



## ***Alabama Law Enforcement Alliance for Peer Support***

**Implementation of ALLEAPS:** Alabama is already divided into seven federally recognized regions by the Department of Homeland Security.

- These seven regions have been adopted by ALEA and have been utilized for resource management since 2015.
- ALLEAPS in Alabama will function under seven Regional Coordinators from varying law enforcement agencies.
- A regionally-based coordinator will increase efficiency and provide a rapid response to peer support events.
- Regional control is more personal, trusted, and effective than a large bureaucracy.

**Training Guidelines:** Appointment letter on file with ALEA and ALLEAPS Certification in Peer Support will be renewed each calendar year with the completion of six (6) hours of approved relevant training.

ALLEAPS will conduct an annual Peer Support training conference with a focus on specific topics related to peer support. The conference will provide all attendees with six (6) hours of peer support training.

**Structure of ALLEAPS:** Alabama Law Enforcement Alliance for Peer Support (ALLEAPS): This non-profit organization is under the leadership of Dr. Tim Faulk and is an approved 501-C3 cooperation. ALLEAPS maintains the overall operation of LEAPS in the state of Alabama. ALLEAPS provides the organizational structure of the website and related matters. ALLEAPS has a Board of Directors, and a Certified Public Accountant monitors any and all funds.

This offers multiple layers of protection to you – and you don't have to pay for malpractice insurance.

ALLEAPS is the mechanism that provides the peer support services to emergency responders and provides the training of peer support members. Affiliation with

ALLEAPS is essential to ensure that all peer support providers are trained and offer a consistent standard of peer support.

### ***Organizational Structure of ALLEAPS***

ALLEAPS Steering Committee: The purpose of the Steering Committee will be to provide guidance, direction, and oversight authority to the ALLEAPS program within the State of Alabama. The ALLEAPS Steering Committee will consist of 5 -6 certified law enforcement officers. Peer support members will possess APOSTC Peace Officer certification or will maintain their retired law enforcement officer credentials.

The following criteria will be used to select diverse and capable members of the ALLEAPS Steering Committee:

- Member (position 1) - Shall be a current Chief of Police of a municipality in Alabama or a designated representative.
- Member (position 2) - Shall be a current Sheriff of a County in Alabama, or a designated representative.
- Member (position 3) - Shall be appointed by the ALEA Secretary of Law Enforcement.
- Member (position 4) - Shall be selected by popular vote by the existing members of the steering committee.
- Member (position 5) – This position requires an Alabama Licensed Mental Health professional and one that possesses a comprehensive understanding of the Law Enforcement community. The individual is to be appointed by the ALEA Secretary and must possess a Master’s degree, preferably a Ph.D. with a Board Certification in Trauma/Certified Trauma Specialist.
- Member (position 6) – Shall be a representative of ALEA and serve as State Coordinator.

Regional Coordinators: Individual should reside within their current ALEA/Homeland Security Regions.

- They will offer a peer response and act as a primary contact person for any critical incident request within their region.
- They will respond or assign certified personnel as needed to each request for peer support.
- They will arrange and hold quarterly meetings with certified peer support members, to provide updates and conduct practical training exercises.
- They will be selected/removed by the ALLEAPS steering committee and must consist of members from at least three separate law enforcement agencies throughout Alabama.
- There will be one Regional Coordinator for each of the seven existing regions unless a region requires division due to geographical considerations or excessive call volume.

Peer Support Members: Peer support members will have preferably completed the ALLEAPS 32-hour training program through the Regional Counterdrug Training Academy (RCTA) otherwise must possess critical incident stress training from an approved training program.

Any other peer support training program must obtain prior approval by the ALLEAPS Clinical Director and the ALLEAPS/ALEA State Coordinator.

Regional LEAPS Chaplains: Individual must be actively serving as an appointed Chaplain by their respective agency.

- Must complete the ALLEAPS (Peer Support) training or another approved program.
- They should reside within the ALEA/Homeland Security Region in which they are to serve.
- They will be selected/removed by the ALLEAPS Clinical Director and the state ALLEAPS coordinator.
- There will be one Chaplain for each of the seven existing regions unless a region requires division due to geographical considerations or excessive call volume.
- They are to provide spiritual guidance and will not conduct religious services/ceremonies while participating in an ALLEAPS operation.
- They must be capable of and willing to provide spiritual guidance when requested, regardless of their personal religious beliefs.

Regional Mental Health Coordinators: Individual should have completed the ALLEAPS training program or be willing to attend one within six months of appointment.

- They should reside within their current ALEA/Homeland Security Region.
- They will offer professional mental health consultation regarding a peer response, and act as a primary contact person for any clinical issue.
- They will be under the supervision of the ALLEAPS Clinical Director. They will meet with the ALLEAPS Clinical Director at least two times a year to ensure that Peer Support is offered in a timely and quality manner.
- They will provide clinical guidance during quarterly meetings with certified peer support members, to provide clinical updates and conduct practical training exercises.
- They will be selected/removed by the ALLEAPS Clinical Director and must be a Licensed Mental Health Professional in the state of Alabama.
- There will be one Regional Coordinator for each of the seven existing regions unless a region requires division due to geographical considerations or excessive call volume.

**Activation of ALLEAPS/Request for Peer Support:** To provide a competent and timely response to a request for service, any law enforcement officer or family member may call the ALEA toll free number (833) 219-2461.

1. The caller should request "Peer Support" or an "ALLEAPS Response" to an incident from the Dispatcher, who will obtain the location and contact information from the caller. The Dispatcher will immediately notify the appropriate individual to initiate an immediate peer response.
2. For a non-emergency response, any law enforcement officer or family member may call a certified peer support member or their Regional coordinator directly, or by using the information available on the ALLEAPS Website at <http://alleaps.org>.