



# PAULDING COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

SHERIFF GARY GULLEDGE  
247 INDUSTRIAL WAY N  
DALLAS, GA 30132

OFFICE (770)443-3010  
JAIL (770)443-3030  
FAX (770)443-3014

**Media Contact:** Corporal Ashley Henson  
770-505-5535 Office  
678-247-3903 Cell  
678-224-4799 Fax  
ashley.henson@paulding.gov  
[www.paulding.gov/sheriff](http://www.paulding.gov/sheriff)

**Date: 03/16/15**

**To: Paulding County Media**

**For Immediate Release**

## **Longtime Employees Retire from the Sheriff's Office**

(Paulding County, GA) On March 13, 2015 Diane Abernathy and Corporal Jim Pearson of the Paulding County Sheriff's Office were recognized at a retirement ceremony which was held in their honor at the Paulding County Senior Citizens Center. On hand to recognize these employees for their service were Sheriff Gary Gulledge, Commission Chairman David Austin, and numerous Deputies, friends, and family members.

Diane Abernathy began her career at the Paulding County Sheriff's Office on February 23, 1990 as a secretary in the Criminal Investigations Division (CID). She worked in CID for nineteen years until Sheriff Gary Gulledge was elected. When he took office in January of 2009 Diane became his administrative assistant. During her twenty-five year career at the Sheriff's Office, Diane worked for Sheriff Perry Grogan (Deceased), Sheriff Bruce Harris (Retired), and Sheriff Gary Gulledge. Sheriff Gulledge remarked, "Diane is as good as they come! She knows this place better than anyone. Having her as my secretary for the past six years has made my job as the Sheriff much easier. I certainly don't know how we will replace her; she will be sorely missed".

Corporal Jim Pearson began his career in law enforcement in Florida in the 1970's. With over forty years of experience, Corporal Pearson has seen and been a part of many changes in policing. He began his career at the Paulding County Sheriff's Office on March 4, 2005 which will give him just over ten years of service with the Sheriff's Office. Corporal Pearson was instrumental in instituting Driver Training and Taser training programs at the Sheriff's Office. Having worked in the Training Division the majority of his career at the Sheriff's Office, Corporal Pearson was able to teach countless law enforcement officers invaluable skills to help them do their job better.



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**The Deputies and staff of the Paulding County Sheriff's Office want to thank Diane Abernathy and Corporal Jim Pearson for their service and congratulate them on an excellent career. We hope they enjoy their much deserved retirement.**

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