NEWS RELEASE

Steve Marshall
Alabama Attorney General

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Attorney General Steve Marshall Statement on Death of Bibb County Deputy Sheriff Brad Johnson

(MONTGOMERY) – Attorney General Steve Marshall released the following statement concerning the line of duty death of Bibb County Deputy Sheriff Brad Johnson.

"Alabama feels the heavy loss of another law enforcement hero who gave his life while putting his sworn duty to protect the public ahead of his own personal safety," said Attorney General Steve Marshall.

"Bibb County Deputy Sheriff Brad Johnson and fellow Deputy Chris Poole were each met with gunfire as they engaged an armed suspect who was driving a stolen vehicle off of Alabama Highway 25 on Golfer's Trail, in rural Bibb County around 4:00 pm Wednesday.

"Both deputies were transported by ambulance to UAB Medical Center in Birmingham where they received emergency treatment. Sadly, Deputy Johnson never recovered from his serious head injury and was removed from life support Thursday afternoon.

"I would like to ask all Alabamians to pause and reflect on the loss of Deputy Brad Johnson and to pray for his family. As Bibb County Sheriff Jody Wade noted, Deputy Johnson will continue to save lives through organ donations.

"Deputy Johnson, age 32, was a 7-year veteran of the Bibb County Sheriff's office. He is survived by his fiancée, two children and his parents.

"Deputy Chris Poole, age 30, was released from the hospital and is thankfully recovering from his injuries.

"Shooting suspect, Austin Patrick Hall, a convicted felon with a lengthy record of violent offenses, was captured after an approximate 16-hour manhunt. My office assisted in the multiple agency effort to capture Hall and bring him to justice.

"My Office is closely scrutinizing the policies that allowed for a violent offender, like Hall, to walk free. The justice system failed these officers and I will do everything in my power to ensure that doesn't happen again."

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