

#### **ICJE News for You**

1 message

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December 2022





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# **Merry Christmas**

What a wild scene I saw as I arrived at the new Buc-ee's in Athens.

Hundreds of cars, and even more people flocked to the gas pumps and retail store. Drawn by the promise of quality food, products and less expensive gas, I joined the crowd at one of the 120 gas pumps and refilled my tank as I made my trip to Mathews, Alabama.

The multi-colored banners whipping in the wind, combined with the buzz generated by so many people in one area, created a carnival-like atmosphere.

I was left wondering what the scene would be thousands of years ago if the birth of Jesus would have been marketed like the opening of a new Buc-ee's!

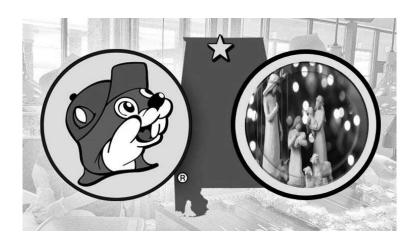
We'll never know, but we do know that the spirit of those who believe includes more promise than all the economic promises made in Limestone County when Buc-ees announced they were going to add a new location there.

As you prepare for this Christmas weekend, spread the spirit, live the spirit, and share the love of Christmas with all those you encounter. Leave those you meet with the feeling of celebration and warmth of a thousand Buc-ees Grand Openings.

May the Spirit of Christmas be the greatest gift you give, and receive, this holiday season.

From everyone at ICJE, Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!

Jim Rechel ICJE Newsletter Editor



# **Newsletter Special Edition**

As I was ready to hit the Send Button on the December Newsletter, I received a call that Lou Harris, ICJE President and Co-Founder of ICJE had passed away. As such, I have simply included a tribute to my former partner in the FBI, and life-long friend. The newsletter content scheduled for December will be included in the January newsletter. RIP my good friend!

## In Memory Of:

Louis M. Harris, Jr. - President and Co-Founder of ICJE

"Each today, well-lived, makes yesterday a dream of happiness and each tomorrow a vision of hope. Look, therefore, to this one day, for it and it alone is life."

Sanskrit Poem

25 years ago, two retired FBI Agents, Lou Harris and Bob Thetford co-founded the Institute for Criminal Justice Education, with the purpose of providing low-cost educational resources and training to law enforcement to officers and professionals in their native state of Alabama. Lou was always striving to do more, to challenge and encourage those with whom he made contact with to do their best.

Lou lived the words of the above poem, living to get the most of each day, with a vision for tomorrow that carries through in our work at ICJE, Inc.

He will be deeply missed, but the vision he had for a better Alabama will be the light that guides us in all we do. Thank you Lou for each day we had with you!



After a stint as a US Navy pilot, Lou entered the FBI in 1968. His first office was Portland, Oregon.



Fifty years later he was still actively involved with Criminal Justice and the Law Enforcement community, pictured here with Huntingdon College students, where he had started their Criminal Justice program, after doing the same at Faulkner University, where he worked for more than 15 years after retiring from the FBI in Montgomery and Selma.

### **ICJE Training Opportunities**

#### **ICJE Training Schedule**

GRANT APPROVAL was recently received, and we are working with Linda Wright to finalize the 2023 calendar.

For more information and registration links go to: ICJE - Institute for Criminal Justice Education, Inc.

## **Thought of the Month**

"There are some who bring a light so great to the world that even after they have gone the light remains." - Author Unknown

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