Ragland, Lead Storeroom Assistant; Alvie Spradling, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Joe Steward, Maintenance Aide II; Andrew Tennant, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Bryan Williams, Maintenance Aide II; Joe Wuertz, Maintenance Aide II; Jake Young, Maintenance Specialist

DISTRICT 10

Brian Arford, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Luke Arnold, Lead Bridge Repairer; Kyle Bennett, Maintenance Specialist; LaDonna Brooks, Maintenance Aide II; Christian Bruner, Lead Bridge Repairer; Clay Burks, III, Maintenance Aide II; Joseph Eubanks, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Robert Losh, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Blake Meridith, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Marshall Pace, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Bill Palmer, Maintenance Aide II; Nancy Robinson, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; John Smith, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Kevin Smith, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Jason Stigall, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Josh Tarry, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor; Thomas Underwood, III, Bridge Inspector; Jason Vaulner, Maintenance Specialist

SERVICE AWARDS:

DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

Jared Wiley, Director, 20+ years

ARKANSAS HIGHWAY POLICE

Latonio Lawson, Corporal, 15+ years

BENEFITS & COMPENSATION

Deandra Atkins, Insurance Assistant, 15+ years

BRIDGE

Rene Diaz, Advanced Structures Engineer, 5+ years; Clay Murphy, Advanced Structures Engineer, 5+ years

BRIDGE OPERATIONS

Casey Pratt, Statewide Bridge Inspector, 15+ years

CONSTRUCTION

Craig Bowden, Construction Materials Inspector, 15+ years; Kyle Covington, Engineer, 10+ years; Ginger Crain, Construction Project Coordinator, 30+ years; Slade Dollar, Construction Project Coordinator, 20+ years; Tyler Engleman, Inspector, 15+ years; Mark English, Senior Inspector, 15+ years; Brianna Gamble, Advanced Construction Aide, 10+ years; Joseph Hargrave, Construction Project Coordinator, 25+ years; Dakota Lawson, Advanced Construction Aide, 5+ years; Brian McElyea, Senior Inspector, 25+ years; Ronald Oliver, Inspector, 20+ years; Kerry Powers, Senior Inspector, 30+ years; Therese Purifoy, Advanced Resident Office Technician, 30+ years; James Toney, Advanced Construction Field Engineer, 25+ years; Aaron Vowell, Resident Engineer, 20+ years; Benjamin Waller, Advanced Construction Aide, 5+ years; Lester Wilhite, Staff Engineer System Administrator, 20+ years

ENVIRONMENTAL

Milton Hughes, Advanced Archeologist, 25+ years; Joshua Seagraves, Division Head, 20+ years

FISCAL SERVICES

Julian Moore, Accounting Assistant, 15+ years

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Terry Young, Senior IT Fiber Technician, 20+ years

INTERNAL AUDIT

Kelly Heaton, Audit Manager - Motor Fuel, 35+ years; Alan Pinkerton, Audit Manager-Internal Audit Services, 15+ years; Charles Robinson, Reviewing Auditor, 15+ years; Shirley Trippet, Staff Motor Fuel Tax Auditor, 20+ years

LEGAL

Sharon Blakley, Legal Administrator, 20+ years

LOCAL PROGRAMS

Kimberly Sanders, Bicycle-Pedestrian Coordinator, 30+ years

MAINTENANCE

Ronnie Brewer, Designer - Facilities Management, 25+ years; Raymond Leung, Staff Maintenance Engineer-MMS, 25+ years; Warner Lumpkin, Sign Fabrication Specialist, 10+ years; Shandale Smith, Traffic Investigator, 25+ years; Adam Stephens, Tractor Trailer Driver, 5+ years; Luther Wells, Crew Leader, 10+ years; Michael Whittemore, Advanced Electrical, Plumbing & Mechanical Rep-Facilities, 10+ years; Michael York, Nighttime Janitorial Supervisor, 20+ years

MATERIALS

Jeff Kaiser, District Materials Supervisor, 25+ years; Yongsheng Zhao, Staff Geotechnical Engineer, 10+ years

PLANNING & RESEARCH

Zhiqiong Hou, Staff Transportation Planning Engineer, 15+ years

PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

Paulette Rice, Railroad Crossing Coordinator, 10+ years; Carma Tollett, Program Management Specialist, 20+ years

RIGHT OF WAY

Gail Scott-Kendrick, Office Assistant, 40+ years

ROADWAY DESIGN

David Baker, Assistant Division Head, 20+ years; Rachel Bennet, Senior Design Engineer, 5+ years; Brett Hiley, Advanced Designer, 10+ years; Benjamin Malatesta, Advanced Design Engineer, 5+ years; Charles Martin, Division Head, 35+ years; Tanner White, Staff Design Engineer, 10+ years

SURVEYS

Bryan Gann, Advanced Surveys Technician, 10+ years; Rusty Goodall, Surveys Crew Supervisor, 20+ years; Spencer Thomas, Staff Land Surveyor, 15+ years; Michael Young, Photogrammetry Technician, 10+ years

TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT & OPERATIONS

Carolyn Cole, Senior TMC Operator, 10+ years; Kelley Fields, ITS Specialist, 30+ years; Kristie Keene, System Information Technician, 25+ years; Alan Nguyen, Advanced Traffic Information Engineer, 15+ years

DISTRICT 1

Joey Barnett, Special Maintenance Superintendent, 10+ years; Jimmy Cullen, Bridge Maintenance Superintendent,

10+ years; Bennie Fonzie, Rest Area Attendant, 15+ years; Billie Harrell, Administrative Assistant, 10+ years; Clark Hill, Tractor Trailer Driver, 20+ years; Don Moore, Area Maintenance Supervisor, 15+ years; Dennis Petty, Crew Leader, 15+ years; James Tucker, District Caretaker, 35+ years; John Vandesteeg, Maintenance Aide II, 10+ years

DISTRICT 2

Phelix Price, Maintenance Aide II, 30+ years; Jarred Reed, Sign Crew Supervisor, 5+ years

DISTRICT 3

Mike Erby, Maintenance Specialist, 35+ years; Alonzo Henry, Rest Area Attendant, 15+ years

DISTRICT 3

James Huckabee, Sealing Superintendent, 20+ years; David Martin, Maintenance Aide II, 10+ years; Michael Ogden, Maintenance Specialist, 20+ years; Rodney Shelton, Maintenance Specialist, 25+ years; William Townsend, Maintenance Specialist, 25+ years; Mitchell Zitano, Maintenance Specialist, 5+ years

DISTRICT 4

Dexter Downs, Maintenance Specialist, 20+ years; Joe Green, Special Maintenance Superintendent, 30+ years; Jason Hughey, District Engineer, 25+ years; Jason Marshall, Advanced District Permit Officer, 15+ years; Ryan York, Tractor Trailer Driver, 5+ years

DISTRICT 5

Stephen Norris, Maintenance Specialist, 10+ years; Shannon Smith, Maintenance Aide II, 10+ years; Amy Wright, Advanced Area HQ Attendant, 20+ years

DISTRICT 6

Daniel Donahue, Maintenance Specialist, 10+ years

DISTRICT 7

Jimmy Bratton, Maintenance Aide II, 10+ years; Stephanie Buck, Lead Storeroom Assistant, 20+ years; Thomas Kanipe, Lead Bridge Repairer, 10+ years; Timothy Morrison, Rest Area Attendant, 20+ years; Steven Rawls, Maintenance Specialist, 10+ years; Joseph Thomas, Area HQ Attendant, 10+ years

DISTRICT 8

Darrell Carter, Area Maintenance Supervisor, 25+ years; Taylor Dunham, Maintenance Specialist, 15+ years; Clint King, Sign Crew Supervisor, 15+ years; Abner Perdomo, Carpenter, 15+ years; Derrick Ross, Maintenance Specialist, 15+ years

DISTRICT 9

Alan Carter, Maintenance Aide II, 15+ years; Alvie Spradling, Crew Leader, 20+ years; Kevin Vantine, Maintenance Aide II, 5+ years; Brian Walker, Maintenance Aide II, 15+ years; Carolyn Yancey, Lead Storeroom Assistant, 15+ years

DISTRICT 10

Milton Bliss, Maintenance Aide II, 10+ years; David Capps, Maintenance Aide II, 10+ years; Clifford Decker, Maintenance Aide II, 10+ years;

Jason Ludwig, Maintenance Specialist, 20+ years; Steven Martin, Maintenance Specialist, 10+ years; Marshall Pace, Crew Leader, 20+ years; Stacy Perry, Maintenance Aide II, 5+ years; Jeffrey Vance, Advanced Area HQ Attendant, 10+ years

RETIREMENTS:

ARKANSAS HIGHWAY POLICE

Peter Lopez, AHP Major, 33+ years

HUMAN RESOURCES

Felix Carr, Health & Safety Officer, 25+ years

PLANNING & RESEARCH

Ronald Fields, Transportation Planner, 27+ years

RIGHT OF WAY

Michael Ricardo, Utility Inspection Coordinator, 21+ years

ROADWAY DESIGN

Charles Martin, Division Head, 35+ years

DISTRICT 2

Janet Bogle, Area Maintenance Supervisor, 37+ years; Sammie Green, Rest Area Attendant, 15+ years; Kirk Howard, Lead Bridge Repairer, 28+ years; Sandra Pendergrass, Office Manager, 26+ years; Stanley Tripp, Maintenance Specialist, 28+ years; Bobby West, Maintenance Aide II, 6+ years

DISTRICT 3

Bobby Adams, Advanced Area HQ Attendant, 29+ years; Dennis Boyd, Security Guard, 20+ years

DISTRICT 4

Jerry Howe, Sign Crew Supervisor, 24+ years; John Wilson, Bridge Inspector, 33+ years

DISTRICT 5

Calvin Glenn, Maintenance Aide II, 12+ years; Ricky Herring, Crew Leader, 23+ years

DISTRICT 6

Robert Hardin, Parts Runner, 10+ years

DISTRICT 8

Brian Jones, Rest Area Attendant, 5+ years; Glen Stengel, Maintenance Specialist, 21+ years

DISTRICT 10

Gregory Wineland, Maintenance Aide II, 13+ years

MEMORIALS:
ARKANSAS HIGHWAY POLICE

Ronald Burks, 5/7/2025, Retired; Albert Smith, 4/11/2025, Retired

COMMUNICATIONS

Faye Shook, 5/23/2025, Retired

EQUIPMENT & PROCUREMENT

Donald Rouse, 5/12/2025, Retired

HUMAN RESOURCES

Kenneth Jordan, 4/8/2025, Retired

LEGAL

Carolyn Vance, 5/1/2025, Retired

MAINTENANCE

Larry Bisbee, 5/16/2025, Retired; Jason Draper, 5/3/2025, Active

MATERIALS

William Wall, 4/24/2025, Retired

DISTRICT 1

Bobby Alford, 6/8/2025, Retired; Danny Glenn, 5/4/2025, Retired

DISTRICT 2

Jason Harrison, 6/14/2025, Retired; Ginger Haygood, 5/9/2025, Retired

DISTRICT 3

Debra Pate-Vickers, 6/8/2025, Retired

DISTRICT 5

Thomas Inman, 4/18/2025, Retired; Roy Vannatter, 5/31/2025, Retired

DISTRICT 6

Maurice Hinshaw, 6/6/2025, Retired; Joseph Holland, 4/3/2025, Retired; Jerry Rapier, 4/14/2025, Retired

DISTRICT 7

Claude Parton, 5/22/2025, Retired

DISTRICT 8

Alan Carmack, 5/14/2025, Retired; Joshua Jones, 4/26/2025, Active

DISTRICT 9

Nickey Kimes, 5/20/2025, Retired; Dale Lively, 4/4/2025, Retired; Betty Weston, 6/6/2025, Retired

DISTRICT 10

William Locke, 5/13/2025, Retired



JASON DRAPER

OCTOBER 8, 1977 – MAY 3, 2025

Previously published at <https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/name/jason-draper-obituary?id=58491301>

Jason Elliot Draper, 47, passed away on May 3, 2025, in Batesville, Arkansas. He was born on October 8, 1977, in Pasadena, Texas, to Jack Wyatt Draper and Marie Evelyn (Baker) Draper. He enjoyed motorcycles and rock music.

He is survived by his mother, Marie Evelyn (Baker) Draper; children, Jack Draper, Taylor Draper, Elizabeth Hollek, Shayla Draper-Martin, Maili Browning, Braden Lamon, Cheyenne Draper, and Jason Draper Jr.; stepson, Milo Mendez; stepdaughter, Madeleine Mendez; sister, Stacy Follis; and grandchildren, Mason Hollek, Paisley Hollek, Jaxson Hollek, Elijah Craig, and Everleigh Craig. He is preceded in death by his father, Jack Wyatt Draper.



JOSHUA JONES

JULY 13, 1999 – APRIL 26, 2025

Previously published at <https://www.echovita.com/us/obituaries/ar/atkins/joshua-jones-19702227>

With profound sadness, we say goodbye to Joshua Jones of Atkins, Arkansas, born in Conway, Arkansas, whose vibrant spirit touched the lives of many. Joshua left this world on April 26, 2025 at the age of 25, leaving a void in the lives of so many people. You can send your sympathy in the guestbook provided and share it with the family.

He was predeceased by: his grandfather Jim Duvall; and his great-grandparent Bonnie Duvall. He is survived by: his parents, Kevin Jones and Crystal Duvall; his stepmother Heather; his grandparents, Eddie, Rita Jones, Mike, Anita Tilley and Rhonda Duvall; his sister Kaylee Young (Tyler); his stepsiblings, Reid and Kirby Albright; his aunts and uncles, Melanie Jones-Duvall,

Carrie Boren (Christopher), Eric Duvall (Casey), Chad Tilley (Erica) and Jerod Tilley (Ashlee); his niece Haven Young; and his cousins, Nicolas, Abby, Brilee, Emerie, Bailey, Brooklyn, Jacob, Alex, Kaycin, Luke, Austin, Connier and Jaylee.



ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION | AUGUST 2025

The Arkansas Department of Transportation (Department) complies with all civil rights provisions of federal statutes and related authorities that prohibit discrimination in programs and activities receiving federal financial assistance. Therefore, the Department does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, color, age, national origin, religion (not applicable as a protected group under the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration Title VI Program), disability, Limited English Proficiency (LEP), or low-income status in the admission, access to and treatment in the Department's 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 Joanna P. McFadden 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: Joanna.McFadden@ardot.gov. Free language assistance for Limited English Proficient individuals is available upon request. This notice is available from the ADA/504/Title VI Coordinator in large print, on audiotape and in Braille.