



# THE LOUISIANA SHERIFF

The Publication of Louisiana's Chief Law Enforcement Officers



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Downtown skyline on the Red River  
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# FEATURED IN THIS ISSUE

SHERIFF BRETT STASSI ..... Page 3

SIX LOUISIANA DEPUTIES WIN HEART OF  
LAW ENFORCEMENT AWARD ..... Page 4

LAFOURCHE PARISH INMATES TAKE PART IN  
WHITE FLAG EXPOSITION ..... Page 5

SHERIFFS' HONORARY MEMBERS CONTRIBUTE  
TO PUBLIC SERVICES AT LOCAL LEVEL ..... Page 6

GRANT PARISH DEPUTY WINS NATIONAL SHERIFFS'  
ASSOCIATION'S DEPUTY OF THE YEAR AWARD ..... Page 9

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH ANNOUNCES  
NEW PUBLIC SAFETY COMPLEX ..... Page 10

CADDO SHERIFF'S REGIONAL TRAINING ACADEMY  
REACHES MILESTONE ..... Page 11

CONFERENCE SPONSORS ..... Page 12



# PRESIDENT'S PROFILE

SHERIFF BRETT STASSI, IBERVILLE PARISH

BY LAUREN LABBÉ MEHER, COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR,  
LOUISIANA SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION



Iberville Parish Sheriff Brett Stassi was born and raised in Plaquemine, Louisiana. Early on he aspired to have a career in law enforcement and attended Nicholls University, where he earned a degree in Criminal Justice. Stassi then returned to Plaquemine, the only place he called home, where he married and started a family with his wife, Caroline Engolio Stassi.

Family is the most important thing to Sheriff Stassi, but to him the definition of family extends not only to his wife, children, and grandchildren, but also to his law enforcement family, his friends, and to the entire community he serves of Iberville Parish. Stassi served for twelve years with the Iberville Parish Sheriff's office as a detective, and then for more than twenty years as an investigator for Ricky Ward at the District Attorney's Office. Working with Ricky Ward, Stassi said, *"I learned so much from him about loyalty, about friendship, and about how sometimes you have to bleed a little for your friends."*

Stassi's unique combination of experience in understanding both sides of law enforcement from the sheriff's office and from the district attorney's perspective, along with his fierce loyalty and service to his friends and family around him, is likely why they all encouraged him to run for sheriff in 2012.

Stassi says with their help, and with the support of his friends and family, especially his father and his brothers, he is still serving as sheriff today, in his third term.

When Stassi took office, he was the first Iberville Parish Sheriff to hire a CPA to ensure that taxpayer funds were being handled efficiently. He then hired quality people in all key positions from chief of detectives, to warden and human resources, knowing that together his team would be able to best serve their community. Stassi leads with a *"lead from the front"* philosophy. Meaning, he is always willing to go first, never asking a team member to do something he wouldn't do. Yet still, when it comes to an investigation, Stassi knows how to balance when to go first, and

when to hold back. He has the discipline to empower his team to take the lead and not hinder their investigations, empowering them to do what they need to do to get the job done.

Over the years Sheriff Stassi has helped establish a Crime Scene Unit, and added a Crime Scene Investigator to improve the process of preserving evidence and ensuring smoother operations for investigations. He was also able to upgrade equipment for his deputies putting all of the technology they need into their units so they can more efficiently and safely get the job done.

Stassi noted that the Iberville Parish Sheriff's Office is also making strides in providing opportunities for inmates while in jail. *"Over 75% of the inmates under the age of 40 who come to our jail, currently do not have their GED or equivalent. We want to do something to help them use their time while they are here."* Stassi offers a HiSet (High School Equivalent Test) Program, which allows inmates to receive an education while awaiting trial.

A drug treatment program has also been implemented by Sheriff Stassi, the District Attorney, and the District Judges. This program allows inmates to enroll in an inpatient rehabilitation center. Successful completion of the recommended treatment is acceptable in lieu of bond.

The sheriff plans to continue serving the people of Iberville Parish and being a good financial steward of his constituents' tax dollars, while improving and building upon the successful operations of the Iberville Parish Sheriff's Office.

While serving as Sheriff, Stassi has also been an active member of the Louisiana Sheriffs' Association for the past twelve years. He serves on seven different committees there, and has risen through the ranks to become the organization's 76th president, and the second president to hail from Iberville Parish.

As the LSA president, Stassi emphasized that law enforcement is at a critical juncture, he said, *"We have to be sure we are well trained, because even though we are human, we are expected to be right every single time, and we have to do our jobs to the best of our abilities."* He noted that we cannot be short-sighted in our mission for our state. What is important to North Louisiana, is important to us here in the south, and what is important to the smallest parish, is equally important to the largest. *"Now more than ever, sheriffs need to work together as one unified, powerful voice."*

Sheriff Stassi says he is so thankful for the support system of all of the sheriffs throughout the state, whenever one is in need. *"Whenever I have a problem, there is no sheriff that I can't call. They will all be there. That is what family is all about, and we are all family."*



# ASCENSION PARISH SHERIFF'S OFFICE ADOPTS BODY CAMERAS FOR DEPUTIES

BY ALLISON HUDSON, PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER, ASCENSION PARISH



Pictured from left to right are: Row 1: Captain Darryl Smith, Ascension Parish Sheriff's Office; Lt. Col. Donald Capello, Ascension Parish Sheriff's Office; Ascension Parish Sheriff Bobby Webre; Mayor of Donaldsonville Leroy Sullivan. Row 2: Councilmen Reginald Francis; Lauthaught Delaney, Mike Sullivan, and Rev. Charles Brown. Photo courtesy of Ascension Parish Sheriff's Office.

Sheriff Bobby Webre made the decision to introduce body worn cameras to the Ascension Parish Sheriff's Office in 2020. After making the pitch, the Mayor of Donaldsonville and the council were quick to offer their support both publicly and financially.

The city of Donaldsonville purchased all body worn cameras for the deputies who worked District One Patrol, which includes the city of Donaldsonville. The total was \$109,000.

*"I want to personally thank Mayor Leroy Sullivan, councilmen: Raymond Aucoin, Reginald Francis, Lauthaught Delaney, Rev. Charles Brown, and Mike Sullivan for their steadfast support of law enforcement and their continued support of the Ascension Parish Sheriff's Office,"* said Sheriff Webre.

The sheriff's office has since added body cameras to all patrol deputies in Ascension Parish since 2020.

## SIX LOUISIANA SHERIFFS' DEPUTIES WIN HEART OF LAW ENFORCEMENT AWARD

BY LAUREN LABBÉ MEHER, COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR,  
LOUISIANA SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION



Beyond the Badge Heart of Law Enforcement Winners from left to right: "Service Before Self" winner, Lt. David Roddy, Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office; Dy. Kristen Fortenberry, Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office; Sgt. Michelle Robinson, Calcasieu Parish Sheriff's Office; Chief Deputy Marcus Mashaw, Ouachita Parish Sheriff's Office; Sgt. Travis Mier, Calcasieu Parish Sheriff's Office; not pictured, Sgt. Michael Richardson, Ret. Ascension Parish Sheriff's Office. Photo courtesy of Bobby Mayo Photography.

Louisiana non-profit organization "Beyond the Badge" hosted their annual "Heart of Law Enforcement" awards ceremony on June 15, 2021, and six Louisiana sheriffs' deputies were among the honorees. These law enforcement officers were honored for their random acts of kindness that go beyond what is professionally required in their jobs. This year, Lieutenant David Roddy of the Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office, was presented with the Beyond the Badge "Service Before Self

Award." This highest honor is given to the deputy or officer whose act of kindness stands out in the field of nominations.

Linda Hull, creator of Beyond the Badge says, *"At a time when there is so much negative attention directed towards law enforcement in general, I thought someone needed to honor all of the deputies and officers who go beyond the call of duty. We need to let the public know about their acts of kindness and generosity."*

Louisiana sheriffs' deputies honored at the ceremony include: Deputy Kristen Fortenberry, Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office; Chief Deputy Marcus Mashaw, Ouachita Parish Sheriff's Office; Sergeant Travis Mier, Calcasieu Parish Sheriff's Office; Sergeant Michael Richardson, Ret. Ascension Parish Sheriff's Office; Sergeant Michelle Robinson, Calcasieu Parish Sheriff's Office, and Service Before Self Winner, Lieutenant David Roddy, Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office.

Would you like to nominate a law enforcement officer for the Heart of Law Enforcement award? Nominations may be made by anyone-supervisors, fellow officers, citizens, family members, and friends. Please visit [www.beyondthebadgelouisiana.org](http://www.beyondthebadgelouisiana.org) for more information.

# LAFOURCHE PARISH INMATES TAKE PART IN WHITE FLAG EXPOSITION AS PART OF SECOND CHANCE MONTH

CAPTAIN BRENNAN MATHERNE, PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER  
LAFOURCHE PARISH SHERIFF'S OFFICE



*Lafourche Parish Captain Karla Beck assists Inmate Kendrick Posey in planting a white flag during the first White Flag Exposition at the Lafourche Parish Correctional Complex. Photo courtesy of Lafourche Parish Sheriff's Office.*

Sheriff Craig Webre announced inmates at the Lafourche Parish Correctional Complex recently took part in the first White Flag Exposition. Inmates posted white flags on the front lawn outside the complex during a ceremony on April 1, 2021. This event was created to mark the beginning of Second Chance Month which has been annually observed during the month of April since 2017.

As an internationally recognized sign of peace and surrender, a white flag was personalized and signed by each participating inmate as a symbol of atonement for their past and to proclaim their desire for a new life. Some wrote heartfelt messages on the flags to acknowledge the effects of their past actions on others. Members of the Southeast Central Regional Reentry Program team were joined by Sheriff Webre, Major Cortrell Davis (Warden), LPSO Police Social

Services staff, and representatives from the Louisiana Department of Corrections to assist participants in planting the flags. Their participation signified the staff's willingness to do whatever it takes to help the inmates achieve their second chance.

"We wanted to provide the inmates an opportunity to confirm their intent to renounce their past and strive for a new peaceful life," said Captain Karla Beck, coordinator of the White Flag Exposition project. "Re-entry programs like those offered at the Lafourche Parish Correctional Complex are crucial in giving offenders the opportunity and the power to change. As we intervene while they are incarcerated and begin to provide the tools needed for reform, we significantly reduce the probability of re-incarceration and we increase community safety. That's what second chances are really about."

Second Chance Month is a national effort to raise awareness of the collateral consequences of criminal conviction and unlock second-chance opportunities for those who have completed their sentences to become contributing citizens.

The flags remained on display throughout the month of April, which also included recognition of the 40th anniversary of National Crime Victims' Rights Week, April 18-24, 2021. This annual commemoration is aimed at raising awareness about victims' rights and associated issues. Sheriff Webre and the Lafourche Parish Sheriff's Office have been leaders in the provision of services and support for victims.

## MADISON PARISH SHERIFF'S OFFICE DEPLOYS AEDS IN PATROL CARS

BY SHERIFF SAMMIE BYRD, MADISON PARISH SHERIFF'S OFFICE



*Madison Parish Captain Drew Powers, Captain Michael Washington, and Sgt. Chris Bowling showing a new automated defibrillator. Photo courtesy of Madison Parish Sheriff's Office.*

The Madison Parish Sheriff's Office has begun the process of outfitting all patrol vehicles with ZOLL automated external defibrillators (AEDS).

"Our deputies all live throughout the parish, and travel a great span of area throughout the parish. Since they are often first on

the scene, this is a much needed lifesaving tool. Once someone collapses from Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA), AEDs offer the patient the best chance for survival. The ZOLL AEDs will prompt the responders with step-by-step instructions," said Sheriff Byrd. They also provide "Real CPR Help" to assure that quality CPR is administered to the patient.

Sudden cardiac arrest can happen anywhere, anytime to people of all ages in all walks of life, including law enforcement officers. When it comes to SCA, every second counts. Only 10% of people who suffer from SCA survive. By deploying AEDs to the scene quickly, the chance of survival significantly increases. Even arriving 1-2 minutes prior to EMS, can be the difference of life or death.

"I'm happy to be getting the ZOLL AEDs as they will help save the lives of the constituents that live, work and visit Madison Parish," said Sheriff Sammie Byrd.



# SHERIFFS' HONORARY MEMBERS CONTRIBUTE TO PUBLIC SERVICES AT LOCAL LEVEL



Acadia Parish  
Sheriff K.P. Gibson  
Community Services



Allen Parish  
Sheriff Douglas Hebert  
D.A.R.E. Program



Ascension Parish  
Sheriff Bobby Webre  
Scholarship Program



Assumption Parish  
Sheriff Leland Falcon  
Summer Camp



Avoyelles Parish  
Sheriff David Dauzat  
Community Services



Beauregard Parish  
Sheriff Mark Herford  
D.A.R.E. Program



Catahoula Parish  
Sheriff Toney Edwards  
D.A.R.E. Program



Claiborne Parish  
Sheriff Sam Dowies  
Youth Programs



Concordia Parish  
Sheriff David Hedrick  
D.A.R.E. Program



DeSoto Parish  
Sheriff Jayson Richardson  
Scholarship Program



East Baton Rouge Parish  
Sheriff Sid Gautreaux  
Nights of Remembrance



East Carroll Parish  
Sheriff Wydette Williams  
Crime Prevention



Jackson Parish  
Sheriff Andy Brown  
Senior Citizens' Program



Jefferson Parish  
Sheriff Joseph P. Lopinto  
Band of Excellence



Jefferson Davis Parish  
Sheriff Ivy Woods  
D.A.R.E. Program



Lafayette Parish  
Sheriff Mark Garber  
232 Help Program



Lafourche Parish  
Sheriff Craig Webre  
Youth Development Programs



LaSalle Parish  
Sheriff Scott Franklin  
Scholarship Program



Ouachita Parish  
Sheriff Jay Russell  
Youth Programs



Plaquemines Parish  
Sheriff Gerald "Jerry"  
Turlich Jr.  
D.A.R.E. Program



Pointe Coupee Parish  
Sheriff René Thibodeaux  
D.A.R.E. Program



Rapides Parish  
Sheriff Mark Wood  
Community Services



Red River Parish  
Sheriff Glen Edwards  
Scholarship Program



Richland Parish  
Sheriff Gary Gilley  
Community Services



Sabine Parish  
Sheriff Aaron Mitchell  
D.A.R.E. Program



St. Mary Parish  
Sheriff Blaise Smith  
Scholarship and  
Senior Citizens' Programs  
Reserve Deputies' Programs



St. Tammany Parish  
Sheriff Randy Smith  
Senior Citizens' and  
Reserve Deputies' Programs



Tangipahoa Parish  
Sheriff Daniel Edwards  
D.A.R.E. Program



Tensas Parish  
Sheriff Rickey Jones  
D.A.R.E. Program



Terrebonne Parish  
Sheriff Timothy Soignet  
D.A.R.E. Program



Union Parish  
Sheriff Dusty Gates  
D.A.R.E. and Triad  
Programs



Vermilion Parish  
Sheriff Mike Couvillon  
D.A.R.E. Program



The Louisiana Sheriffs' Honorary Membership Program brings educational and charitable public services to local communities through the generosity of its Honorary Members. Here is how membership dues are working throughout Louisiana. Thank you for your continued support.

*-Sheriff Greg Champagne, Chairman-Louisiana Sheriffs' Honorary Membership Program*



**Bienville Parish**  
Sheriff John Ballance  
D.A.R.E. Program



**Bossier Parish**  
Sheriff Julian Whittington  
Crime Prevention



**Caddo Parish**  
Sheriff Stephen Prator  
Crime Prevention



**Calcasieu Parish**  
Sheriff Tony Mancuso  
Youth Services



**Caldwell Parish**  
Sheriff Clay Bennett  
Explorer Scouts



**Cameron Parish**  
Sheriff Ronald Johnson  
D.A.R.E. Program



**East Feliciana Parish**  
Sheriff "Jeff" Travis  
D.A.R.E. Program



**Evangeline Parish**  
Sheriff Charles Guillory  
D.A.R.E. Awareness



**Franklin Parish**  
Sheriff Kevin Cobb  
Youth Programs



**Grant Parish**  
Sheriff Steven McCain  
Youth Camp



**Iberia Parish**  
Sheriff "Tommy" Romero  
Community Services



**Iberville Parish**  
Sheriff Brett Stassi  
Youth Services



**Lincoln Parish**  
Sheriff Stephen Williams  
Triad and D.A.R.E. Programs



**Livingston Parish**  
Sheriff Jason Ard  
Drug Awareness and  
D.A.R.E. Programs



**Madison Parish**  
Sheriff Sammie Byrd  
D.A.R.E. Program



**Morehouse Parish**  
Sheriff Mike Tubbs  
Summer Youth Camp



**Natchitoches Parish**  
Sheriff Stuart Wright  
Youth Ball and  
D.A.R.E. Programs



**Orleans Parish**  
Sheriff Marlin Gusman  
D.A.R.E. Program



**St. Bernard Parish**  
Sheriff James Pohlmann  
D.A.R.E. Program



**St. Charles Parish**  
Sheriff Greg Champagne  
D.A.R.E. Program



**St. Helena Parish**  
Sheriff Nathaniel "Nat"  
Williams  
Crime Prevention



**St. James Parish**  
Sheriff Willy Martin, Jr.  
Youth Summer Camp



**St. John the Baptist Parish**  
Sheriff Michael Tregre  
Drug Education



**St. Landry Parish**  
Sheriff Bobby Guidroz  
D.A.R.E. Program



**St. Martin Parish**  
Sheriff Becket Breaux  
Community Service Projects



**Vernon Parish**  
Sheriff Sam Craft  
D.A.R.E. Program



**Washington Parish**  
Sheriff Randy Seal  
D.A.R.E. Program



**Webster Parish**  
Sheriff Jason Parker  
Scholarship Program



**West Baton Rouge Parish**  
Sheriff Mike Cazes  
D.A.R.E. and Scholarship  
Programs



**West Carroll Parish**  
Sheriff Scott Mathews  
Youth Drug Program



**West Feliciana Parish**  
Sheriff Brian L. Spillman  
Senior Citizens



**Winn Parish**  
Sheriff Cranford Jordan  
D.A.R.E. Program

# SHERIFFS' HONORARY MEMBERS CONTRIBUTE TO PUBLIC SERVICES AT LOCAL LEVEL

Louisiana Sheriffs' Honorary Membership Program Chairman Greg Champagne, St. Charles Parish Sheriff, announced that seventy graduating high school seniors have been awarded scholarships provided by the Sheriffs' Scholarship Program for the 2020-2021 academic school year.

Sheriffs' scholarships, worth \$500 each, are made possible by the citizen members of the Louisiana Sheriffs'

Honorary Membership Program. They are awarded to students from each parish where the sheriff is affiliated with the Program. While some sheriffs divide the \$500 scholarship into two, \$250 scholarships, other sheriffs enhance scholarship benefits to larger denominations with funds they provide themselves.

To obtain information about the Louisiana Sheriffs' Scholarship Program, contact your local Sheriff's Office.

PARISH	SHERIFF	RECIPIENTS
ACADIA PARISH	Sheriff K.P. Gibson	Austin LaGrange
ALLEN PARISH	Sheriff Douglas L. Hebert, III	Austin Gerald Butts Sadie Marie Dowies
ASCENSION PARISH	Sheriff Robert "Bobby" Webre	Lauren Paula Bennett
ASSUMPTION PARISH	Sheriff Leland Falcon	Hagen Landry
AVOYELLES PARISH	Sheriff David Dauzat	Seth Lemoine
BEAUREGARD PARISH	Sheriff Mark Herford	Drew Brown
BIENVILLE PARISH	Sheriff John Ballance	Shnyia Chase
BOSSIER PARISH	Sheriff Julian C. Whittington	Douglas Graham
CADDO PARISH	Sheriff Steve Prator	Raegan Hall
CALCASIEU PARISH	Sheriff Tony Mancuso	Sophia Touchet
CALDWELL PARISH	Sheriff Clay Bennett	Connor Lee Hatten
CAMERON PARISH	Sheriff Ronald Johnson	Aubrie Duhon
CATAHOULA PARISH	Sheriff Toney Edwards	Lillian Gemar Macy Cader
CLAIBORNE PARISH	Sheriff Sam Dowies	Maci Jo Moss
CONCORDIA PARISH	Sheriff David Hedrick	J'Lon Prosser
DESOTO PARISH	Sheriff Jayson Richardson	Joshua Simone
EAST BATON ROUGE PARISH	Sheriff Sid Gautreaux	Keely Strickland
EAST CARROLL PARISH	Sheriff Wydette Williams	Taylor Campbell
EAST FELICIANA PARISH	Sheriff Jeff Travis	Lucas Staples
EVANGELINE PARISH	Sheriff Charles Guillory	Sawyer Reed Gunter
FRANKLIN PARISH	Sheriff Kevin Cobb	Zachary Lee Cooper
GRANT PARISH	Sheriff Steven McCain	Brendan Slayter Jacob Whitman
IBERIA PARISH	Sheriff Tommy Romero	Kenzie Claire Ronsonet
IBERVILLE PARISH	Sheriff Brett Stassi	Taylor Joseph Dupont
JACKSON PARISH	Sheriff Andy Brown	Madison Coody
JEFFERSON PARISH	Sheriff Joe Lopinto	Noah Barousse
JEFFERSON DAVIS PARISH	Sheriff Ivy Woods	Hayden LeJeune
LAFAYETTE PARISH	Sheriff Mark Garber	Maya Castaneda
LAFOURCHE PARISH	Sheriff Craig Webre	Joshua Scioneaux
LASALLE PARISH	Sheriff Scott Franklin	Mason Pittman Aezlyn Guin
LINCOLN PARISH	Sheriff Stephen Williams	Michael Feduccia Sydney Thompson
LIVINGSTON PARISH	Sheriff Jason Ard	Mia Sibley

PARISH	SHERIFF	RECIPIENTS
MADISON PARISH	Sheriff Sammie Byrd	Marley Scott
MOREHOUSE PARISH	Sheriff Mike Tubbs	Julian Stephenson
NATCHITOCHES PARISH	Sheriff Stuart Wright	Jason Smith
ORLEANS PARISH	Sheriff Marlin Gusman	Dajah Renee Saul
OUACHITA PARISH	Sheriff Jay Russell	Magy Nicholson
PLAQUEMINES PARISH	Sheriff Gerald Turlich	Hallie Rojas
POINTE COUPEE PARISH	Sheriff Rene Thibodeaux	Madeline Lorio
RAPIDES PARISH	Sheriff Mark Wood	Ashlyn Nugent
RED RIVER PARISH	Sheriff Glen Edwards	Gracie Price Brennan Edie
RICHLAND PARISH	Sheriff Gary Gilley	Drayton Marshall
SABINE PARISH	Sheriff Aaron Mitchell	Summer Faust
ST. BERNARD PARISH	Sheriff James Pohlmann	Braden Vickers
ST. CHARLES PARISH	Sheriff Greg Champagne	Olive Crochet
ST. HELENA PARISH	Sheriff Nathaniel "Nat" Williams	Devan Hopkins
ST. JAMES PARISH	Sheriff Willy Martin	TaLaija La'Shay Allen
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH	Sheriff Michael Tregre	J'Nyiah Sorapuru
ST. LANDRY PARISH	Sheriff Bobby Guidroz	Jacob Wayne Barron
ST. MARTIN PARISH	Sheriff Becket Breaux	Ja'Katelyn Willis
ST. MARY PARISH	Sheriff Blaise Smith	Reagan Lindsey
ST. TAMMANY PARISH	Sheriff Randy Smith	Melanie Gambio
TANGIPAHOA PARISH	Sheriff Daniel Edwards	Haileigh Sharkey
TENSAS PARISH	Sheriff Rickey Jones	Tyra Scott
TERREBONNE PARISH	Sheriff Tim Soignet	Allison Cao
UNION PARISH	Sheriff Dusty Gates	Isabella Fulton
VERMILION PARISH	Sheriff Mike Couvillon	Mallory Meaux
VERNON PARISH	Sheriff Sam Craft	Reagan Stanley
WASHINGTON PARISH	Sheriff Randy Seal	Grace O. Ingram
WEBSTER PARISH	Sheriff Jason Parker	Teryn Quarles
WEST BATON ROUGE PARISH	Sheriff Mike Cazes	Jariel Christopher Kaitlin Daigle
WEST CARROLL PARISH	Sheriff Scott Mathews	Brooke Ross Megan Donohue
WEST FELICIANA PARISH	Sheriff Brian Spillman	Anna Grolr
WINN PARISH	Sheriff Cranford Jordan	Connor Maxwell Johnston



# GRANT PARISH DEPUTY WINS NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION'S DEPUTY OF THE YEAR AWARD

BY SHERIFF STEVE MCCAIN, GRANT PARISH SHERIFF'S OFFICE.



*Grant Parish Deputy Brennan Flory wins the "Charles Bud Meeks National Deputy Sheriff of the Year Award" at the National Sheriffs' Association's Annual Conference in Phoenix, AZ. Photo courtesy of Grant Parish Sheriff's Office.*

Each year, the National Sheriffs' Association selects two deputies from across the nation for the "Charles Bud Meeks Deputy Sheriff of the Year" Award, which recognizes deputy sheriffs who demonstrate bravery in the performance of their duties. There is one national award for merit, and one national award for

valor. This year's valor award was given to Grant Parish Deputy Brennan Flory. This is the first time that someone from Louisiana has ever been chosen for this award, and it is certainly a first for Grant Parish.

On April 19, 2020, Deputy Flory was stopped by a passing motorist and told of a possible building that was on fire north of Pollock, Louisiana. Deputy Flory responded and found a home to be fully engulfed in flames. Deputy Flory ran around the house and could hear someone moaning inside. He discovered a woman lying in the threshold of a door and partially on a porch. With no regard for his own safety, Deputy Flory pulled the woman away from the burning house. Another passing motorist stopped and helped Deputy Flory to continue to pull the woman away from the flames to safety.

The woman received 3rd degree burns to 80% of her body, but doctors believe that she will survive. "Without the brave interaction from Deputy Flory, I am convinced that she would have not survived the fire," said Sheriff McCain. Deputy Flory was honored this past summer at the National Sheriffs' Association's Annual Conference in Phoenix, Arizona.

## OUACHITA PARISH SHERIFF'S OFFICE DEPUTIES MAKING A CHANGE PROGRAM

BY GLENN SPRINGFIELD, OUACHITA PARISH SHERIFF'S OFFICE



*#2-DMAC students returning from a field trip to Angola. Photo courtesy of Ouachita Parish Sheriff's Office.*

Deputies Making A Change (DMAC) began in 2012 as an outreach program to the community under Sheriff Jay Russell's administration. Its goal is to positively impact the future incarceration rate in Ouachita Parish by working with youth. Deputies began by identifying schools that experienced high disciplinary and behavioral problems with youth ages nine to thirteen.

DMAC is a comprehensive twelve month program that includes

a summer program. Included are educational classes on reading, writing, and math. In addition, courses are given on life skills which include hygiene, future planning, managing and solving problems, educational field trips, and money management. Guest speakers from various professions also speak to the students in the classrooms. Tutoring services after class are also part of the program for those needing additional guidance. DMAC has been recognized by numerous community groups for its success.

All of this is aimed at providing the student the structure needed to become a positive influence in their community. "DMAC believes if you create a positive environment for most children, it will create a positive mindset that will directly improve the behavior, classroom participation, and relationship to law enforcement," says Sheriff Russell.

DMAC currently works with twenty to twenty-five students per year. It has successfully impacted over three-hundred students to date and affected thousands of student's lives due to their daily presence in the schools.

# ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH ANNOUNCES NEW PUBLIC SAFETY COMPLEX

BY ANGEL THOMPSON, PUBLIC RELATIONS,  
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH SHERIFF'S OFFICE



*St. John the Baptist Parish proudly presents their new Public Safety Complex. Photo courtesy of St. John the Baptist Parish Sheriff's Office.*

the West Bank, Sheriff Mike Tregre announced last month.

The \$2 million complex, constructed at 5733 LA. 18 near the Wallace Fire Station, was a joint project between the St. John the Baptist Parish Sheriff's Office and St. John Parish Office of Fire Services to consolidate emergency services into one building. The 6,000 square foot building features bays for housing trucks and equipment, a conference room, office, and sleep quarters, as well as a reception area, day room, kitchen, restrooms, and break area.

Additional features of the facility include covered parking for ambulance services, a climate-controlled apparatus bay for

St. John the Baptist Parish now has a new public safety complex to increase police, fire, and medical presence on

voting, a walking connection to the park, additional parking for events, and backup generator power.

Sheriff Tregre said he is excited to see a major project he envisioned in 2011 finally complete. Groundbreaking for the new complex was held in September 2019.

"This project has been delayed for many reasons ... Hurricane Isaac brought such devastation to the Sheriff's Office by destroying 18 units and thousands of dollars in loss of equipment that recovery was our first priority for many years," he said.

Since 2011, property ownership, proximity between the building and the Veterans Memorial Bridge and Mississippi River water levels have caused delays in the progress of this project, he said.

"We now have a place that can serve to build a larger first responders team here as the economy and the residents increase on the west bank," he said. "The Sheriff's Office's partnership with the Parish President and the Parish Council on this endeavor has saved money in both of our budgets while serving to meet the needs of the West Bank for many years to come."

## JEFFERSON DAVIS PARISH SHERIFF'S OFFICE HOLDS PUBLIC WORKSHOP

BY: DEPUTY AUBREY BROUSSARD, PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER, JEFFERSON DAVIS  
PARISH SHERIFF'S OFFICE



*Jefferson Davis D.A.R.E. Officer Gale Richard and School Resource Officer Tiffany Bertrand showing an example of "hidden in plain sight" vape charger. Photo courtesy of Jefferson Davis Sheriff's Office.*

The Jefferson Davis Parish Sheriff's Office (JDPSO) D.A.R.E. unit held an educational workshop, "Hidden in Plain Sight." The workshop was offered free to the public and provided valuable resources assisting parents and educators in their efforts to protect youth from drug and alcohol abuse, dangerous online activities and behaviors.

The workshop included a display area staged to represent what a teen or pre-teen's bedroom might look like. The staged "bedroom" included many seemingly common items

that parents might overlook as something normal in their child's room. Among these items were soda cans, books and hand-held games that contain secret compartments.

D.A.R.E. Officer Gale Richard and School Resource Officer (SRO) Tiffany Bertrand led the event, which was held at a local church.

"We've had an overwhelming response from parents and teachers on how surprisingly convincing some of these new hidden compartment items are," said Richard. "As a parent, it's terrifying that many of these things can be easily purchased, but also how easy it is to turn common items into drug and paraphernalia hiding tools."

The curriculum also included information regarding the dangers of common, as well as hidden, social media outlets, tips on how to protect children from cyber bullying and stalking, camouflaged methods used to conceal drugs, alcohol and weapons, signs of sexual abuse or activity, and many other common issues and experiences teens are facing in today's society.



# CADDO SHERIFF'S REGIONAL TRAINING ACADEMY REACHES MILESTONE WITH START OF 50TH BASIC TRAINING CLASS

BY CINDY CHADWICK, PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER,  
CADDO PARISH SHERIFF'S OFFICE



*Caddo Parish Sheriff's cadet Madjun Cooper tests his flexibility during physical fitness training at the Caddo Sheriff's Regional Training Academy.  
Photo courtesy of Caddo Parish Sheriff's Office.*

Cadets who are part of the Caddo Sheriff's Regional Training Academy's 50th basic training class have reported for duty marking a milestone for the law enforcement training facility.

Located near the bank of the Red River on LA Hwy. 1 South, the academy has been turning out new deputies and police officers since 2001. Since opening its doors, 1,174 law enforcement officers have graduated from the academy's basic training course and thousands more have attended retraining for their jobs.

*"When we opened in 2001, I said that peace officers begin to develop their disposition toward policing on the first day they walk into the classroom. I still believe that to be true,"* said Caddo Sheriff Steve Prator. *"I couldn't be prouder of the quality of training our Academy staff provides and the example they set for new deputies and officers."*

The Louisiana Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) Council in Baton Rouge approved the opening of the Caddo Sheriff's Regional Training Academy in October 2001. The designation allowed Caddo Parish Sheriff's Office to provide state-required basic training for its recruits and those from other agencies in the 10-parish region. Since then, the Academy has trained deputies and officers from 61 law enforcement agencies.

Becoming a regional Academy was no easy task. POST officials inspected the Caddo facility's guidelines, curriculum, building,

and instructors' credentials before making the designation. Lesson plans for the 320-hour basic curriculum were written from scratch. District attorneys, federal prosecutors, and other legal minds were recruited to teach the law.

Over the years, and at the urging of Sheriff Prator who served on the Louisiana Peace Officer Standards and Training Council, the curriculum for all new officers in the state grew to more than 600 hours. Training now includes courses such as crisis intervention, diversity in the community, and de-escalation.

*"I'm proud that we accomplished increasing training hours to 600 for all officers in the state but I still feel there's more to be done,"* the Sheriff said. *"It's our duty as a training center to make sure new deputies and officers are at their best and ready for any situation they encounter."*

The Caddo Sheriff's Regional Training Academy also grew in size. In 2006, a 6,000-square foot addition was opened to provide five times the classroom space. The building included a commercial kitchen, locker rooms, administrative offices, and a library. A new classroom for the firing range followed and improvements were made to the outdoor range.

Twenty-seven cadets from 11 agencies began training with Class #50 on July 19, and graduated on November 2.

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The 45th Annual Louisiana Sheriffs' and Wardens' Training Conference and Exhibition is held July 25-July 29, 2021. The conference includes a variety of educational sessions in areas such as Handling Protests and Crowd Control, Trending Pitfalls in Corrections and Medical Policy, along with timely legal and legislative audit updates, and a variety of other valuable leadership training opportunities.

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