

## **Sheriff's Office Receives National Award**

July 26, 2012

The Hall County Sheriff's Office was recently recognized by the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) during its annual National Law Enforcement Challenge, placing 2nd in the nation among Sheriffs' offices of comparable size. This marks the third time the Hall County Sheriff's Office has been recognized as such, having placed first in 2006 and again in 2010.

The National Law Enforcement Challenge (NLEC) is a national traffic safety awards program, supported by a grant from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration as well as private entities that recognizes excellence in law enforcement traffic safety programs. To compete in the process, agencies are required to submit statistics and documentation of their department's traffic safety efforts including enforcement, awareness, and education. Specifically, the main areas of concentration are occupant protection, impaired driving, and speeding.

The winning safety programs are those that combine officer training, public information, and enforcement to reduce crashes and injuries within the jurisdiction. The program provides law enforcement agencies with an opportunity to make a difference in the communities they serve and allows agencies to learn from one another and establish future goals in traffic safety enforcement and education.

"It has long been the stated goal of the Hall County Sheriff's Office traffic enforcement program to positively influence driver behavior through a balance of enforcement and education," said Sheriff Steve Cronic. "By doing so, we intend to reduce the number of crashes involving serious injuries and fatalities on the roads of Hall County. This award serves as proof to our fellow citizens that we are committed to making our community a safer place to live, work, and visit."