

## **Sheriff Promotes Division Commanders**

February 14, 2013

On Thursday, February 14, 2013 Sheriff Gerald Couch promoted two long-serving Officers to command positions within the department.

Captain Neal Bagwell was promoted to his present rank and assumed the position of Patrol Division Commander. Captain Bagwell joined the Sheriff's Office in 1989, first serving as a Detention Officer in the jail, followed by assignments in the Patrol Division as a Deputy, Corporal/Field Training Officer, Sergeant, Senior Sergeant, and Lieutenant. His time in uniform was interrupted only by stint as a Narcotics Investigator from 1994-95. He also served as the Honor Guard Commander from 1997-2008.

Captain Bagwell holds a Bachelor's of Science in Criminal Justice from Columbus State University, is a graduate of the Georgia Law Enforcement Command College, and is a certified Emergency Medical Technician. He also served in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve from 1989-1992, deploying in support of Operation Desert Storm with the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force as an ammunition/explosive ordinance disposal technician.

Captain Sean McCusker was promoted to his present rank and assumed the position of Criminal Investigations Division Commander. Captain McCusker began his career with the Georgia Department of Corrections, serving from 1993-1995 before joining the Sheriff's Office as a Detention Officer. Since that time he has served in the Uniform Patrol Division as a Patrol Deputy and Crime Scene Technician. He transferred to the Criminal Investigations Division in 2001 to serve as an Investigator, Sergeant, Senior Sergeant, and Lieutenant in the Crimes Against Persons unit. Captain McCusker has also served on the SWAT team since 2001.

Captain McCusker holds a Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice Administration from Columbia College and serves on the Board of Directors for Rape Response.

"I have the utmost confidence in the abilities of Captains Bagwell and McCusker. They both have a long track record of devotion and outstanding service not only to this department and their profession, but to the Hall County community," said Sheriff Gerald Couch. "Their experience and leadership will prove to be a valuable asset and will help us move the department forward in a positive direction."