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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Sheriff Jay Jones Speaks at Lee County Young Leaders Graduation**

**OPELIKA, Ala.- (May 2, 2019)** The Opelika Chamber is proud to announce the graduation of 25 students from their Lee County Young Leaders (LCYL) program on April 30, 2019 at the Southern Room on Southern Union's campus. Sponsors for the event were Southern Union, Opelika City Council, City of Smiths Station, Baxter International, Hanwha, Pharmavite, Auburn Kiwanis and Walmart Logistics.

Dr. Jason Wright, Chairman of the LCYL board, presented an overview of the LCYL program and all the sessions including Team Building, Public Safety, Education, Health & Human Services, Economic Development, Judicial, and State and Local Government. He also introduced our guest speaker for the night, a local hero, who was recently thrown into the national spotlight.

To be a great leader, there's no such thing as a challenge too big to handle. Once you adopt this attitude, your people will follow suit, and every problem will present an opening for greater achievement. "Sheriff Jay Jones exemplifies this every day but especially during the horrific tornado that went through Lee County on March 3. Sheriff Jones' leadership in the aftermath of this disaster was phenomenal," said Dr. Jason Wright, LCYL Board Chairman.

Sheriff Jones gave a very informative and heart-warming speech about what goes into being a leader. He listed and gave illustrations of many leadership attributes.

"The Young Leaders program is one of my favorite things we do at the Opelika Chamber. I can't believe we've just completed our 7<sup>th</sup> year. We've had so many amazing and bright students come through this program. I still hear from many of them, even though they are now in college, graduate school or working," said LCYL Director Dinah Motley.